

## Australia-Africa Education Partnerships for Development AAUN Forum and AGM 4-6 September 2017

*(Working Draft at 18 July 2017 – program subject to final confirmations)*

**Venue: The University Club of Western Australia**  
Hackett Entrance 1, Hackett Drive Crawley, Western Australia, 6009

### OBJECTIVES AND OUTCOMES

#### Purpose

Assess education and research partnerships for development, engagement of stakeholders, and building sustainable research and exchange programs for the AAUN Strategic Plan 2017-20, maximizing Australia Africa advantages.

#### Focus

We invite the advice and experience of all attending from government, academia, agencies and business in shaping AAUN capacity and impact for the future. In our first 5 years we have established a platform and delivered results. Now we need to build greater effectiveness, opportunity, and sustainable resources.

**(i) EDUCATION** – In September 2017 DFAT has invited **African Ministers of Education**, presenting a significant opportunity. Please note the incorporation of the Ministers in the program for AAUN on 4 September, flowing in to the [ADU Research Forum](#) on 5 September and the Africa Down Under Conference 6-8 September (see details below).

**(ii) POLICY** – The UN Sustainable Development Goals, UN Climate Accords, China Belt and Road Approach, Australian and African international policy objectives are highly relevant to AAUN. They provide a policy framework with mutual benefit to Africa and Australia, shaping research, education and economic development. They should also provide resources to implement partnerships and programs.

**(iii) RESEARCH** – We will review our progress and results from the 30 seed-funded programs that we have invested in since our launch 5 years ago at DFAT Canberra in 2012; and select the successful ones to build further with appropriate new initiatives. We will strengthen our partnerships with our sponsors, especially DFAT and ACIAR, and seek additional international resources and funding.

**(iv) HIGHER EDUCATION** – We can review and extend our research and mobility programs and interactions with expert exchange, the Australia Awards, international needs and opportunities. Some of our members have highlighted the needs for institutional development, graduate employment and more effort towards linked courses and degrees.

#### Structure

Each session has 1-2 opening speakers, 3-4 commentators, panelists and expert discussants. Chairs and speakers please keep strictly to times shown. Discussion time for consensus and practical outcomes is a vital part of the workshop.

#### Outcomes

Important to the success of the Forum, we will develop a communique or position paper for policy makers in Australia and Africa, with copy to relevant international governments and agencies. Several research programs are likely to arise from the discussions. We will also engage with media and websites in communicating the outcomes of the meetings.

**Deadlines:** 5 August for bios and abstracts; 16 August for Forum and dinner registrations. Please register asap!

**Program: Monday 4 September 2017**

<b>AUSTRALIA AFRICA EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEVELOPMENT</b>	
<b>Venue: Conference and Staff Centre, University of Western Australia</b>	
<b>Time</b>	
<b>0800</b>	<b>Shuttle bus leaves from Travelodge, 417 Hay Street, PERTH, WA</b>
<b>0830</b>	<b>Registration &amp; arrival tea</b>
<b>0900</b>	<b>Opening Session 1 - Australia Africa: Education Partnerships for Development</b>
<b>0900</b>	<p><b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>            AAUN Co-Chairs Prof John Hearn and Prof Frans Swanepoel (delegate for VC Prof De La Rey)            Host: Prof Dawn Freshwater, Vice Chancellor, or Prof Robyn Owens DVCR, University of Western Australia            (3 Min each)</p> <p><b>Welcome to Country – (3 Min)</b></p> <p><b>Keynote Speakers:</b> Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun, Mauritius Minister of Education  <b>Response:</b> Hon Mr Mark McGowan, Premier of Western Australia or delegate (TBC)            (10 mins each)</p> <p><b>Round Table: Comments on priorities and needs for equal knowledge partnerships:</b>            (i) Mr Matthew Neuhaus, First Assistant Secretary, Middle East and Africa Division, DFAT            (ii) HE Ms. Beryl Rose Sisulu, High Commissioner, Republic of South Africa            (iii) HE Mr Isaiya Kabira, High Commissioner, Kenya            (iv) HE Mr Mark Sawers, Australian High Commissioner to Ethiopia and the African Union            (5 min each)</p> <p>Ministers of Education: South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia in attendance as discussants            African High Commissioners of Zambia, Nigeria, Mauritius, Ethiopia            Australian High Commissioners to South Africa, Kenya, Ghana, Nigeria, Zambia (TBC)</p> <p><b>Discussion (20 min)</b> – Australia-Africa future partnerships and priorities in Higher Education and Research</p>
<b>1015</b>	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>1045</b>	<b>Session 2 - Practical implementation of the UN Sustainable Development Goals in Higher Education, Research, Entrepreneurism, Employment – the role of Networks</b> <b>Chair: (TBC) University President, AAUN Member Africa</b>
	<p><b>Keynote speakers:</b>            Prof Ernest Aryeetey, Secretary General, African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)            Australian speaker            (10 min each)</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b>            (i) Prof Peter Mbithi, Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi            (ii) Ms Di Fleming, Executive Director, The Ducere Foundation; Interim Chair, AGAAR            (iii) Ms Gita Kamath, Assistant Secretary, Africa Branch, DFAT - Australia Awards Programs and Alumni            (7 min each)</p>

