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CLIMATE SMART AGRIFOOD SYSTEMS



Partnership to Strengthen Graduate Training and Research Capacity for developing climate smart agrifood systems in Central and East Africa

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## **RATIONALE**

- Sub-Saharan Africa is one of the most vulnerable regions in the world facing climate crisis.
- The impacts of climate change are huge and lead to severe food insecurity in the region due to the high vulnerability of its agriculture sector, which remains rainfed.
- Possible solutions to tackle climate related risks in agriculture consists of scaling promising climate smart agricultural technologies and innovations among rural communities and small-scale farmers who produce more than 80% of the food



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# WHAT IS CLIMATE SMART AGRICULTURE?

## 3 MAIN PILLARS:

1. To sustainably increase agr. productivity and improve the incomes and livelihoods of farmers
2. To build resilience and adaptation to climate change; and
3. To reduce and/or remove GHG emissions, where possible.



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## **- AIMS OF PROJECT**

- 1. Enhance the capacity of HEI staff to conduct research and generate evidence-based knowledge on climate-smart practices, technologies, and policies for agrifood systems in the region**
- 2. Strengthen technical and professional skills development to enhance the employability of graduates.**
- 3. Mainstream gender and inclusivity in HEIs' academic programs and broader research for development undertakings.**
- 4. Promote inclusive academic mobility and partnerships between HEIs, universities, and research institutions to address key challenges in developing climate-smart agrifood systems**



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## - AIMS OF PROJECT

5. Develop or strengthen the curriculum on Climate-Smart Agrifood Systems in HEIs.
6. Strengthen climate data and information systems using digital tools.
7. Promote entrepreneurship and agribusiness development.



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## **- PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES**

- 1. University of Dschang, Cameroon**
- 2. Makerere University, Uganda**
- 3. Bishop Stuart University, Uganda**
- 4. Haramaya University, Ethiopia**
- 5. Egerton University, Kenya**
- 6. University of Kinshasa, DRC**



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## **- PARTNERS**

**The EU Technical Partner (The Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) in Sweden)**

**The Associate Partners:**

- RUFORUM (Regional Universities Forum for Capacity Building in Agriculture)**
- Forum for African Women Vice Chancellors (FAWoVC)**



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## - PROGRAMS OFFERED

The project is only concerned with MSC, PhD students and trainees

### Academic Programs, Host Universities, Countries and Number of scholarships

	PhD Programs	University	County	No
1	Climate Smart Agriculture	University of Dschang	Cameroon	2
2	Agriculture and Rural Innovations	Makerere University Kampala	Uganda	2
3	Climate Smart Agriculture & Biodiversity Management	Haramaya University	Ethiopia	2
4	Dryland Agriculture	Egerton university	Kenya	2
	TOTAL			8





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## - PROGRAMS OFFERED

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### Academic Programs, Host Universities, Countries and Number of scholarships

	<b>MSc. Program</b>			
1	Plant Breeding & Seed Systems	Makerere University Kampala	Uganda	5
2	Climate Smart Agriculture	Haramaya University	Ethiopia	4
3	Climate Change and Geomatics	University of Kinshasa	DRC	4
4	Agriculture and Rural Innovations	Bishop Stuart University	Uganda	4
5	Livestock Production Systems	Egerton University	Kenya	4
	Integrated Management of Forest Resources	Dschang University	Cameroon	5



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## **- PROGRAMS OFFERED**

**The project is only concerned with MSC, PhD students and trainees**

**Academic Programs, Host Universities, Countries and Number of scholarships**

**A total of 26 Masters, 8 PhDs postgraduate students will be trained in the thematic areas of Climate Smart Agriculture, Agriculture and Rural Innovations, Dryland Agriculture, Livestock Production Systems, Plant Breeding and Seed Systems, Food Security, Geomatics and Artificial Intelligence. The project will provide scholarships for full degree programs (PhD and MSc) as well as short term mobility for trainees (4) and staff (4) that will run from**



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## - SOME CONCERNS

1. - Our project and other EU projects in Intra - Africa Mobility are very important with far - reaching goals. However, collaboration among the different projects can yield **SYNERGIES**. There is apparently no adequate framework for it. I would be grateful for assistance from our organizers to work towards the creation of this framework.
- 2.- It is also difficult to understand why the Intra - Africa Mobility Scheme applies only to postgraduate students and staff. Why Intra - Africa UNDERGRADUATE mobility is not also strongly promoted. If Universities cooperate **ALSO AT UNDERGRADUATE LEVEL**, the INTRA - AFRICA programme could yield better fruits. The organizers of this conference could also work in this direction.
3. The life cycle of the Intra - Africa projects is very short. There is a need to increase the duration to secure more sustainability and impact.



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## - CONCLUSION

So far, the CSAS project is running smoothly and we are convinced that, everything else being equal, the laid down objectives of the project will be achieved at the end of the project.



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**Thank you**

**for your kind attention**