

UNIVERSITY OF MAURITIUS

Local and Global: From Small Island States to the World

AAUN Africa Forum 22-23 July 2019

(Final)

Venue:

**The CORE Building, UoM Ebène Campus
The University of Mauritius**

Ebène, Mauritius

OBJECTIVES

Purpose – Knowledge Partnerships for Policy Development 2030:

The international policy framework is taking shape with the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the China Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the UN Paris Climate Accords (COP), the AU Africa 2063, and diverse national policies. How can Universities interact in bringing research evidence to the knowledge gaps? How can the Australia Africa Universities Network contribute in advancing higher education and research, learning and training? 2030 is a mere 10 years away!

What are the practical steps 2019-2030 to focus our working teams and partners in engagement and results? How do we build the next generation of leaders who are capable and conversant with global policy; and able to access the opportunities and the required resources? How do we maximize the opportunities for Australia Africa partnerships?

FOCUS – The Priority Areas for Universities to Engage with Research and Education:

AAUN invites the advice and experience of all attending from government, academia, international agencies and business in shaping our capacity and impact for the future. In our first six years AAUN has established a platform, with 43 research programs across Australia and Africa, and has delivered results. Now we seek to build greater teamwork, effectiveness and impact, and to attract sustainable resources from national and international agencies.

We will take the opportunities of the meeting in Mauritius to bring ideas and innovation to the AAUN program. We will also note the relevant aspects of geopolitical change in the US, China, BREXIT.

(i) **RESEARCH** – The AAUN research base holds significant assets in our established teams and communities of Australian and African researchers, educators and students. These teams focus in the areas of environment, food and nutrition security, public health in non-communicable disease, and related education and economic development.

(ii) **POLICY** – The UN Sustainable Development Goals, UN Climate Accords, China Belt and Road Approach, Australian and African international policy objectives are all 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. They are an opportunity to evolve research, teaching and learning in new approaches, degrees and qualifications for the leaders of tomorrow in addressing the global challenges of today.

(iii) **RESEARCH STRATEGY** – We review our progress and results from the 43 seed-funded programs that we have invested in since our launch 6 years ago at DFAT Canberra in 2012; and select the successful ones to build further with new initiatives. We will strengthen our partnerships with our sponsors, especially the Australian Government and agencies (DFAT and ACIAR) and the NRF (South Africa), while seeking additional international resources and funding. In keeping with our research and education character, we are establishing 3-year, renewable alliances with our knowledge partners, leveraging further partnerships with African and International Networks, and focusing on mutual objectives and outcomes. We expect to expand our alliances with other Networks and Knowledge Partners in 2019-20.

(iv) **HIGHER EDUCATION** – We review and extend our research and mobility programs and interactions with exchanges of experts, the Australia Awards and Palladium, international needs and opportunities. Some of our members have highlighted the demands for institutional development, graduate employment and more effort towards linked courses and degrees. Where possible, AAUN research can influence teaching and learning. An important dimension and intention is to include the Alumni from AAUN and Australia-Africa training courses alongside our efforts.

AAUN Forum Structure

Each session has 1-2 opening speakers, 2-3 panelists and expert discussants. **Chairs and speakers please keep strictly to times shown.** All participants are experts and there is ample time for discussion. Discussion time to build consensus and practical outcomes is a core part of the Forum, and also for the workshops/round tables on Day 2 (see below).

PARTICIPANTS

We expect up to 100 expert participants from academia, government, diplomatic missions, business, and agencies. Discussants will include Heads of Missions, Academic, Business and NGO experts. The Forum brings together multidisciplinary expertise: We welcome viewpoints and comments to build the future. We are pleased to welcome guests and observers from cooperating networks and NGOs, including to the AAUN Africa Business meeting, other than for the final closed session which is for AAUN Steering Group Members only.

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.

INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

Registration

Forum registration for 22 and 23 July is without charge, thanks to support from Australian Government Agencies (DFAT, ACIAR, Department of Education) and other Mauritian Sponsors. All participants are invited to register for the Forum Dinner.

