

University of Nairobi, Colorado State University and Hawassa University merge to form University-Led Extension

University of Nairobi (Kenya), Hawassa University (Ethiopia) and Colorado State University (USA) have agreed to long-term collaborations focused on innovations in community-engaged university Extension, community and economic development, and sustainable dry land ecosystems.

During the three-day workshop on the University of Nairobi's College of Agriculture & Veterinary Science College, senior administrators of the three universities will further articulate their shared visions, goals, and practical applications and plans

The intimate workshop began with presentations and dialog to ground planning firmly in the co-creation of knowledge and programs with the communities the universities serve.

To give emphasis to this centrality of community engagement, the workshop participants will visit with community members on an all-day field trip to Kibwezi on Wednesday. Thursday will be dedicated to the establishment of practical outcomes for the foreseeable future that will accelerate the academic and outreach capacity of the three universities to contribute to community-identified ecological, social, and economic challenges.

Among the outcomes will be establishing common curricula for degrees and certificate programs for training future academic and Extension leaders. The workshop will include community members and government officials from Kenya as well as NGO partners at CIAT and ILRI.