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**USAID/UGANDA EDUCATION AND RESEARCH TO  
IMPROVE CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION ACTIVITY  
FY2014 THIRD QUARTERLY REPORT  
APRIL 1, 2014 – JUNE 30, 2014**

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**DISCLAIMER**

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<b>Acronyms</b>	
AOR	Agreement Officer's Representative
CAADP	Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Plan
CAES	College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
CAEC	Continuing Agriculture Education Center
CCA	Climate Change Adaptation
CCU	Climate Change Unit
CHAI	Climate Change Adaptation & ICTs
CIMMYT	International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center
CLA	Collaboration, Learning, Adapting
CoCIS	Makerere University College of Computing and Information Sciences
COP	Chief of Party
DCC	Department of Climate Change
DICTS	Directorate of Information and Communication Technologies
DSIP	Agricultural Sector Development Strategy & Investment Plan
EAC	East African Community
EEA	(Feed the Future) Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity
GIS	Geographic Information System
GOU	Government of Uganda
ICPAC	International Climate Predictions and Application Center
ICRAF	World Agroforestry Centre
ICT	Information Communication Technology
IITA	International Institute for Tropical Agriculture
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
LOA	Life of Activity
LI	Location Intelligence
LIP	<i>aWhere's Location Intelligence Platform</i>
M & E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAAIF	Ministry of Agriculture, Animal Industry and Fisheries
MoFPED	Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development
MOOC	Massive, Open, Online Course
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MAK	Makerere University
MUCCRI	Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovations
MWE	Ministry of Water and Environment
NAPA	National Adaptation Programs of Action
NARO	National Agricultural Research Organization
NAADS	National Agricultural Advisory Services
NCAR	National Center for Atmospheric Research
NDP	National Development Plan
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NPA	National Planning Authority
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister

RAN	ResilienceAfrica Network
RDBM	Relational Database
RFP	Request for Proposals
SCALE	System-wide Collaborative Action for Livelihoods and the Environment
SNA	Social Network Analysis
SOW	Scope of Work
STTA	Short-term Technical Assistance
ToT	Training-of-Trainers
UNAP	Uganda Nutrition Action Plan
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
USG	U.S. Government
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
WSR	Whole-System-in-the-Room

## I. INTRODUCTION

Through this document, FHI 360 formally presents to USAID/Uganda the third quarterly report of FY14. The primary activities and accomplishments conducted during the reporting period from April 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014 are outlined in this report.

### A. Summary Highlights

Highlights of activities and achievements during the quarter include the following:

- The Activity team worked with MUCCRI advisory committee to complete a shared Activity work plan for Year One
- Worked with Makerere University College of Computing and Information Sciences (CoCIS) to develop prototypes for MUCCRI website and a climate change adaptation networking and e-learning platform (Adapt2CC) within a MUCCRI website
- Organized and delivered a training for the media focused on increasing awareness and understanding of climate change science basics and impacts as well as practice on how to make climate stories more accurate and interesting
- Recruited PhD and MSc students for research scholarships
- Program Associate hired and started working in May

### B. About the Activity

The overall goal of the *USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve Climate Change Adaptation* Activity (the Activity) is to help establish the Makerere University (MAK) Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovations (MUCCRI) as a recognized national and regional hub of academic, professional development, and research excellence in climate science, climate adaptation, and related disciplines. The Activity will strategically deploy human, financial, and technology resources with the target continually focused on building Ugandan capacity and proficiency to address climate adaptation and related issues. More specifically, the Activity will mobilize leading academics, scientists, and researchers to work side-by-side and in partnership with Ugandan colleagues to build upon the foundational efforts made by the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) and others to date in developing and establishing MUCCRI. In so doing, MUCCRI will become a fully functional, operational and sustainable center within MAK/CAES. The Centre will have the requisite staff, knowhow, capacity, and resources to be a sought-after location to focus and support climate and climate adaptation education and research for the benefit of the University and the Nation.

USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve Climate Change Adaptation Activity has the following results:

- *Result #1: Transforming MUCCRI into a Leading Centre for Climate Change Education and Research in Africa.* The first step in this result area is to support the official establishment of MUCCRI at MAK so it can be developed into a leading center for climate change education and research in Africa. To support MUCCRI's establishment, the Activity will coordinate development of annual work plans with the CAES strategic plan and provide timely support for the establishment and functioning of both the MUCCRI Steering and Science Committees. An informational campaign will be developed to increase knowledge about climate change and climate adaptation through a variety of methods. The methods will include: presentations at college/school/departmental meetings and in classrooms, postings on websites, announcements in campus media, seminars, adding modules to established courses, and other options. The Activity will also work to reach out to both the campus community and outside of the campus through traditional media outlets. An e-learning and networking hub (Adapt2CC) is in the process of being developed that will act as a linkage between and among students, staff, and other interested parties to share information on climate change adaptation work throughout the region.

- *Result #2. Developing Capacity of University Staff, Government Officials, Civil Society, and Private Sector Actors through Short-Term Trainings.* Over the life of this Activity (LOA), the team will create an array of short-term training options and vehicles to increase climate change and adaptation knowledge for key stakeholder groups. These groups include MAK staff and students as well as groups that are external to but linked to the university, including select public sector institutions, civil society groups, and the private sector. Where appropriate, trainings will be jointly designed and led by Activity staff and other partners in conjunction with academic staff and students from CAES and other MAK schools. Incorporating university staff and departments is a way to create a "climate smart" institution. Training types will include: in-service training modules, webinars, policy briefs, informational packets, and presentations for various key stakeholders.

- *Result #3. Undergraduate, Graduate, Diploma, and Post Graduate Education in Climate Science, Meteorology, and Climate Adaptation Improved and Supported.* The Activity will support the establishment of a suite of formal academic offerings for undergraduate through post-graduate students. Those offerings will include: a college-wide undergraduate climate change course; specialized graduate-level trainings based on the latest research findings and innovations gleaned from around the world but adapted to the Ugandan context; and a new Master of Science (MSc) program on climate change science. It will also include: collaborative teaching and learning

arrangements with other parts of the university, notably with the School of Women and Gender Studies, Department of Journalism and Communication, School of Education, and School of Social Sciences. There will also be non-degree related activities such as: the establishment of an e-learning platform and networking hub with access to numerous identified online programs and an informal lecture series to introduce climate change issues to the broader university.

- *Result #4. Climate Change, Climate Change Impacts, and Adaptation Research and Field Trials for the Agricultural Sector Conducted and Results Disseminated.* The Activity will strengthen the relationship between CAES, the International Institute for Tropical Agriculture (IITA) and the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO) to conduct joint research and field trials that reflect actual demands and needs of Ugandan smallholder farmers. The students chosen to conduct the research and field trials will be jointly managed and financially supported. In addition, the Activity will introduce aWhere's *Location Intelligence Platform (LIP)*. This new platform enables integration of complex environmental, agricultural, and public health data into local, actionable insight. aWhere will provide technical inputs, staff, and tailored support to the program and link joint MUCCRI-NARO/IITA research and field trials. The LIP will also provide actionable information and weather data to support agricultural and climate research, as well as serve as an instructional and learning tool for students. The Activity will play a facilitative role fostering collaboration with institutions such as the National Agricultural Advisory Services (NAADS) and others to convert the student research findings to simple, understandable, cost-effective, and accurate guidance. That guidance will be disseminated through the most appropriate channels specifically to farmers for use at the appropriate time. Dissemination efforts will include through the system of extension officers at the district and sub-county levels, trusted and popular radio programs listened to by farmers, use and application of information communication technology (ICT), and through community agents (trusted community individuals). Dissemination efforts will also include regular editorials and articles on adaptation, student research findings, and resilience issues in key Ugandan newspapers and other media outlets.