Registration closed on 15 June 2019. **NOTE:** In the interest of environment and cost, there will be no printed programs. Please go to the [AAUN website](#) ahead of the meeting for updates of the program, or to download or print the final program as you wish.

Visa requirements

Information on visa requirements for Mauritius is available at the following link:

<http://passport.govmu.org/English/Passport%20and%20Visa%20Requirement%20in%20Mauritius/Pages/Visa-Requirements-in-Mauritius.aspx>

Information on where to apply for a visa is available at:

<http://passport.govmu.org/English/Passport%20and%20Visa%20Requirement%20in%20Mauritius/Pages/Where-to-apply-for-Visa.aspx>

The visa form is available at:

http://passport.govmu.org/English/Documents/passport%20Documents/Visa_%20form_Mtius.pdf

Documents to be submitted for a visa application can be found at:

<http://passport.govmu.org/English/Passport%20and%20Visa%20Requirement%20in%20Mauritius/Pages/Documents-to-be-Submitted-for-Visa-application.aspx>

Please note that the onus is on participants to verify and comply with visa requirements.

Accommodation

Six hotel options are available for delegates, please see **Annexure A** to this document. Please book your accommodation early, as no block bookings are being made for the Forum.

The **Voila Bagatelle** hotel offers a preferential early bird rate for Forum participants (check in 21 July and check out 24 July 2019) of Mur 3,299 per single standard room per night, Bed & Breakfast. This offer is valid until 7 May 2019 and terms and conditions apply. For more information and contact details, please visit <https://www.voilahotel.mu/> .

A preferential rate is also offered by the **Palms Hotel** for participants in the Forum. The rate for single occupancy in a deluxe room is Mur 2,990 Bed and Breakfast and Mur 3490 Half Board. More information is available at <http://palmshotelmauritius.com/> .

Transport

Shuttle transport between the conference hotels and the Forum venue as well as the Conference Dinner will be provided to participants free of charge. Please note, however, that you are responsible for the cost of your transport to and from the airport. Airport transfers can be arranged by your hotel and cost about Mur 1,338 per way in a private car for a maximum of 3 persons, or Mur 1,675 per way in a minibus for a maximum of 8 persons.

Speakers, panelists and chairs

Please send your 100-200 word bio, and 100-200 word abstract to Dr Farai Kapfudzaruwa at faraik@gmail.com at the Africa secretariat by 1 June. The bios and abstracts will be edited and circulated, with selected background papers and the final program after 1 July. If you wish to recommend a brief background paper, please do so now.

Tourism information

For tourism information and useful tips when visiting Mauritius, please go to <http://www.tourism-mauritius.mu> .

AAUN Australia Forum Meeting

The AAUN Africa Forum discussions and outcomes will link to the AAUN Australia Forum and AGM on 2 September in Perth, as a part of Australia Africa Week.

Communications and enquiries

Please check our [website](#), which will be updated regularly as we develop the AAUN Forum program and associated events further.

Enquiries may be sent by email to: desiree.tesner-smith@up.ac.za.

AAUN AFRICA FORUM PROGRAM

LOCAL AND GLOBAL – FROM SMALL ISLAND STATES TO THE WORLD Venue: Auditorium, The CORE Building, The University of Mauritius Ebène Branch, Ebène DAY 1, MONDAY 22 July 2019	
Time	
0730 - 0800	Shuttle bus leaves from hotel (depending on location)
0830	Arrival at Venue and Registration
0900	Opening Session 1: Teamwork Time: International Engagement, Partners and Networks Chair: Professor Frans Swanepoel, Deputy Chairperson and Interim Africa Co-Chair, AAUN
0900-1015	<p>Welcome (3 min each)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Professor Dhanjay Jhurry, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mauritius ▪ Professor Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Pretoria, South Africa ▪ Professor John Hearn, Co-Chair AAUN Australia, University of Sydney, Australia <p>Keynote Speakers (10 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hon Mrs Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun, Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, Mauritius <i>Mauritius-Africa-Australia Teamwork 2030: What are the Top Opportunities?</i> ▪ Professor Dhanjay Jhurry, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mauritius, Member of the Governing Council, Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) <i>International University Networks – Education Diplomacy in an Uncertain World</i> <p>Panel (5 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Professor Maano Ramutsindela, Dean Faculty of Science, University of Cape Town, South Africa ▪ Her Excellency Jenny Dee, Australian High Commissioner to Mauritius <p>Discussants:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr Aldo Stroebel, Executive Director, National Research Foundation, South Africa ▪ Dr Moses Osiru, International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology (ICIPE) and Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET) <p>Discussion (30 min) – Education, Research and Innovation for Economic Development</p>
1015-1045	Tea/Coffee Break – The Foyer, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène

