CALL FOR ABSTRACTS/CASE STORIES

Background
Uganda Forum for Agricultural Advisory Services (UFAAS), in partnership with: The African Forum of agriculture advisory services (AFAAS); the Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries (MAAIF); and other partners, annually organizes Annual National Agricultural Extension Events that bring together over 200 different actors and stakeholders to deliberate on AEAS issues critical to agricultural development. The purpose of the extension Week this year will be to generate ex-tension policy and practice ideas on how Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services (AEAS) can effectively and efficiently contribute to the building of actors’ resilience and competitiveness for food security and commercialized agriculture. This is with reference to the sustained uncertainties and emergence situations such as COVID 19, Locusts, Drought, Floods, Ebola and Price rises, confronting national and global agricultural economies. It is also with the under-standing that various AEAS actors within pluralistic extension have developed innovations on how to succeed with their services and businesses while building client resilience and competitiveness despite the ongoing challenges.

The 1st Uganda NAEW 2023
The context of the 1st NAEW 2023 was developed during the 3rd National Extension symposium was held in July 2020 as an e-event, given the prevailing situation of COVID -19 that year. Due to the stabilized situation, the 4th National Extension event that has evolved into an extension week and changed name to a Uganda National Agriculture Extension Week (UG-NAEW 2023) will be a hybrid event (physical and virtual) from 23rd - 26th May 2023. Pre-event workshops will be held at regional level all over the country from 10th-21st April 2023.

The objectives of the Extension Week 2023 will be:
1. To identify and highlight the various innovative pluralistic AEAS approaches that are building actors’ resilience and competitiveness
2. To deliberate on the resilience and competitiveness capacity gaps among the different value chain actors.
3. To motivate/stimulate different participating value chain actors and beneficiaries towards greater resilience and competitive actions for food security and commercialization.
4. To raise priority AEAS policy and practice recommendations for building actors’ resilience and competitiveness.

The National Agriculture Extension Week is organized to collectively deliberate on potential remedies to effectively address agricultural extension issues through; sharing lessons, knowledge, technologies and innovations. The 1st NAEW 2023 has been organized under the theme “Unveiling innovative pluralistic AEAS approaches: Actors’ resilience and competitiveness for food security and commercialized agriculture” This theme has been broken into five sub-themes as detailed below:
i. AEAS interventions and support mechanisms for addressing resilience and competitiveness
ii. Leveraging on and strengthening public programmes and projects.
iii. Viable Business development and support services for farmers and other users of AEAS services.
iv. Women and Youth engagement and opportunities in the agricultural value chain as actors and beneficiaries.
v. Digitalized AEAS in Agriculture as a driver for agricultural growth.

The 5-day NAEW 2023 event will host; regional workshops, a plenary focussed on the keynote address, presentations in specific thematic areas, discussions in breakaway sessions and field visits. There will be workshops focused on each of the Sub-themes, these will be complemented with co-creation activities, such as World Café / shift and share, exhibitions and networking.

To this end, Authors are invited to submit abstracts for papers or posters responding to the theme and any of the five sub-themes above. Submissions should conform to “Guidelines to authors and presenters” in this call. A poster session/exhibitions will be organised where presenters will share their research, innovations, case studies and success stories.

Guidelines to presenters
1. Submissions should be in English/French and will be accepted from academic institutions, civil society organizations/Non-Governmental Originations, farmers’ organizations, agro-industry experts, private sectors, individuals, representatives of women and youth groups and the wider public.
2. Abstracts and summaries for oral, poster, or other presentations should be aligned to any of the sub-themes of the conference and submitted in Times New Roman; font size 12 in single spacing, not exceeding 500 words.
3. The abstract or summary must clearly indicate the title, sub-theme, author(s), institutional affiliation, contact details and the preferred mode of presentation; Oral (Physical, Virtual, recorded, video) or Poster. In addition, abstract should include brief background, statement of the problem, objectives, methodology, key findings, conclusion and recommendations.
4. Students and youth extension actors are particularly encouraged to submit.
5. Submissions should be sent by email to: ufaascf@afaas-africa.org
6. If you wish to make any corrections to an already submitted abstract, you can use your personal access code BUT this can only be made before the deadline
7. The subject of the email should be titled: SUBMISSION-NAEW 2023 (Insert title of article)
8. The editors reserve the right to reject papers deemed inconsistent with the guidelines outlined in this call for abstracts.
9. Accepted abstracts/summaries will be published in a book of abstracts, innovations/case stories and peer-reviewed proceedings.
10. Full papers selected from outstanding presentations per theme will be published in the Journal of Agricultural Education and Extension
11. Any enquiries can be made via email to ufaas2013@gmail.com

Important dates and deadlines.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6th March, 2023</td>
<td>Call for abstracts opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>24th March, 2023</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of abstracts</td>
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<tr>
<td>3rd April, 2023</td>
<td>Notification of Presenters and request for full papers</td>
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<tr>
<td>5th May, 2023</td>
<td>Deadline for submission of full papers, posters (PDF), recorded oral/video presentations.</td>
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<tr>
<td>23rd-26th May 2023</td>
<td>National Agricultural Extension Week</td>
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Note: Venue will be communicated