



Designing a Needs Assessment for an Open Agricultural Data Repository Using RUFORUM as a Case Study

29th April, 2022

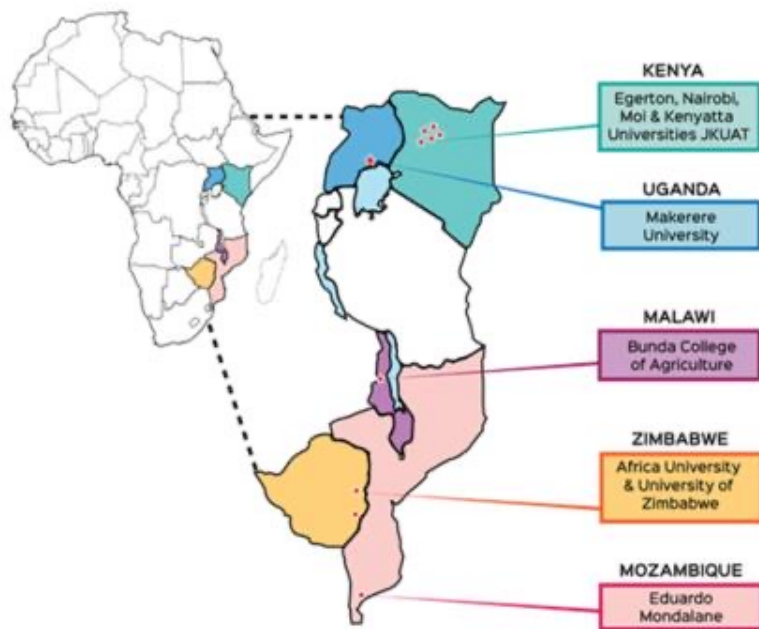
**Nada Musa (RUFORUM) and
Pamela Abbott (Information School, University of Sheffield)**

RUFORUM Founded in 2004 by 10 African Vice Chancellors to:

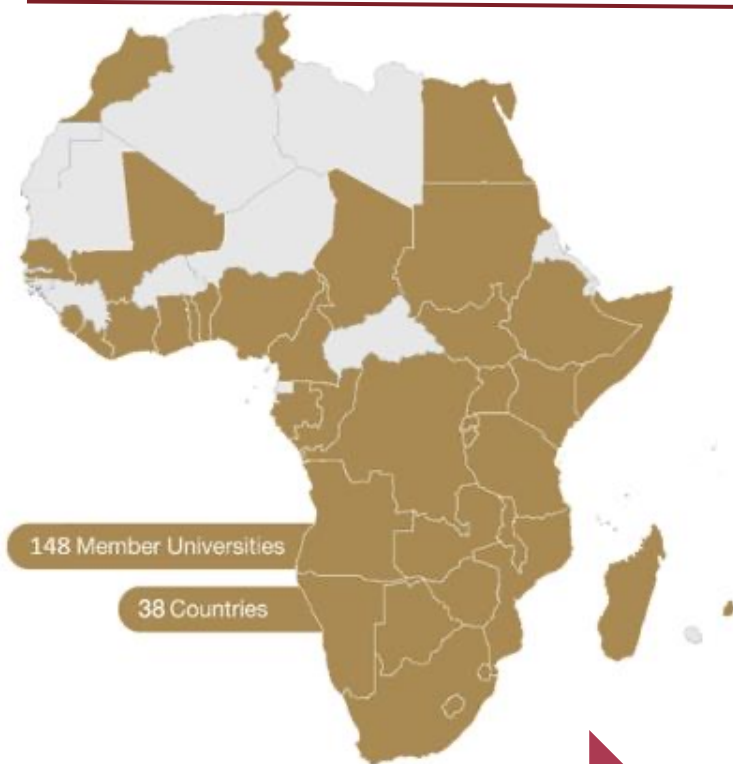


1. Provide a platform for **networking, resource mobilization and advocacy** to transform universities for relevance towards inclusive sustainable development
2. **Rationalize resource** use and enhance economies of scale and scope
3. Provide **a platform for training quality graduates** to support development processes in Africa

RUFORUM EVOLUTION



2004



2022

Vision 2030



The African Universities' Agenda for
Agricultural Higher Education, Science,
Technology and Innovation (AHESTI)

