

Research Concept Note

Towards the end of May 2014, the Department announced that a Research Concept Note entitled "Facilitating Implementation of Policies to Enhance Equitable Access to Input and Output Markets in Eastern and Central Africa" and prepared by a Research Team led by Prof. Stephen Gichovi Mbogoh of the Department of Agricultural Economics, University of Nairobi, had won the First Round of the ASARECA Research Grants Calls under the ASARECA Competitive Research Grants Bidding Process. That Research Team is Multi-national and Multi-institutional. After winning the First Round, the Research Team was invited to attend a "Full Proposals Write-Shop" at the ASARECA headquarters in Entebbe, Uganda, for one week. Subsequently, the Team prepared a Full Proposal on the theme of the Concept Note, as expected, and then submitted it before the end of June 2014 to be considered for ASARECA funding. After the due proposals evaluation process, the full research proposal by Prof. Stephen G. Mbogoh's Research Team has now been accepted for funding over a four-years period to the tune of approximately US\$ 3.26 million during the next phase of the ASARECA Research Projects funding hopefully by early 2015. The core Research Team and Collaborators on the basis of the partner countries, institutions and the budgetary allocations as per the approved research proposal are as follows:

1. **Kenya:**
 - (i) **Department of Agricultural economics, University of Nairobi: US\$0.67 Million; Researchers: Prof. Stephen G. Mbogoh and Dr. John Mburu.**
 - (ii) **National Potato Council of Kenya (NPCK): US\$0.35 Million; Researcher: Mr. Wachira Kaguongo.**
2. **Burundi:**
 - (i) **Institut des Sciences Agronomiques du Burundi (ISABU): US\$0.45 Million; Researcher: Ir Astere Bararyenya.**
 - (ii) **Confédération des Associations des Producteurs Agricoles pour le Développement (CAPAD): US\$0.35 Million; Researcher: Mr. Anicet NDORICIMPA.**
3. **Uganda:**
 - (i) **Makerere University: US\$0.35 Million; Researcher: Dr Jackline Bonabana-Wabbi.**
 - (ii) **National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO/ NaFIRRI): US\$0.45 Million; Researcher: Dr Konstantine Okecha ODONGKARA.**
4. **Rwanda:**
 - (i) **IMBARAGA (Farmers Association of Rwanda): US\$0.35 Million; Collaborator:--Mr. Juvenal MUSINE.**
5. **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC):**
 - (i) **Lubumbashi University: US\$0.27 Million; Researcher--Prof. Jules Nkulu.**

The core researchers and collaborators in each of the partner countries and institutions will co-opt other researchers and collaborators as and when necessary to facilitate project implementation over a four-years period after the funding starts. Best wishes to the Research Team.

CAVS/FA/DAE/ ICT Team