

UON REPRESENTED IN AN INTERNATIONAL CONSORTIUM MEETING HELD IN THE UK

The University of Nairobi (UoN) through the Centre for Sustainable Dryland Ecosystems and Societies (CSDES) recently participated in a consortium meeting on forages for Africa held at the Institute of Biological, Environmental & Rural Sciences (IBERS) Aberystwyth University, Aberystwyth, UK. UoN was represented by Dr. Koech Oscar, Lecturer, Department of Land Resource Management and Agricultural Technology (LARMAT), UoN.

The consortium meeting held from 26th-29th January 2015 was a success and had the interests of UON and CSDES in the upcoming forage for Africa programme to improve forage productivity in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) well presented. The five objectives of the meeting were:

- To identify expectations of funding agencies and respond to funding priorities
- Pitch to represented partners at the meeting and obtain partner buy-in
- Confirm partnership (public/private) and identify partner expertise
- Develop a mission statement and objectives for the proposal
- Widen the programme pitch through proposal development

Three opportunities for engagement were identified by Partners during the meeting. They included: Increased livestock production for an increasing human population and changing diets; Sustainable and eco-efficient livestock production systems adapted to impacts of climate change and Pro-poor forage value chains offering employment and income-generating options especially for youth and women.