

MUCCRI Stakeholder Consultative Meeting

Protea Hotel, June 4th 2015

Remarks by

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1. Climate Change

- Climate Change is real and it is having real impacts. Some highlights from a recent study (baastel, metroeconomica and Makerere University, 2015):
- **Agriculture:**
Overall losses for food crops estimated at USD1.5 billion by 2050. CC will lead to a 40 percent fall in crop production of cassava, potato and sweet potato by 2050. Loses due to a 50 percent reduction in the production of coffee and tea combined may cost about USD1,400 million by 2050.

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- **Energy:**

Climate Change will almost certainly reduce biomass availability-loss of domestic wood estimated at 5-10 percent between 2020 and 2050 or a cost of USD0.5-1.3 billion if the gap is filled with imported biomass.

- **Infrastructure:**

Total cost for ensuring climate resilient infrastructure estimated at USD52-66 million for the period 2015-2020; and USD638-1,157 million for the period 2045-2050

Impact extends to other sectors as well.

2. CAES in Brief

- One of the 10 colleges at Makerere University.
- One of the largest and certainly the most multidisciplinary offering Agriculture (both Crop and Animal) programs, Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics, Agricultural Extension and Innovations, Horticulture, Agricultural Engineering, Food Science and Technology, Nutrition, Forestry, Biodiversity, Environmental Sciences, Geography and Tourism.

Opportunities and Strength

- Economic centrality of Agriculture, Forestry, Geographical systems and the Environment
- Recent global events including climate change, a growing population etc
- A talented teaching and supportive staff; A total of 210 Academic staff members (17 Full Professors or 8%)
- A multidisciplinary college spanning the entire food system

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- Three Schools and 8 departments
- Two Research institutes/stations
- Specialised Centres (CAEC, Waste Management etc
- A large and diverse student population:
Totaling of **2497 students** (60% male and 40% female; 94% ; 1149 in SFEGS, 1050 SAS and 298 SFTNB.

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- A total of **14** Undergraduate and **28** graduate programs
- We recently graduated 10 PhDs-highest in the University
- A total of close to 270 research projects and the number is growing. Many of these are addressing various climate change aspects

3. Rationale

- CAES is a college on a mission. CAES has an interest in improving education, research and outreach capacity on climate change adaptation and mitigation in the agricultural and related sectors.
- **CAES intends :**
 - To transform MUCCRI into a leading center for climate change education and research in the EAC and entire Africa;
 - Use MUCCRI as a platform to develop the capacity of university staff, government officials, civil society, and private sector actors to better understand climate change, climate change impacts, and climate adaptation and mitigation;

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- Use MUCCRI as a vehicle to improve and support undergraduate, graduate, diploma, and post graduate education in climate science, meteorology, and climate adaptation; and
- To develop it into ***a leading center of excellence in climate change education, research, and innovations that enhances sustainable development, with a focus on the agricultural and related sectors, in Uganda and across the African region.***