

**AFRICAN NATURAL PRODUCTS RESEARCH
AND TRAINING NETWORK
(RISE - AFNNET)
REGIONAL INITIATIVE IN SCIENCE AND EDUCATION**

www.rise-afnnet.com

Supported by The Carnegie Corporation of New York



The African Academy of Sciences
Science Initiative Group
Institute for Advanced Study

SIG



John David Kabasa, Project Director



Uganda



Tanzania



Kenya



CARNEGIE-RISE ANNUAL MEETING: KAMPALA, UGANDA



BACKGROUND



- ❑ Natural Products have immense potential to contribute to poverty eradication and sustainable livelihoods in Sub-Saharan Africa
- ❑ Existing systems for their development as a resource and livelihood option are weak & fragmented

BACKGROUND

- Rapid population growth
 - ▣ Rapid loss of NP Biodiversity
 - ▣ Loss of agricultural lands
- Neglected and Underutilized
- Insufficient human capacity

BACKGROUND

- Transform Africa's rich biodiversity into a socioeconomically important NP industry
- Expand and Build NP Value Chains research and educational programs in NP fields
 - ▣ Health
 - ▣ Engineering
 - ▣ Biochemistry
 - ▣ Economics
 - ▣ Environment and Ecology
 - ▣ Pharmaceuticals
 - ▣ Cosmetology
 - ▣ Nutrition
 - ▣ etc



HUMAN CAPITAL: HEIs AS A PILLAR

- ANY sustained development of a nation depends on the quality and quantity of its skilled human capital
- Higher Education Institutions (HEIs): Fulcrum of development in Africa because current policies drive young people to Higher Education and they are at the centre of a sustainable Public Private Sector interface.

To address these, AFNNET was founded by Makerere University, University of Nairobi and Sokoine University with the support of the Carnegie Corporation of New York through the SIG.



Rozites caperata



- **Vision:** To be the leading Academic Network in African Natural Products industry
- **Mission:** To nurture transformative Skills, Knowledge, Technology, Innovations and Community services in the African NP Industry



STRATEGY

- A new generation of NP academics, professionals and entrepreneurs
- Sustainable Networking and Partnerships
- Transformative educational models and curricula (Educations & Training)
- Instrumentation and Technology centers (Research & Services)

ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❑ A multi- and trans-disciplinary regional MSc program in NP Technology & Value Chains
- ❑ Enhanced inter and intra- University collaborations in the region
- ❑ Deepening public-private sector collaborations in teaching, research, extension, service and internships
- ❑ Contributed to Career growth, Promotions and Staff Retention



ACHIEVEMENTS



- ❑ Increased networking, awareness & learning opportunities for stakeholders – 10 networking events (workshops, symposia, conferences & seminars); Skills dev't courses
- ❑ 40 (17 PhDs, 03 PostDoc, 20 MSc) new NP scientists and academics under mentorship – 10 are female; 22 mentor Team
- ❑ www.rise-afnnet.com

ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❑ Commercialization through patenting NP extracts and isolates: 4 patents have been registered
- ❑ 08 Publications in the previous 8 Months
- ❑ Various laboratory equipment to strengthen existing facilities

SPIN-OFFS

- AFNNET members writing other joint grants
- More multi-disciplinary regional courses e.g. MSc International Infections Diseases Management supported by HED
- Natural Products Stakeholders Forum in each country
- African Institute Strategic Services and Development (AFRISA) MAK

CHALLENGES

- Funding for Instrumentation & Infrastructure



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Future Focus



CONSOLIDATING ACHIEVEMENTS

- ❑ More MSc
- ❑ Upgrade existing MSc to PhD
- ❑ Post-Doc training
- ❑ Integrate stronger E-learning Technology
- ❑ Develop information and database systems
- ❑ Faculty retention at Universities
- ❑ Networking and more partnerships
- ❑ Educational Value Chain

Regional Initiative in Science & Education (RISE)
Annual Meeting: Kampala-Uganda.



THEME :

**“Integration of Science & Technology Networks in
National and Regional Development”**

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