



UFAAS SEMESTER UPDATE

JANUARY-JUNE 2018



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INTRODUCTION

Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) is a forum that brings together a wide range of actors involved in Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) in Uganda, which include; the Public, Academia, Private, Civil Society, Farmer Organizations, Donor Community and the Media. UFAAS was launched in May 2011 and officially registered in Uganda in 2013 as a Country Chapter of the African Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (AFAAS), which is also the host institution of the forum in Uganda. AFAAS is the umbrella network organisation for AEAS in Africa, with the mandate for extension under the African Union. AFAAS itself is the Continental Forum for the Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services (GFRAS).

UFAAS has a strategic direction aimed at promoting an effective, efficient and innovative AEAS system through; advocacy, capacity development, information sharing and increased professional development among AEAS actors in Uganda. The details can be found at <http://www.ufaas-ugandacf.org/strategic-plan-final.pdf>. UFAAS is governed by a board of Directors, chaired by Mr Henry Nsereko, the Managing Director of VEDCO (a Civil Society Organization).

UFAAS has a network of over 600 AEAS actors. To-date there are 96 (32F, 64M) paid-up members from all agricultural sectors (18 Academia, 16 CSDs, 9 Farmers Organizations, 3 Media, 22 Public sector 18 private sector, 10 students and 2 Researchers. These form the General Assembly.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE SEMESTER: JAN-JUN 2018

- ◆ The conclusion of two major projects of UFAAS : INGENAES and UFAAS direct Grant
- ◆ The National Agricultural Extension Symposium.
- ◆ Recognition of outstanding contribution to extension
- ◆ Documentation of UFAAS achievements into a 6-Year booklet with case stories
- ◆ Extension Symposium in US
- ◆ Board Meeting
- ◆ Training / Orientation of Public and Non-State Actors on extension Professionalism
- ◆ Auditing the books of accounts for 2017
- ◆ Planning and proposal writing



The AEAS actors who were recognized during the the National Agricultural Symposium in March 2018.

- ◆ **INGENAES Project in Uganda:** The project for integrating gender and nutrition within extension (launched in September 2016) was concluded in May 2018 and by that time: 85 (33W, 52M), 12FBO, 41 public, 4 Fellows were trained in the integration of gender and Nutrition; a sound community of Practice established; and 11 (3F) student Fellows supported.
- ◆ **The National Agricultural Extension Symposium:** The symposium, held in Kampala, Uganda from 13 – 15th March, 2018, was organized by UFAAS in conjunction with the University of Illinois INGENAES Project in Uganda. It was co-hosted by the Government of the Republic of Uganda through the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) (see overleaf for details)
- ◆ **The AFAAS direct Grant:** By the end of this funding: UFAAS expanded its network; 5 of its member organizations accessed sub grants for scaling up their activities; developed both the Strategic Plan (2018-2022) and Financial Policy Manual; and documented the achievements of the last 6 months (<https://www.ufaas-ugandacf.org/publications/ufaas-publications>)
- ◆ **Recognition of outstanding contribution to extension:** During the National Agricultural Extension Symposium, 10 individuals and 2 organizations were recognized for their great contribution to Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services.
- ◆ **Sensitization and Orientation to professionalism of Agricultural Extension Services:** UFAAS was contracted by USAID's Feed the Future to support the Ministry (MMAIF) to sensitize and orientate about 200 public and Non-State Actors, on the agricultural extension professionalism . (See overleaf for details)
- ◆ **Auditing:** UFAAS books of Accounts for 2017 were audited and returns filed at Uganda Revenue authority and Registrar of Companies
- ◆ **Board Meeting :** Conducted in May mainly to review the Symposia and discuss the future opportunities and events.
- ◆ **Extension Symposium in US:** The Chief Executive Officer-UFAAS, attended a Symposium on "Revalorizing Agricultural Extension" at the University of Illinois in US. She presented on "Inclusive Climate Smart Extension".
- ◆ **Planning and proposal writing:** As part of the strategic planning, an operational annual plan was developed. In addition, the CEO joined other Country Fora met in Nairobi to contribute to the process of developing a joint proposal with AFAAS and GFRAS





Participants of the Uganda National Extension Symposium

THE NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SYMPOSIUM

As the INGENAES project came to a close, a national symposium was organized to bring together extension stakeholders across Uganda to deliberate on the theme of: **“Enhancing capacity and quality, promoting gender responsive, nutrition sensitive and professional Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS)”**. The symposium, held in Kampala, Uganda from 13 – 15 th March, 2018, was organized by UFAAS in conjunction with the (INGENAES) Project. It was co-hosted by the Government of the Republic of Uganda through the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF). The specific objectives were :

- * To showcase successes, challenges, lessons learned in integrating gender-responsive and nutrition-sensitive approaches.
- * To build capacities of AEAS actors to better respond to needs of farmers and other value chain beneficiaries.
- * To sensitize participants about professionalization
- * To strengthen and widen the current gender and nutrition community of practice.

During this Symposium, 10 individuals and 2 organizations were recognized for their great contribution to Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services.

The event was attended by over 191 (57F, 134 M) diverse AEAS actors who recommended that this be made an annual event.

A communique with recommendations was part of the outputs

ORIENTATION AND SENSITIZATION ON EXTENSION PROFESSIONALISM



Farmers need professional AEAS services

The Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS) was contracted by Feed the Future Enabling Environment for Agriculture (FtF EEA) to carry out Ministry’s work. The overall objective of the assignment was to identify Non State Actors and conduct orientation training on the guidelines and standards, Code of Ethics and the Process for registration and accreditation of extension workers, in collaboration with MAAIF.

During the whole process, UFAAS

- Identified and mobilized 198 Public and Non-State extension Actors from 38 FtF districts from the Eastern, Northern, Karamoja and South Western Zones of Uganda.
- Designed orientation training materials and tools. Including applications for the registration tool and the code of Ethics booklet
- Sensitized and oriented the selected actors about the value of agricultural extension professionalism.

It is highly recommended that this process is rolled out to the

PLANS FOR 2ND SEMESTER, JULY-DECEMBER 2018)

- Show case UFAAS and promote extension professionalism together with 10 other members who will be co-exhibitors at the National Agricultural Show in Jinja.
- Continue with the work of professionalizing agricultural extension.
- Proposal development for purposes of Resource mobilization.
- Conduct an Annual General Meeting and elect new office bearers.
- Planning for the next National Agricultural Extension Symposium.

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