



PROGRAMME

The Changing Global Landscape in Rural Development: Critical Choices for Results-Oriented Research in Southern Africa

Wednesday, 24 November 2010

09:00- 13:45 Arrivals and Registration
12:45-13:45 Lunch

CONFERENCE

- 14:00-14:10 Welcome and Introduction by Session Chair: Dr Tsakani Ngomane, Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension & Rural Development, University of Pretoria
- 14:10-14:40 Setting the Scene: Prof Charles Machethe, Director, Postgraduate School of Agriculture & Rural Development, University of Pretoria
- “The Changing Global Landscape in Rural Development and Implications for Postgraduate Training and Research”
- 14:40-16:00 PANEL I: HOW RELEVANT IS CURRENT RESEARCH ON RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOR AFRICA’S DEVELOPMENT?
- Policy makers Perspective: Hon. Thulas Nxesi, Deputy Minister of Rural Development & Land Reform, South Africa
Hon. Monyane Moleleki, Minister of Natural Resources (Water, Energy, Minerals), Lesotho
- Respondents:
Industry Perspective: Mr. Cornel de Villiers, Manager Business & Products, GWK Limited
Smallholder Farmer Perspective: Dr. Langelihle Simela, Executive Director, NERPO, South Africa
Gender Perspective: Ms Emma Kaliya, Chairperson, NGO Gender Coordination Network, Malawi
- 16:00-16:15 TEA
- 16:15-16:45 PANEL II: PROGRESS TO DATE IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH IN SOUTHERN: RESPONDENTS IDENTIFYING RESEARCH GAPS
- Agricultural Development: Prof Willis Oluoch-Kosura, Program Director: Collaborative Masters Program in Agricultural and Applied Economics, AERC, Nairobi
- Rural Development: Vuyo Mahlati, Senior Research Officer, University of Pretoria
- 16:45-17:30 Open Discussion
- 17:30 Summary and Closure

Thursday 25 November 2010

- 08:30 – 08:40 Introductory Remarks and Recap by Session Chair: Prof M. Dlamini, University of Swaziland
- 08:40- 09:40 PANEL III: HOW DO WE ENSURE THAT RESEARCH MAKES A DIFFERENCE IN RURAL PEOPLE'S LIVES?
- Lead Paper on the Conception of Results-Oriented Research from a Rural Perspective (factoring accountability, governance, impact monitoring and evaluation) – Dr. Ousmane Badiane, Director for Africa, International Food Policy Research Institute
 Creating Links between Research and Policy (Land Reform) – Prof Mwangi wa Githinji, University of Massachusetts
- 09:40- 13:00 **Case Studies on Results-Oriented Research and the Application of Research Findings.**
(Examples of research that has contributed to the improvement of rural people's quality of life, as well as rural environment).
- 09:40-10:40 Food Security:
Lessons from Africa – Prof Sheryl Hendriks, University of Pretoria
Cassava Transformation from a low-yielding famine-reserve to a high-yielding cash crop, the Collaborative Study of Cassava in Africa (COSCA) - Prof Malachy Akoroda, Dept of Agronomy University of Ibadan
- 10:40-11:00 TEA
- 11:00-11:30 Rural Infrastructure - Water
Sustainable Water Management Techniques: The Case of Rainwater Harvesting in India's Rural Areas, Women Empowerment and Climate Change - Dr. Bunker Roy, Barefoot College, India
- 11:30-12:30 Non-farming: Natural Products
Natural Products and Organics Development for Export Markets – Itai Chibaya, Head of Research, Monitoring and Evaluation, Phytotrade Africa
Beneficiation of Natural Fibres Through Value-Added Products - Dr. Rajesh Anandjiwala & Sunshine Blouw, Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), Textek, South Africa
- 12:30-13:00 Rural Finance
Promotion of Rural Financial Innovation by Prof Gerhard Coetzee, Director, Centre for Inclusive Banking in Africa, University of Pretoria
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-16:30 **Group Discussions: Lessons Drawn from Case Studies**
- 15:45-16:00 Tea in Groups
- 16:30-17:00 Report Back
- 17:00- 17:30 Summary and Closure
- 18:00 Evening Braai/ Barbecue

Friday 26 November 2010

- 08:30- 08:40 Introductory Remarks and Recap by Session Chair: Dr. Miriam Altman, Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa
- 08:40-10:30 PANEL IV: TOWARDS A RELEVANT RURAL DEVELOPMENT RESEARCH AGENDA IN SOUTHERN AFRICA: REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE APPROACHES AND STRATEGIES
- 08:40-09:00 Promoting Regional Collaboration for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Rural Development
Mr. Masiphula Mbongwa, Director General, War on Poverty Programme, South Africa
- 09:00-09:20 Research agenda to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and socio-economic development in Southern Africa: Mr. Philippe Dardel, Food Agriculture & Natural Resources Directorate, SADC
- 09:20-09:40 Update on the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP): Dr. Martin Bwalya, NEPAD
- 09:40-10:00 Role of and Lessons from the European Union: Mr. Leonard Mizzi, European Commission, Directorate-General for Agriculture & Rural Development - Africa, Caribbean and Pacific, South Africa, UN/FAO and G8
- 10:00-10:30 Tea
- 10:30-11:45 Discussion
- 11:45-12:00 Way Forward: Prof Charles Machethe, Director, Postgraduate School of Agriculture and Rural Development, University of Pretoria
- 12:00 Closing Remarks: Prof Brenda Wingfield, Deputy Dean, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, University of Pretoria
- 13:00 Lunch & Departure

Breakaway Sessions: 25 November 2010

The Breakaway sessions will be divided into three groups:

Group 1 Focus: Farming/Food Security Case Studies

Group 2 Focus: Non-farming Case Studies

Group 3 Focus: Rural Infrastructure and Financial Inclusion

Discussions will focus on “Refocusing the Rural development Research Agenda” addressing the following questions:

- What lessons can we draw from the experiences of organizations and individuals whose research efforts have made a difference in the lives of rural people?
- How can universities and other research institutions reposition themselves to ensure that their research becomes more relevant to the problems experienced in the developing world? Phrased differently, how do we ensure that rural development research makes a difference in rural people’s lives?

And providing recommendations in terms of research priorities for plenary.