	<p><b>Discussants:</b> Johnson Kinyua (University of Nairobi); Dr Amin Mugeru (University of Western Australia); Dr George Odhiambo (University of Sydney); Prof Mamokgethi Phakeng (DVC, University of Cape Town); Fiona Pakoa (The Australia Awards); Dr Matthew Thomas (University of Sydney)</p> <p><b>Discussion (25 min)</b></p>
<b>1200-1300</b>	<p><b>Session 3 – Security: Environment, food, nutrition, health</b> <b>Chair: Prof Kadambot Siddique, UWA (TBC)</b></p>
	<p><b>Keynote speakers:</b> Ms Mellissa Wood, General Manager, Global Programs, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR) Dr Aldo Stroebel, Executive Director, International Relations and Cooperation, The National Research Foundation (NRF) (10 min each)</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b> (i) Dr Peter Johnston, University of Cape Town – Environment (ii) Prof Dhanjay Jhurry, Vice Chancellor, University of Mauritius – Health and Research Impact (iii) Dr Colin Chartres, Chief Executive Officer, The Crawford Fund (TBC) (7 min each)</p> <p><b>Discussants:</b> A/Prof Robyn Alders (University of Sydney); Professor Janet Bornman (Curtin University); Prof Richard Hobbs, (UWA Ecosystem Restoration); A/Prof Stuart Johnson (Curtin University); Dr Brian Kullin (Australia Awards Post-Doctoral Fellow, UCT); Prof Trevor Mori (UWA Medical School); Dr Izidine Pinto (Australia Awards Post-Doctoral Fellow, UCT); Prof Hettie Schönfeldt (University of Pretoria)</p> <p><b>Discussion (20 min)</b></p>
<b>1300-1400</b>	<p><b>Lunch – served in foyer</b></p> <p><b>Round Table Meetings:</b> (i) <b>Worldwide Universities Network – Global Africa Group</b> (Chairs: Dr David Mickler, UWA; Prof Maano Ramutsindela, UCT) (ii) <b>Australia Awards and Alumni Group.</b> Chair TBC, Early Career Researchers Group</p>
<b>1400-1500</b>	<p><b>The Synergies between Africa-Australia-China in Education, Extractives, Business</b> <b>Chair: Professor Peter Mbithi, Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi</b></p>
	<p><b>Keynote speakers:</b> Prof Prem Ramburuth, University of New South Wales Prof Qinhu Xu, Renmin University of China (10 min each)</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b> Dr Emmanuel Laryea, Monash University Prof Ernest Aryeetey, African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) (5 min each)</p> <p><b>Discussants:</b> Nosa Esiet (PhD Candidate, Bond University)</p> <p><b>Discussion (30 min):</b> Australia’s niche with Global Africa</p>

<b>1500-1530</b>	<b>Concluding Session - Co-Chairs: Prof John Hearn and Prof Frans Swanepoel</b>
	Strategic priorities and programs – action plan and next steps.
<b>1530-1600</b>	<b>Tea break</b>
<b>1615-1745</b>	<b>BUSINESS MEETING - AAUN AGM 2017</b>
	<b>AAUN Steering Group, with invited guests and observers</b> <i>Agenda and papers to be circulated to Members in August.</i> (Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be provided)
<b>1800 for 1830-2100</b>	<b>Conference Dinner for AAUN, WUN observers, guests (by invitation, with separate registration and at-cost payment)</b>
(Transport to Conference Hotel Travelodge at 2100)	<b>Keynote Speaker:</b> TBC – African Education Minister (10 min) <b>Vote of Thanks</b> – AAUN speaker (5 min)  <b>Venue:</b> <a href="#">The University Club of Western Australia</a>

### Discussants

African Heads of Mission in Australia, Australian Heads of Mission in Africa, Academic, Business and NGO experts. The Forum brings together multidisciplinary expertise: we welcome viewpoints and comments to build the future. Please note the participation of the Chair and members of AGAAR (Advisory Group on Australia Africa Relations – reporting to the Foreign Minister HE Julie Bishop).

