

Australia Africa: Knowledge Partnerships

AAUN Africa Group Forum and AGM 5-7 September 2016 (as at 27 August 2016)

Venue: The University Club of Western Australia

Hackett Entrance 1, Hackett Drive Crawley, Western Australia, 6009

Objectives and Outcomes

Purpose: The AAUN Annual Forum and AGM 2016, assessing research and education partnerships with African partners and stakeholders, in building sustainable research and exchange programs.

Focus: The Sustainable Development Goals are highly relevant to AAUN and partner researchers, in practical programs with mutual benefit to Africa and Australia: education, environment, food and nutrition, public health, securities, evidence based policy options. We invite the advice and experience of all attending: government, academia, business.

Format: *Morning session*, a status review of the Australia Africa policy framework, issues and opportunities, identifying priorities for Australia-Africa partnerships. *Afternoon session*, a practical exploration of (i) current and future AAUN programs; (ii) development of the next AAUN strategic plan in changing times; (iii) cooperation of AAUN with other networks (WUN, ARUA, British Council, Association of Commonwealth Universities, RUFORUM)

Structure: Each session has an opening speaker, four commentators and expert discussants. Please keep strictly to time.

Background: The received bios and abstracts will be edited and circulated with selected background papers and the final program in mid-August.

NOTE: there will be no printed programs - please go to the AAUN Forum website ahead of the meeting to download or print the program as you wish.

Participants: we expect up to 100 expert participants from academia, government, diplomats, business and 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 for AAUN steering group only.

Host: We are grateful to UWA for hosting the AAUN Forum allied to UWA Research Week. The AAUN Forum is also a part of Australia Africa Week 5-9 September 2016 (see links below).

Registration: Forum registration (at www.aaun.edu.au) on 5 September is free, thanks to support from Australian Government Agencies (DFAT, ACIAR, Department of Education). The dinner is a separate registration at cost price of \$100 including GST. All participants are welcome to register for the Forum dinner. Please register now if you have not.

Outcomes: Vital to the success of the Forum, we will develop a communique or position paper for policy makers in Australia and Africa. Several proposals for research programs are likely to arise. We will call for AAUN-Partnership and Research Development seed-fund bids in late September (catalytic grants of average \$10K to initiate strategic and sustainable research and exchange programs). Bids will be invited in the areas where funding is available.

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: www.aaun.edu.au or contact us (see details below).

Monday 5 September 2016
AAUN Forum and AGM: Program

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

Time	Program
0800	Shuttle bus from Hotel Travelodge (Address: 417 Hay Street, PERTH, WA) – Please register
0830-0900	Registration & arrival tea
Opening Plenary Session 1: Australia Africa: Knowledge Partnerships	
0900-1015	<p>Welcome & Introductions by AAUN Co Chairs (5 min each) Professor John Hearn and Professor Cheryl de la Rey</p> <p>Opening comments (5 min each) Mr Matthew Neuhaus, Head Africa Branch DFAT H.E. Mr Adam McCarthy, High Commissioner of Australia to South Africa H.E. Mrs Mercy Debrah-Karikari, High Commissioner Ghana High Commission Professor Paul Johnson, Vice Chancellor, University of Western Australia</p> <p>Opening address (15 min) Professor Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor, University of Pretoria – Priorities for African Australian International Knowledge Partnerships</p> <p>Discussion (30 min) Primary Discussants: Australian and African Heads of Missions: Ethiopia-AU, Kenya, Ghana, Mauritius, South Africa.</p>
Plenary Session 2 The UN Sustainable Development Goals in Higher Education and Research: practical implementation in Africa and Australia Chair: Professor Cheryl de la Rey, Vice Chancellor University of Pretoria	
1015-1115	<p>Keynote speaker (15 min) Prof. John Kirkland, Deputy Secretary General, Association of Commonwealth Universities</p> <p>Panel (7 mins each) (i) Professor Peter Mbithi, Vice Chancellor, University of Nairobi (ii) Professor Romeela Mohee, Vice Chancellor, University of Mauritius (iii) Professor A. Idowu Olayinka, Vice Chancellor, University of Ibadan (iv) Dr Emmanuel Laryea, Monash University: Australia-Africa-China synergies</p> <p>Discussion: 15 min</p>
1115-1145	Morning tea
Plenary Session 3 Australia Africa: Priorities in research and innovation for sustainable development Chair: David Doepel, Chair Africa Research Group, Murdoch University	
1145-1245	<p>Keynote speaker (15min) Grame Barty, Executive Director, AUSTRADE Sydney – Australia Africa Business Realities</p> <p>Panel (6 mins each): (i) Professor Kadambot Siddique, University of Western Australia (ii) Dr Peter Johnston, University of Cape Town (iii) Professor Petra Tschakert, University of Western Australia (iv) Dr Eric Huttner, Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (v) Richard Slattery, Minerals and Energy for Development Alliance (MEfDA), UWA</p> <p>Discussion: 15 min</p>