## II. SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY PROGRESS

Activities	Specific Actions Implemented	Description	Progress/Achievement (s)	Remarks	Qtr	Work Plan Output
<i>RESULT 1: TRANSFORMING MUCCRI INTO A LEADING CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN AFRICA</i>						
Support official recognition of MUCCRI by the University	Provided supportive information to demonstrate the importance of having MUCCRI approved by University senate and established.	The Activity team has continued to support the concept of MUCCRI by: distributing the Activity description one-pager; verbally describing and introducing the Activity and its support to showcase the role of MUCCRI within and outside the University. The Activity team also attended University meetings in which the concept of MUCCRI has been publicized among many CAES departments. The information is also shared in informal meetings.	The required documentation to support approval for MUCCRI establishment have been submitted to MAK senate. Faculty from various MAK units have continued to express interest in participating in MUCCRI activities.	Actual senate schedule for review and decision not yet announced. Activity is in "active waiting" mode to support response to any requested changes from Senate approval process.	Submitted Qtr 3 Approval Q 4 or Yr 2	MUCCRI proposal submitted for approval and officially established by the University Senate

Review and update CAES strategic plan	Discussions on procedures for reviewing CAES strategic plan.	During a working retreat attended by the Activity team, USAID and MUCCRI interim advisory committee members, various Activity implementation options were discussed including the review of the CAES strategic plan.	Agreement by CAES on the need and procedures to have the strategic importance of MUCCRI reflected in the strategic direction of CAES.	This will be an important activity after MUCCRI approval by senate.	Approval Q 4 or Yr 2	Review completed Include MUCCRI in CAES Strategic Plan
	Review CAES Strategic Plan	The Activity Staff reviewed the CAES strategic plan in preparation for developing recommendations of where MUCCRI supportive language could be inserted.	Notes were developed in preparation of recommendations being generated.			
Develop an informational campaign	Design and distribution of MUCCRI labeled flash drives with climate change information.	100 flash drives were procured and branded with MUCCRI and USAID. They were loaded with CC related information to remind partners and actors that MUCCRI is a place to supply information needs.	Over 30 drives have been distributed to media training participants, MUCCRI interim committee members (CAES faculty). and other participating MAK faculty.		ongoing	Other University departments familiar with MUCCRI

	At every opportunity and potential partner meeting MUCCRI is introduced and discussed	The Activity staff have been proactive in participating in discussions and describing the concept of MUCCRI to a variety of MAK faculty and staff as well as with members from outside the University community.	The Activity Staff deliberately carry the Activity 1-pager for distribution at every opportunity. Many of the meetings discussed in the section on partner meetings allowed just such introduction of the concept of MUCCRI.	Many potential partners are interested in MUCCRI as it will remain after projects end – an important resilience factor.		
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Set-up MUCCRI website with a platform entitled Adapt2CC	Planning and design of concepts and prototypes for MUCCRI website.	In consultation with University/CAES IT and communication personnel the concept for the website has been developed.	Review/testing of first prototype website is already under way. MAK Directorate of Information and Communication Technologies (DICTS) and CAES are considering options for hosting the website.	Specific needs from interested users from MAK/CAES and outside the Univ. (e.g. GoU Dept. of Climate Change (DCC) might call for broader changes to allow a wide scope of website inter-linkages.	Q 4 for continued testing then ongoing development and updating over LOA	Adapt 2CC platform prototype w/in MUCCRI website available for testing
Networking with partner organizations	Participating in partnership and network building meetings.	Various partners and potential partners (on-campus and off) invited the Activity Staff to participate in their activities. The Activity team also initiated meetings with various partners linked to a variety of planned activities.	Over 10 meetings were attended. Shared activities have emerged. Introduction of MUCCRI accomplished (contribute to information campaign).	Partnership engagement is helping the Activity in Learning and Adapting	Ongoing	Networking events and mtgs conducted and participated in with potential partners