1045-1150	Session 2: Local and Global – The Blue Economy: Regional Opportunities and Demand Chair: Professor Sanjeev K Sobhee, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academia), University of Mauritius (5 min)
	<p>Keynote Speakers: (10 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr Christine Erbe, Director Marine Science and Technology, Curtin University, Western Australia <i>Blue Economy: Opportunities and Responsibilities for Small Island States</i> ▪ Professor Vishwanath Attri, Chair in Indian Ocean Studies, University of Mauritius <i>Frontier Knowledge in Marine and Blue Economy Products and Markets</i> <p>Panel (7 min each): <i>With Emphasis on Interactions and Research Priorities/Gaps</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mrs Prerna Roy, Associate Research Scientist, Mauritius Oceanography Institute (MOI) <i>Research Priorities and Gaps for the Sustainable Development of the Ocean Economy</i> ▪ Professor Erika Techera, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) (Acting), University of Western Australia (UWA), Western Australia <p>Discussants (5 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Gareth Rees, Director, Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) ▪ Dr Jeremy Prince, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Research and Innovation, Murdoch University, Australia <p>Discussion (20 min)</p>
1150-1300	Session 3: Australia Africa Teamwork – Priority Research/Education Areas for Impact Chair: Dr Thandi Mgwebi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor: Research, Innovation & Engagement, Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa (5 mins)
	<p>Keynote Speakers (10 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Professor Eeva Leinonen, Vice-Chancellor, Murdoch University, Western Australia <i>The Opportunity of Phenomics for Africa</i> ▪ Professor Teboho Moja, Professor of Higher Education, New York University, USA and Fellow, CAS, University of Pretoria, South Africa <i>Higher Education and Research: Priority Reforms to Leadership</i> <p>Panel (7 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mrs Kirsty Kaiser, RFI Implementation Manager, Council on Health Research for Development (COHRED) <i>The Research Fairness Initiative (RFI)</i> ▪ Professor Jaya Dantas, Dean International, Faculty of Health Sciences, Curtin University, Western Australia <i>Global Health Research with Communities for Impact: Using the Social Determinants of Health and SDGs Partnerships Framework</i> <p>Discussants (5 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr Salem Saumtally, Director, Mauritius Sugarcane Industry Research Institute, Mauritius ▪ Dr Anne Makena, Program Coordinator, Africa Oxford Initiative (AfOx), UK <p>Discussion (20 min)</p>
1300-1400	<p>Lunch – Rooms G4 & G5, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène</p> <p><u>i) Round Table Meeting ‘Networking the Networks’:</u></p> <p><u>Chair:</u> Professor Dhanjay Jhurry, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mauritius</p> <p><u>Moderator:</u> Dr Aldo Stroebel, National Research Foundation, South Africa</p> <p>Participating Networks: AAUN and WUN (Professor John Hearn), ESDA (Dr Farai Kapfudzaruwa), PASET (Dr Moses Osiru), AAP (Prof Frans Swanepoel), IARU and AAUN Africa (Prof Maano Ramutsindela)</p> <p>Venue for the Networking Meeting : Room G1</p>