1245-1400	Lunch <i>Staff Club, University of Western Australia</i>
1400-1530	RESEARCH AND HIGHER EDUCATION PRIORITIES WORKSHOP Co-Chairs: Dr David Mickler, Prof Mavis Malaudzi, Prof Maano Ramutsindela
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review current status and future focus of AAUN research programs (refer annual report – research PI’s to report on current program achievements and futures). 2. Introduction of new members of AAUN (Western Sydney University and University of New South Wales – 7 min each, priorities and programs). 3. Future priorities and opportunities for cooperation with WUN, ARUA, RUFORUM, ACU, British Council (see strategic plan). 4. The shape and success of AAUN (and WUN) research and funding strategies in a changing world – any reshape or refocus in the new AAUN strategic plan? 5. Funding strategies and priorities for sustainability of AAUN research and education programs. <p>Note 1: this discussion is a consultation and preparation of options for the AAUN AGM at 16.30 pm Note 2: depending on progress, WUN members/observers may wish to meet separately 15.00-15.30</p> <p>Attendance: AAUN Members and Stakeholders, WUN Global Africa Group - Observers. Guests are welcome as observers, and may be invited to speak by the Chairs.</p>
1530-1600	Concluding Session – Co-Chairs: Profs John Hearn and Cheryl de la Rey Strategic priorities and programs – next steps
1600-1730	AAUN AGM - AAUN Steering Group, with invited guests and observers. Tea, coffee and soft drinks will be available 16.15 Shuttle bus return to Perth CBD (Travelodge Hotel)
1800-2100)	Conference Dinner for AAUN, WUN observers, and guests (by invitation, with separate registration and at cost payment) Venue: The University Club of Western Australia 21.00 Shuttle bus return to Perth CBD (Travelodge Hotel)

Discussants:

African Heads of Mission in Australia

Australian Heads of Mission in Africa

Jemal Beker, Minister Counsellor for Economic Diplomacy, Ethiopian Embassy, Canberra

Prof Samuel Offei, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Academic and Student Affairs), University of Ghana

Prof Deborah Sweeney, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research and Innovation), Western Sydney University

Prof Prem Ramburuth, President, Academic Board & Professor, International Business, UNSW Australia

Prof Petra Tschakert, University of Western Australia

Dr Muza Gondwe, Minerals and Energy for Development Alliance (MEfDA), The University of Western Australia

Ian Satchwell, Senior Fellow, Perth USAsia Centre

Assoc-Prof Grace Liu, Regional Development Manager, AAUN/WUN

(Check other registrations)

Discussants Invitation

The meeting will have time for discussion and **we invite expert discussants from AAUN , WUN and stakeholders to contact us and participate.**

Contacts: aaun.events@sydney.edu.au – Marije Nieuwenhuis; and Associate Prof Grace Liu gliu@wun.ac.uk

Registration

All those wishing to participate in this AAUN Forum, including WUN Africa Group colleagues, please register at www.aaun.edu.au

Please check website

The website will be updated regularly and we ask you to refer to it as we develop the AAUN Forum and associated events further.

Sponsors

We thank our sponsors for their continued support of the AAUN Forum, research and education programs;

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

6 September

Joint symposium: “Forging a new partnership: How mining companies and their communities can prosper together.”

We encourage you to attend the [joint symposium \(on Agriculture & Food, Nutrition & Health, Education & Training, and Mining & Extractives\)](#) with the Australia Africa Research Forum on Tuesday 6 September. Please register [via this link](#).

Wednesday 7 - Friday 9 September

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

Thank you for your interest and engagement,

Professor John Hearn

Chairman AAUN Australia/Executive Director WUN (john.hearn@sydney.edu.au)

Associate Professor Grace Liu

Regional Development Manager AAUN/WUN (gliu@wun.ac.uk)

Marije Nieuwenhuis

Program and Communications Manager, AAUN/WUN (aaun.events@sydney.edu.au)
