



THE OHIO STATE  
UNIVERSITY

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

UF UNIVERSITY of  
FLORIDA

VirginiaTech  
Invent the Future

IOWA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

TUSKEGEE  
UNIVERSITY

RUFORUM  
Capacity Building in Agriculture



International Programs  
in Agriculture  
The Ohio State University

160 Bevis Hall  
1080 Carmack Road  
Columbus, OH 43210

Phone:  
(614) 292-7252

<http://cfaes.osu.edu/international/worldwide-projects/africa/innovative-agricultural-research-initiative-iagri>



January  
2016

**Special Note:** The Office of International Programs in Agriculture at The Ohio State University has moved to a new location on campus! Our office is now located at 160 Bevis Hall, 1080 Carmack Road, Columbus, OH 43210. Phone numbers for the office & IPA staff remain unchanged.

*iAGRI continued to prioritize its core activities, namely, long-term degree training, food security collaborative research, and institutional capacity building during November and December. A number of additional students completed their graduate degree programs and are currently in Tanzania. All but one of the Phase I iAGRI Collaborative Research Projects completed their formal research activities while the three Phase II projects continued to pursue their research objectives. Capacity building efforts focused on the organizational transformation of SUA and included major collaboration with SUA leadership to revamp strategic goals, to streamline administrative and management procedures, and to support multiple on-going organizational experiments on the SUA campus. We continue to be grateful for the continued support received from the USAID Mission in Tanzania and from USAID/Washington for these activities.*

### Update on Activities November-December, 2015

**Long Term Training** – As of December 31, 2015, 44 iAGRI-funded graduate students have completed their degree programs. Of those, 100% of the MS students in the first three cohorts placed at OSUC consortium member institutions and Punjab Agricultural University have completed their graduation requirements as scheduled. Placements and completions are found in the following table:

#### Student Placements/Completions

	M.Sc.		Ph.D.		Total	
	Placed	Completed	Placed	Completed	Placed	Completed
OSUC	54	29	17	2	71	31
SUA	25	4	4	1	29	5
RUFORUM	30	7	1	-	31	7
PAU	6	2	-	-	6	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>45</b>

The degree programs at SUA and RUFORUM require reviews of theses by external examiners, which prolong the completion of the degree program. iAGRI Project Management Unit and RUFORUM staffs are continuing to monitor and encourage timely completion. Theresia Jumbe and Julius Medardus recently completed their Ph.D. programs and have resumed their academic appointments at SUA. We anticipate that 17 PhD students from earlier cohorts will complete their dissertations by the end of August 2016.

*The iAGRI project was made possible by the United State Agency for International Development (USAID) with support from the American people. The contents do not necessarily reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government. iAGRI, a major Feed the Future initiative in Tanzania managed by The Ohio State University, seeks to prepare the next generation of agricultural scientists, leaders and food system institutions in Tanzania.*

**iAGRI Collaborative Research Program** – Seven of the eight research projects funded under Phase I of the Collaborative Research Program formally came to a close at the end of 2015. A project on soil salinity and irrigated rice production was extended for an additional year to allow for further field testing. PIs for these projects have already published materials from this research and many additional publications are in process. The PMU is in the process of posting them on the SUA website along with other iAGRI-funded research outputs (<http://iagri.org/core-activities/research>). These outputs represent attempts to disseminate research results to farmers and other potential stakeholders in Tanzania in both Kiswahili and English. Progress also continues to be made on research funded under Phase II of this program. This research focuses on maize production, climate change and agricultural risk management, land use and climate change impacts on sustainable agricultural intensification, food demand in Tanzania, and land access policy issues.

**SUA Strategic Planning Retreat** – A major strategic planning effort was held at SUA during December. Members of the SUA University Council and the top leadership of SUA actively participated as did David Kraybill, iAGRI Project Director, and several other PMU staff persons. A major outcome of this exercise was the definition of university restructuring priorities dealing with its academic, research, and outreach programs, as well as major modifications needed in university administration and management. Needed modifications specifically address building greater capacity at SUA to effectively engage with its stakeholders and to generate funds to support university activities.