1400-1510	Session 4: Instruments for Implementation – What Works and What Does Not? Chair: Professor Prem Ramburuth, University of New South Wales, Australia
	<p>Keynote Speakers (10 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Professor Stephanie Burton, Vice-Principal, Research and Postgraduate Education, University of Pretoria, South Africa ▪ Dr David Mickler, Director, AfREC, University of Western Australia, Western Australia <p>Panel (7 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Ian Halliday, Australia’s Consul-General, Dubai, and General Manager Middle East Africa, Australian Trade and Investment Commission ▪ Professor Carolin Plewa, Interim Director of the Entrepreneurship, Commercialisation and Innovation Centre (ECIC) and representing The Centre for Global Food and Resources (GFAR), University of Adelaide, Australia <i>Entrepreneurship as a Catalyst for Impact</i> <p>Discussants (3 min each):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr Melody Mentz-Coetzee, Senior Researcher, Centre for the Advancement of Scholarship, University of Pretoria, South Africa ▪ Professor Sanjeev K Sobhee, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Academia), University of Mauritius <p>Discussion (15 min)</p>
1510-1600	Concluding Session: Strategic Priorities/Programs – Action Plan and Next Steps, Recommendations to the AAUN AGM Chair: Professor Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor, University of Pretoria, South Africa
	<p>Session Chair Summaries (4 min each):</p> <p>Professor Frans Swanepoel, University of Pretoria Professor Sanjeev K Sobhee, University of Mauritius Dr Thandi Mgwebi, Tshwane University of Technology Professor Prem Ramburuth, University of New South Wales</p> <p>Concluding Remarks: Professor Dhanjay Jhurry, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mauritius</p>
1600-1615	Tea/Coffee Break - The Foyer, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène
1615-1715 1715-1745	AAUN AFRICA BUSINESS MEETING 2019 – Steering Group, Invited Guests and Observers (Closed session with AAUN Steering Group – Confirmation of Strategic Plan, Budget) Venue: Room G3., Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène
	<p><i>Agenda circulated to AAUN Steering Group and highest-ranking representatives of AAUN member universities.</i></p> <p>Joint chair: Professors Frans Swanepoel and John Hearn</p>
1830-2200	Conference Dinner for AAUN, Observers, Guests - By Invitation Only (Co-sponsored between the University of Mauritius and the University of Pretoria)
	<p>18 30 – 19 30 Cocktail</p> <p>19 30 Welcome by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Dhanjay Jhurry, CSK, GOSK, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mauritius (3 min) • Professor John Hearn, AAUN Co-Chairperson (3 min) • Professor Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor, University of Pretoria (3 min) <p>19 30 Dinner</p> <p>21 00 Cultural Programme</p> <p>Vote of Thanks: Dr Mohammad Santally, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Resources) University of Mauritius (3 min)</p>

	Venue: La Pirogue Hotel, Flic en Flac
DAY 2, TUESDAY 23 July 2019	
Venue: The CORE Building, The University of Mauritius Ebène Branch, Ebène	
0900 -1300	Joint AAUN Research Workshops – two Concurrent Half-day Workshops Developed with Mauritian and African Partners Concept: The workshops engage researchers and students from AAUN programs to meet and develop their projects and teamwork.
Concurrent Joint AAUN Research Workshop 1 - Digital Technologies Venue: Room G3, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène	
0800-0900	Registration
	Chair: Dr Mohammad Santally, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Planning and Resources) University of Mauritius
0900-1030	Two Keynote Speakers (45 min each): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Chris Moran, Curtin University, Perth, Western Australia <i>Industry 4.0 Technologies: Universities as Vehicles for Converting Ominous Threats into Opportunities</i> • Mr Tan Chee-Peng, <i>CITPM Senior, SCS Fellow, F.MIoD</i> (Team SYNthesis), Singapore <i>Industry 4.0 Mindset & Digital Employees: Crossing the Rubicon</i>
1030-1100	Group Photo and Tea/Coffee Break - The Foyer, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène
1100-1230	Five Panelists (15 min each) (2 from academia, 3 from industry - UoM Partners): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Ranoo Patil Hunma, Senior Manager, State Informatics Limited, Mauritius • Dr Sunilduth Baichoo, Dean Faculty of Information, Communication & Digital Technologies, University of Mauritius • Mr Shateeaum Sewpaul, General Manager, Harel Mallac Technologies, Mauritius <i>Digital Nations & Societies 5.0 – The Pursuit of Work-Live-Play Balance</i> • Professor Hanlie Smuts, University of Pretoria, South Africa • Dr Mahen Soobron, Acting Director, Central Informatics Bureau, Mauritius Discussants (5 min each): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Rajnish Hawabhay, Chief Technical Officer, Ministry of Technology, Communication and Innovation, Mauritius • Mrs Angela Liukiat, Territory Sales Manager in the Indian Ocean, IBM (Mauritius)
1230-1300	Discussion (30 min) & Agenda for Action
1300-1400	Lunch – Room G4 & G5, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène
Concurrent Joint AAUN Research Workshop 2 Food Security and Nutrition: Technological Innovation for SMEs Venue: Room G2, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène	
Time/Date	Activity
	Chair: Associate Professor Daneshwar Puchoo, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Mauritius Coordinators: Professor M Naushad Emmambux, University of Pretoria, South Africa Mr Shane Hardowar, Senior Lecturer, University of Mauritius