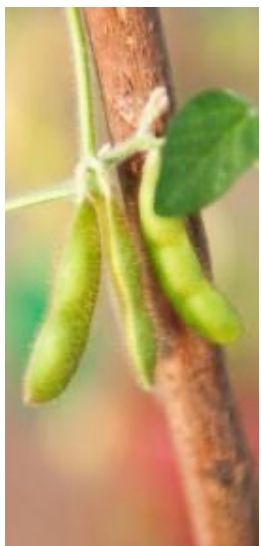
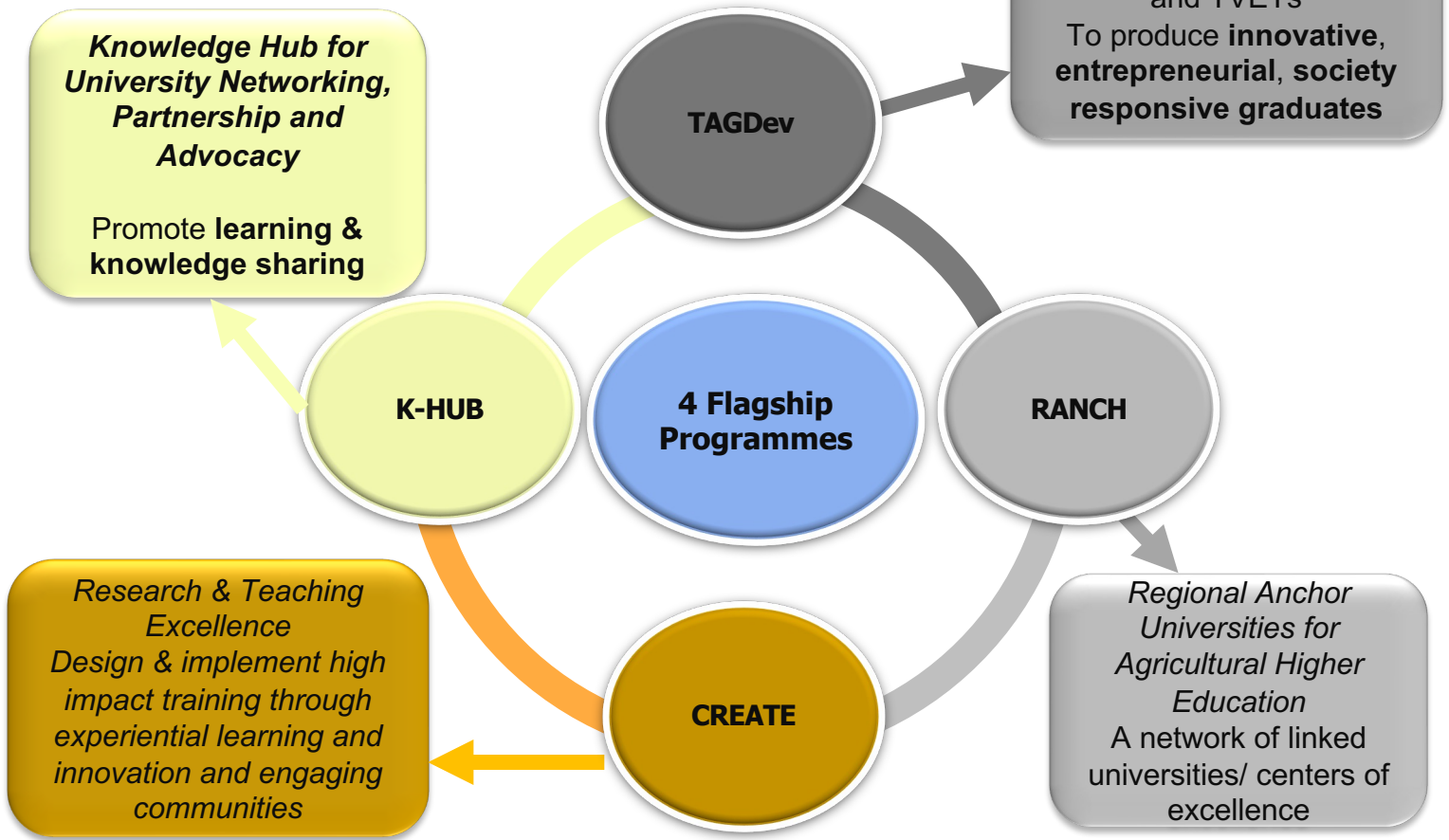
“Vibrant, transformative universities catalyzing sustainable, inclusive agricultural development to feed and create prosperity for Africa”

RUFORUM Commitments



Enhancing innovation	Member universities create opportunities promoting cooperative action among the public, private and civil sectors to leverage resources to stimulate innovation
Research Excellence	Member universities create and advance knowledge to improve the quality of life
Knowledge generation and sharing	Enhancing knowledge exchange to policy dialogue and reform to drive positive change in Africa's food and higher agricultural education systems
Fulfilling the potential of women	In agricultural science, technology and innovation
Student learning	Providing opportunity for transformative student learning
Community engagement	Member universities serve and engage society to enhance economic, social and cultural well being