**iAGRI Student Thesis Supervisor Visits** – During the past two months several thesis supervisors visited Tanzania to advise their students on field research. They included:

- **Charity Chonde**, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, worked with student **Nicholaus Shokela Mchembi** and Co-Supervisor, **Zebedayo Mvena**. She presented a seminar, “Land Ownership Security and Investments Incentives in Matrilineal Social Systems in Southern Malawi,” while at SUA.
- **Jaclyn Kropp**, University of Florida, worked with student **Wilfred Makombe** and Co-Supervisor **Damas Philip**. She presented a seminar, “Impacts of United States Corn Ethanol Policies on Farmland Values and Global Grain Prices to staff and graduate students.
- **Sanja Ilic**, Ohio State University, worked with **Joan Msuya** and Co-Supervisor, **Joyce Kinabo**. She also presented a seminar on “Listeria Monocytogenes in Fresh Tomato,” to staff and graduate students.
- **Petronella Tapiwa Saidi**, University of Zimbabwe, worked with student **Neema Mboya** and her Co-Supervisor, **Revocatus Kurwijila Lusato**. She presented a seminar on “An Overview of the Dairy Industry in Zimbabwe,” to staff and graduate students.
- **Ellene Kebede**, Tuskegee University, worked with student **Godebertha Rugazia** and Co-Supervisor, **Reuben Kadigi**. She presented a seminar on “The Potential Impact of Biogas Production on Crop Production and Household Incomes in East Africa” to staff and graduate students.

**Sophia Kashenge-Killenga** – Dr. Sophia Kashenge-Killenga, MAFC ARI-Chollima, completed a six week stay in the U.S. as part of her iAGRI-funded Collaborative Research Project. Over this period she worked with Warren Dick, Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and Brian Boman, University of Florida, Fort Pierce. She also attended the Tri Society Professional Meetings in Minneapolis, Minnesota where she reported on her project activities. Co-PI visits with U.S. counterparts in the U.S. contributed measurably to project output, including preparation of several research manuscripts. They also strengthened long-term research linkages.

**Eric Stein and Anna Testen** – With funding from the Office of International Programs in Agriculture, two OSU graduate students – Eric Stein and Anna Testen – completed short-term research stays in Tanzania working with SUA faculty and researchers. Eric, a masters student in soil science with Dr. Rattan Lal (OSU), worked with Didas Kimaro and Nyambi Amuri (SUA) from August-November in studying the carbon sequestration potential of land based sinks. Anna, a Ph.D. student in plant pathology with Dr. Sally Miller (OSU), worked with Delphina Mamiro, Jackson Nahson, and Hosea Mtui (SUA) at the end of November to collect follow-up data in rural villages on farmer adoption of tomato varieties and use of soil health test kits. Anna, who has been engaged at SUA and with iAGRI since early 2014, is also a recent recipient of the Presidential Fellowship from OSU’s Graduate School, which will fund her final semester of her Ph.D. studies at OSU.

**Innovation Portfolio - Innovation Portfolio Quarterly Update** – Recent activities have focused on creating new partnerships with potential outside funding entities for SUA. Meetings were held with ten potential sponsor including five international (INGOS): Save the Children, Africare, UNICEF, Irish Aide, Catholic relief Service (CRS); two local Non-

Government Organizations: COUSENUTH, Rural Urban Development Initiative (RUDI); five private sectors companies: East Africa Trade and Investment Hub, Africa Enterprise Challenge Fund- funded by SIDA and DFID, AZAM, Center for Sustainable Development Initiative, and East Africa Grain Council; and two public sector organizations: Commissioner for Science and Technology (COSTECH), and the Ministry of Science Technology and Communications. The IP team attended the East African Grain Council (EAGC) member's quarterly meeting in Dar es Salaam and made a presentation on iAGRI's activities. EAGC members include traders, food processors, manufactures, bankers/finance institutions and insurance providers. These interactions provided opportunities to connect with potential sponsors to discuss collaborative research, training, testing of new products, completion of baseline surveys, data collection and analysis, agricultural value chains, gender analyses and monitoring and evaluation. Five MOUs and PPPs were prepared to initiate formal partnerships and three concept papers were prepared in response to requests by potential sponsors.

**Business Plan Development Workshop at SUA** - Dave Hahn, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics at OSU, visited SUA in late September to deliver an applied, two day workshop to SUA's Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness (DAEA) on the fundamentals of developing a business plan. The purpose of the workshop, which was attended by DAEA faculty and graduate students, was to use a training-of-trainers approach to provide rationales and a model for assisting small business owners to develop their own business plans, thereby enhancing SUA's capacity to partner with the private sector in Tanzania. Dr. Hahn worked collaboratively with Dr. Damian Gabagambi, head of DAEA, in this effort.

**Webinars** – Two leadership webinar series were completed in December. One was based on 7 Habits of Highly Effective People authored by Steven Covey (28 students) and was taught by staff at the iAGRI Project Management Unit in Morogoro. The other is based on The Leadership Challenge authored by James Kouzes and Barry Posner (27 students) and was taught by members of the OSU Department of Agricultural Communication, Education and Leadership.