0800-0915	Registration
0915-0920	Welcome Remarks by Associate Professor Daneshwar Puchooa, Dean, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Mauritius
0920-0930	Prof M Naushad Emmambux, University of Pretoria AAUN Background and Objectives of the Workshop
0930-0945	Dr Janet Bornman, Murdoch University, Australia Setting the Scene: Status of Food and Nutrition Security in Africa
0945-1000	Mr Ravin Rampersad, Chief Executive Officer, SME Mauritius Ltd Setting the Scene: Presentation on SMES
1000-1030	Group Photo and Tea/Coffee Break, The Foyer, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène
1030-1045	Prof M Naushad Emmambux, University of Pretoria Introduction to 'World Café' Workshop
1045-1245	'World Café' workshop: Break away Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group 1 – Plant production: Table Host: Mr Navindra Boodia • Group 2 – Animal Production: Table Host: Assoc Prof Marie Françoise Driver • Group 3 – Value addition of waste: Table Host: Assoc Prof Dayawatee Goburdhun • Group 4 – Agroprocessing: Table Host: Dr Brinda Ramasawmy
1245-1400	Lunch - Room G4 & G5, Ground Floor, The CORE Building, Ebène
1400-1440	Facilitator: Mr Shane Hardwar Presentations and recommendations by Table Hosts (10 mins per group)
1440-1500	Lead: Professor M Naushad Emmambux Questions, comments and closing
End of AAUN Forum	

Thanks to Our Sponsors and Knowledge Partners

- **Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR)**
- **National Research Foundation of South Africa (NRF)**
- **Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT)**
- **University of Mauritius Trust**
- **Tertiary Education Commission, Mauritius**
- **Other sponsors are very welcome**

Thank you, from the AAUN Africa Forum steering group, for your interest and engagement.


Professor Frans Swanepoel, Interim Co-Chair AAUN Africa, University of Pretoria. E: frans.swanepoel@up.ac.za

Professor Dhanjay Jhurry, CSK, GOSK, Vice-Chancellor and Chair of the Organizing Committee, University of Mauritius, E: vc@uom.ac.mu

Associate Professor Grace Liu, General Manager AAUN/WUN, University of Sydney. E: g.liu@sydney.edu.au

Annexure A

HOTEL OPTIONS FOR AAUN FORUM IN MAURITIUS- 22-23 JULY 2019

SN	Hotel Name / Location	Rate per night for a Standard Room per adult (Rs)	
		Bed and Breakfast	Half-Board
1.	<p><u>Gold Crest Hotel</u></p> <p>Located in the centre of Quatre Bornes</p> 	2575	3100
2.	<p><u>Pearle Beach Resort & Spa</u></p> <p>Located off the breathtaking West Coast, in Flic en Flac</p>	4,200	5,000



3. **Villas Caroline Beach Hotel & Spa**

Located in the West Coastal Road, Flic En Flac

3,800

4800



4. **Voila Bagatelle Hotel**

Located next to the *Bagatelle* Mall. Centrally located the hotel is easily accessible to Réduit and Ebène Cybercity

3,899

4,499



5. **Anelia Beach Resort & Spa**

Located in the West Coast of Flic en Flac

5,900

6,800



6. **Palms Hotel**

Located in the center of Quatre Bornes



3,249

3,749