



Introduction

Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS), in partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF) and other partners, annually organize National Agricultural Extension Symposia that bring together over 200 different actors and stakeholders to deliberate on Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) issues critical to agricultural development.

Given the current situation, this year's Symposium will take a form of an e-Event, to be held around the country, at different times and at carefully selected and coordinated venues, **from 20th to 30th July 2020**. Hence an e-Symposium Week, with the theme: **“Positioning agricultural extension and advisory services for resilient agriculture and food systems”**. The e-Symposium week will host synergetic Webinars, discussions on different media channels and launch of the e-Registration for AEAS actors, among others.

The purpose of this year's symposium is to provide space for the different AEAS actors and stakeholders to deliberate on how AEAS can effectively and efficiently contribute to national agriculture and food systems, amidst the natural calamities of COVID-19, Floods, Landslides, Desert Locusts and others. Since these or their impacts are likely to stay on for long, there is need to understand, and come up with strategies on how the AEAS should be position itself in this new situation, if it is to remain relevant.

The objectives of Symposium 2020 are to:

1. Find out how the disruption and shocks of the natural calamities have affected the agriculture and food systems in Uganda.
2. Find out the different coping and thriving strategies adopted by the different AEAS actors and stakeholders to ensure that they perform.

3. Identify the new opportunities manifesting out of the disruption and shocks of the natural calamities.
4. Come up with recommendations for priority changes within the new normal.

The Planned Sub-themes that will inform the main theme are:

- Climate Smart AEAS-*Capacity and needs of actors*;
- Mainstreaming Sustainable Land Management in AEAS;
- Youth Engagement in AEAS and Agri-preneurship-*as providers or clients*;
- Emerging Competitive e-extension Models
- Public and private AEAS for Animal and Fisheries Sectors
- AEAS support to Urban and Peri-Urban Agriculture

The other proposed presentations in line with main theme are:

- Aligning of the extension and advisory services with the national agricultural priorities - *by Dr. Margaret Mangheni*
 - Positioning of Agricultural Extension education for resilient agriculture and food systems - *by Dr. John Okiror*
 - Harmonizing inputs supply with AEAS before and during the disruption and shocks of the natural calamities- *by NAADS and Local Government representatives*
- Both the subthemes and the presentations will be presented and discussed in Webinars and the media**

UFAAS Annual General Meeting (e-AGM) and the communique presentation / dissemination will take place as post-events

The expected outputs are

- a. A report on the positioning of AEAS for resilient Agriculture and food systems
- b. Different Extension approaches, practices and models presented and discussed as per theme objectives
- c. At least one policy brief and/or a communique in line with the purpose of the symposium
- d. Capacity of participants enhanced in the different thematic areas and use of e-platforms
- e. Networking and information sharing by participants, especially along the theme and sub-themes.
- f. e-Registration of national AEAS professionals launched and operationalized.

The methodology

The symposium will be conducted using a rich and broad range of e-participatory methodologies and in phases:

1. **Preparatory or Preliminary phase (25th May-19th July):** Publicity and mobilization of resources and participants at regional and national levels for the different planned activities.
2. **Pre-Events phase (20th -29th July):** Will mark the Opening and launch of e-Registration, then webinars, media discussions and synthesis of results.
3. **Symposium Day (30th July 2020)-for 2 hours:** Will mark the climax of the e-Symposium and closing.
4. **Post-Events:** Presentation of the communique and UFAAS e-AGM (06th August 2020).

Participation:

About 4,000 AEAS actors and stakeholders are drawn from all levels and over the country. These will either organise themselves or be organized by their organizations / Institutions to access the activities at the different electronic and media platforms.



Brief Programme

Date	Activity
Preliminary Activities	
25 th May-	LOC meetings (including sub committees)
19 th July	Mobilization registration, postings on website (eg former Symposium reports), Orientation/ coordination. Media content development , Paper preparations, etc
2020	
Pre-Events	
20th July	Official Opening and Launch of e-Registration at MAAIF
21 st July	Webinar 1: Theme 1
22 nd July	Webinar 2: Theme 2
23 rd July	Webinar 3: Theme 3
24 th July	Webinar 4: Theme 4
25 th July	Webinar 5: Theme 5
WEEKEND BREAK	
27 th July	Webinar 6: Theme 6
28 th July	Webinar 6: Presentations
29 th July	Final Synthesis
The Final Event	
30th July	e-Conference and Closing of the e-Symposium at a Hotel
Post-Events	
	Evaluation
	Presentation of the communique to MAAIF and other partners
6th August	UFAAS e-AGM

Registration for the Symposium activities:

Please register for the webinars at:

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_e--MdJMITmO-A6bERpG6EA. The events will also be broadcast on the [UFAAS Facebook](#) (UFAAS13) and [YouTube](#) pages

For more information on Symposium, please:

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Or call +256 751547234 / 312313400 / 78574163 (Inquiries); +256776801091 (CEO-UFAAS); +256 782383501 (Chair LOC)
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