

The Dean SOE made opening remarks during the launch of the ENERGY\_AGRO-FOOD Regional Conference which was organized by the Department of Environmental and Biosystems Engineering in conjunction with the Department of Food science, Nutrition and Technology in CAVS. The conference took place from 19th to 21st of June 2014.

The Energy-Agro-Food action is a bilateral collaboration between European and East-African Universities to design and develop an educational program that matches the current and expected professional requirements in the field of Energy and Agro-Food Systems.

Below is the speech delivered by Prof. P.M.A. Odira, Dean, School of Engineering, during the conference:

DEAN'S SPEECH DURING THE OPENING OF A THREE DAY INTERNATIONAL/  
REGIONAL CONFERENCE, HELD AT THE INST CONFERENCE ROOM ON 19<sup>TH</sup> JUNE  
2014.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you all to this regional conference on Energy-Agro-Food Synergies in Africa.

The water-energy-food nexus is in particular a challenge to food production sufficiency and sustainability in this region. In this regard, the aim of the Energy-Agro-Food action of strengthening innovation and raising sustainability in the energy-agriculture sector by building human capacity on innovative training programmes is quite pertinent given the incessant food and energy challenges faced by most African countries.

I would like to call upon each and every one of us to come up with relevant curricula that can be adopted in the post graduate training and outreach programmes of continuing professional development to extension officers already deployed in the sector.

The university will be keen to implement such innovative curricula in its continued quest to offer relevant training that meet its needs for the community.

Once again I welcome you all and wish you a successful and fruitful conference.

Thank you.