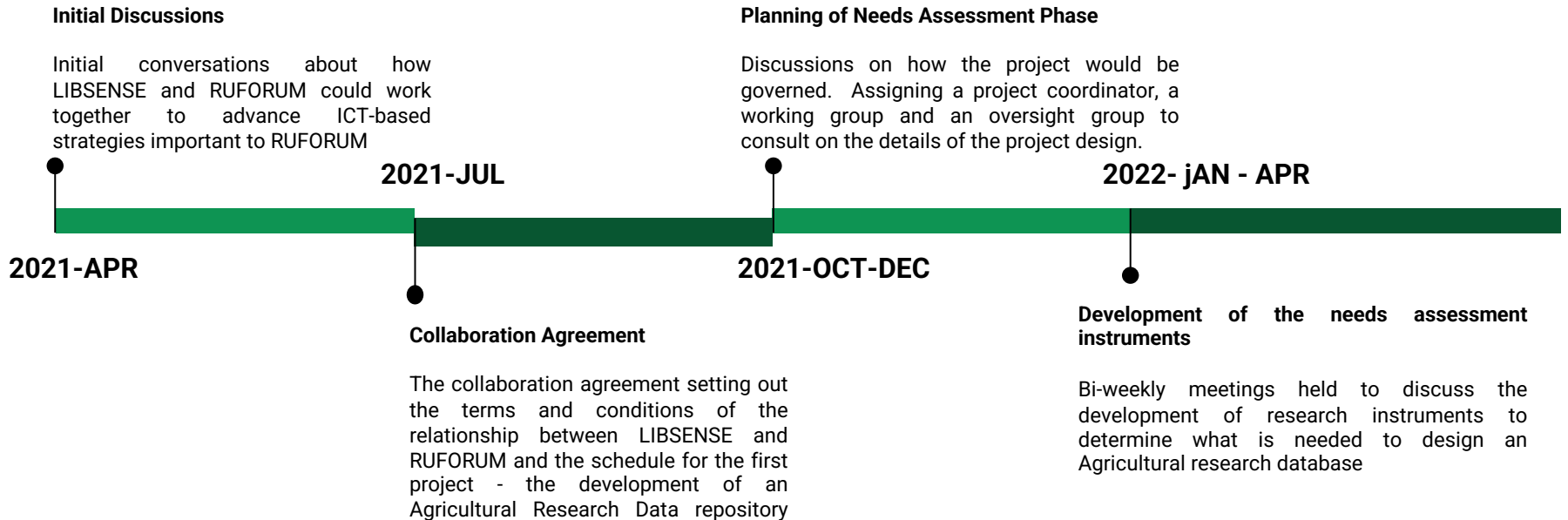
RUFORUM Flagship Programs



The Role of Open Agricultural Data Repository

- Enable agriculture research data sharing and open access publishing.
- Support Researchers and decision makers to make evidence based-decisions.
- Deliver state-of-the-art digital services to higher education institutions at scale and with no costs.
- Provide a platform for RUFORUM Network Stakeholders (Students, University Staff, Researchers, Farmers etc...) to willingly offer/share their data at no costs.
- Reduce on time of validating unchanged data.

LIBSENSE-RUFORUM Partnership Timeline



Key issues in developing the research instruments

1. Determining the key stakeholders
 - a. Who would benefit from the data repository and what potential use they would have from it
2. Determining the roles of those who would interact with the data repository
 - a. Three roles identified - end user, specialist librarian, repository administrator
3. Determining the format of the research instruments
 - a. Interviews (more open-ended, exploratory), survey (closed categories, some information already known about the context)

Key issues in developing the research instruments

4. Collaborative decision making - co-development approach
 - a. Researcher's perspective - adherence to good research design, applying theoretical or literature-based concepts
 - b. Practitioner's perspective - incorporating what is happening on the ground
 - c. Expert's perspective - ensuring that standards expected in the domain are adhered to



Ms. Nada Musa is the Knowledge Management Specialist at the RUFORUM Secretariat. She started her career as an Information Technologist at the Administration of Human Resource Development and Information Management of the Agricultural Research Corporation (ARC, Sudan). She has more than 10 years' experience in Computer and Networks development, and a wealth of experience in Information and Knowledge Management.

She is currently pursuing PhD in Agricultural and Rural Innovation at Makerere University; she holds MSc in Agricultural Information and Communication Management from Egerton University; MSc in Computer Engineering and Networks from University of Gezira and BSc in Electronics Engineering from Sudan University of Science and Technology.



THANK YOU