Activities	Specific Actions Implemented	Description	Progress/Achievement (s)	Remarks	Qtr	Work Plan Output
<i>RESULT 2: DEVELOPING CAPACITY OF UNIVERSITY STAFF, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, CIVIL SOCIETY AND PRIVATE SECTOR ACTORS THROUGH SHORT TERM TRAININGS</i>						
Identify audience, partners, develop and deliver initial training efforts	Training/Awareness raising for MAK student associations.	Meetings with Climate Change and Forestry student association leaders were held to identify focus areas for CC training and awareness raising. Materials were prepared and a climate change overview/basics presentation was given.	27 students were involved in a climate change basics training/awareness raising presentation by Activity personnel. There is increasing interest by students to work with MUCCRI. Specific work with students will resume when the students return from their semester break – late August.	Discussions to build student capacity to engage with youth are underway. They were not planned to begin until Year Two.		

	Training for media on climate change basics.	Organized and conducted on 17 <sup>th</sup> June 2014. The training focused on increasing media awareness and understanding of climate change science basics and impacts as well as guided practice on how to make climate stories more accurate and compelling.	19 male and 9 female (75% youth) from various media categories attended the training. Many positive responses such as: more people showed-up than were registered. Follow-up on implementing acquired skills and knowledge underway.	Another training will be conducted on 8 <sup>th</sup> July for the media to complete the training series.	Q 3 and 4	First two media climate training events held
Design and develop the next short term training efforts	Planning for and developing a climate change training program for central government with EEA.	Planning discussions on joint implementation of training.	Concept for the training being developed by EEA. Climate Change Activity will contribute content when concept/approach is agreed upon.	Training likely to take place early in Year Two of the Activity. However, working cooperatively requires adapting and adjusting to work with partners. Hence not entirely certain when the training will occur.	Q 4 for planning Year Two course offering	Plan and develop a climate change training program for Central Government - with EEA and USAID

<b>Activities</b>	<b>Specific Actions Implemented</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Progress/Achievement (s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Qtr</b>	<b>Work Plan Output</b>
<i>RESULT 3: UNDERGRADUATE, DIPLOMA AND POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION IN CLIMATE SCIENCE, METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION IMPROVED AND SUPPORTED</i>						
Support MUCCRI/ CAES cross-cutting course approval.	Follow-up discussions with MUCCRI coordinator on technical inputs for the Atmosphere, Weather, and Climate course approval by CAES board.	The Activity staff are working with MUCCRI/CAES to identify technical inputs that the Activity can provide that are required for the initiation and scheduling for the process of college level approval.	Ideas on technical inputs have been developed.	Development of this course is an ongoing effort and will likely be completed during Year Two of the Activity. (note: a cross-cutting course is one that could be included in or added to programs and can be taken by all students in the college.)	Q 4 or Year Two	Revisions and submission of cross-college course for consideration by Academic Board
Support the approval process for the MSc in climate sciences.	Technical review of the MSc Programme and addressing comments from CAES board.	Activity staff reviewed the Programme to understand the content in order to support MUCCRI coordinator in the development and approval process.	Programme has been submitted to senate for approval consideration.	MAK senate response could be in any of the next few quarters of the Activity. Reviewing schedule not yet announced. In "active waiting" mode to support response to comments.	Q 4 or Year Two	Revisions and submission to University Senate of MSc

Identify opportunities to review and develop climate change content for non-CAES courses	Consultations with individuals from potential Departments for CC content uptake	Intentional and opportunistic discussions have been held to identify entry points for inclusion of CC in the curricula for the departments of Journalism and Communication, Economics, and Gender	Individuals to work with have been identified in the respective Departments		Q 4	Develop list of potential non-CAES courses for possible addition of climate information
Identify and access on-line course offerings	Identifying and reviewing on-line courses, videos, webinars, among others.	Compiling climate change related training materials to supplement MAK formal and informal trainings.	In start-up phase and will be an on-going activity.	Updates to information on on-line offerings will be continuous.	ongoing	Develop list of online courses for e-learning portal when it is available
Support the launch and use of the aWhere Location Intelligence Platform for research results	Arrangements to have aWhere travel to Kampala to work with CAES/MUCCRI to launch use of the platform.	Formal agreements between aWhere and FHI 360 needed to be in place before working with the Activity and CAES to allow specific work plans to be developed and implemented.	Formal agreement in place. Plans to use aWhere for next MAK semester are under discussion.	This is the beginning of an on-going support effort – much of it remote - to build CAES/MUCCRI student and faculty expertise in the use of the aWhere system.	Q 4 and on-going for life of activity (LOA)	Bring aWhere to Uganda to train faculty and staff on use of the platform