**NOTE:** The Africa Strategy submission of AGAAR is with the background papers.

### Contacts

**Program development and editing:** Associate Prof Grace Liu, E: [gliu@wun.ac.uk](mailto:gliu@wun.ac.uk)

**Logistics and Communications:** Marije Nieuwenhuis, E: [aaun.events@sydney.edu.au](mailto:aaun.events@sydney.edu.au)

### Speakers, Panelists and Discussants - URGENT

Please send your 100-200 word bio and 100-200 word abstract to A-Prof Grace Liu at [gliu@wun.ac.uk](mailto:gliu@wun.ac.uk) by **5 August - after which the program is closed**. The bios and abstracts will be edited and circulated with selected background papers and the final program after 20 August.

**NOTE:** In interests of environment and cost, there will be no printed programs. Please go to the AAUN website ahead of the meeting (after 20 AUGUST) for updates of the program, or to download or print the final program as you wish.

### Participants

We expect up to 100 expert participants from academia, government, diplomatic, business, agencies. We are pleased to welcome guests and observers from cooperating networks and NGOs, including to the AAUN AGM meeting, other than for the final closed session which is for AAUN steering group only.

### Registration

Forum registration for 4 September is without charge, thanks to support from Australian Government Agencies (DFAT, ACIAR, Department of Education). The dinner is a separate registration at cost price of \$ 110 (including GST). Drinks included. All participants are invited to register for the Forum dinner.

Please register [via this page](#) **Registrations close on Wednesday 16 August 2017**. All participants including speakers are required to register. Please register as early as you can to help us with logistics and catering. Thank you.

## Communications

We encourage you to circulate this notice to colleagues who you think may be interested in the proceedings. For further information, please [go to our website](#) or contact us at the emails provided at the end of this notice.

## Please check our website

The website will be updated regularly as we develop the AAUN Forum and associated events further.

## Follow up

We will call for AAUN-Partnership and Research Development seed fund bids in October (catalytic grants of average \$10K to initiate and build strategic and sustainable research teams and exchange programs).

## Host

We are grateful to the University of Western Australia for hosting the AAUN Forum allied to UWA Research Week, and for sponsoring the Annual Dinner. The AAUN Forum is also a part of **Australia Africa Week 4-8 September**, and a partner with [Africa Down Under 2017](#).

## Thanks to Our Sponsors

- Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)
- Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)
- Australian Department of Education

## DAY 2, TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER

### Joint AAUN Research Symposium with AFRICA DOWN UNDER (ADU)

- **Concept:** AAUN Programs and ADU as they relate to Mining and Extractive Industries and mining societies  
**Chair:** Mr. David Doepel, Murdoch University
- **Program:** Currently under development. We are exploring how African Education Ministers, HOMs and higher education experts in Africa and Australia can join in exploring solutions to graduate employment, entrepreneurship and new business development.

## Your input is welcome

**Please note** the above program is now developing, with some flexibility in panelists and discussants. There is a little time for further comment and engagement across AAUN, with African and Australian HOMS, and also government.

## DAY 3-5, WEDNESDAY 6 - FRIDAY 8 SEPTEMBER

### AFRICA DOWN UNDER CONFERENCE

AAUN members who wish to attend the **Africa Down Under Conference** can register at the [ADU website](#).

We are exploring with ADU the opportunities for AAUN researchers and educators to engage in challenges related to extractive industries, social cohesion and sustainable societal development.

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*Thank you for your interest and engagement,*

**Professor John Hearn**, Chairman AAUN Australia/Executive Director WUN, E: [john.hearn@sydney.edu.au](mailto:john.hearn@sydney.edu.au)

**Associate Professor Grace Liu**, Research Development Manager AAUN/WUN, E: [gliu@wun.ac.uk](mailto:gliu@wun.ac.uk)

**Marije Nieuwenhuis**, Program Manager, AAUN/WUN, E: [aaun.events@sydney.edu.au](mailto:aaun.events@sydney.edu.au)

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