Plan a monthly climate change seminar	Consultations and meetings for monthly seminar plans.	Discussions with climate science researchers and potential partners to offer webinars or in-person seminars that will support the development of MUCCRI/CAES to work with a wide range of training and research partners.	Started contacting potential presenters.	Monthly seminars to begin at the start of Year Two of the Activity.	Q 4	Seminars planned and information distributed
<b>Activities</b>	<b>Specific Actions Implemented</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Progress/Achievement (s)</b>	<b>Remarks</b>	<b>Qtr</b>	<b>Work Plan Output</b>
<i>RESULT 4: CLIMATE CHANGE, CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS, AND ADAPTATION RESEARCH AND FIELD TRIALS FOR AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CONDUCTED AND RESULTS DISSEMINATED</i>						
Support student research opportunities and cooperation with IITA/NARO	Recruiting PhD and MSc students for research scholarships.	The Activity team worked with CAES, IITA, and NARO to advertise for the scholarships and interviewed shortlisted candidates.	3 PhD and 1 MSc candidates have been selected and offered scholarships. Formal partnership arrangements with IITA/NARO/ CAES/and FHI 360 are in final stages.	One additional MSc student still to be recruited for Year One.	Q 3 and ongoing	Support 3 PhD and 2 MSc students and work with IITA/NARO on field research.

Plan for disseminating research results	Identifying partnerships for developing and implementing dissemination pathways for research.	Reaching out to potential partners who have shared interest in disseminating research findings. Preliminary discussions have been held with IITA, EEA and other USAID Feed the Future activities.	A list of potential partners and their possible contributions to a dissemination pathway for this activity is being developed. Using this information a dissemination pathway will be developed for pilot testing.	The activity will pilot test the dissemination outreach plan using the research outputs generated during the Rockefeller supported project that began the effort to establish MUCCRI	Q 4 for draft pathway, Year 2 for pilot testing,	Develop a list of contacts, sources, and options for disseminating research results – trial pathway established.
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### III. ACTIVITY REPORT

#### *RESULT 1: TRANSFORMING MUCCRI INTO A LEADING CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN AFRICA*

##### Description of activities to support Result #1 for Quarter 3:

##### **Support official recognition of MUCCRI by the University**

- Provide supportive information to demonstrate the importance of having MUCCRI approved by the University senate and established.

Together with the MUCCRI coordinator and MUCCRI steering committee, the Activity provided information to show case the importance and benefits of having MUCCRI fully institutionalized. Activity one-pagers were widely distributed as one of the ways to show case what the Centre can do. In all the meetings that the Activity team attended during the quarter, information about MUCCRI and the intended purpose for the Centre were shared. Information about MUCCRI was also shared in informal meetings especially with members of senate and other MAK administration staff.

##### **Review and update of CAES strategic plan**

- Establishment of procedures for reviewing CAES strategic plan

Meetings with MUCCRI coordinator and MUCCRI steering committee were held to discuss the procedures for reviewing CAES strategic plan to explicitly include MUCCRI in the strategic direction of the college. Discussions were held during a working retreat attended by Activity team members, USAID representatives, and MUCCRI interim advisory committee where it was agreed that it was essential to have MUCCRI as part of the vision of CAES as reflected in the current strategic plan. Review procedures for the strategic plan were agreed upon and should be embarked on as soon as the University senate approves MUCCRI.

##### **Develop a MUCCRI /Activity informational campaign**

- Design and distribution of MUCCRI labeled flash drives with climate change information

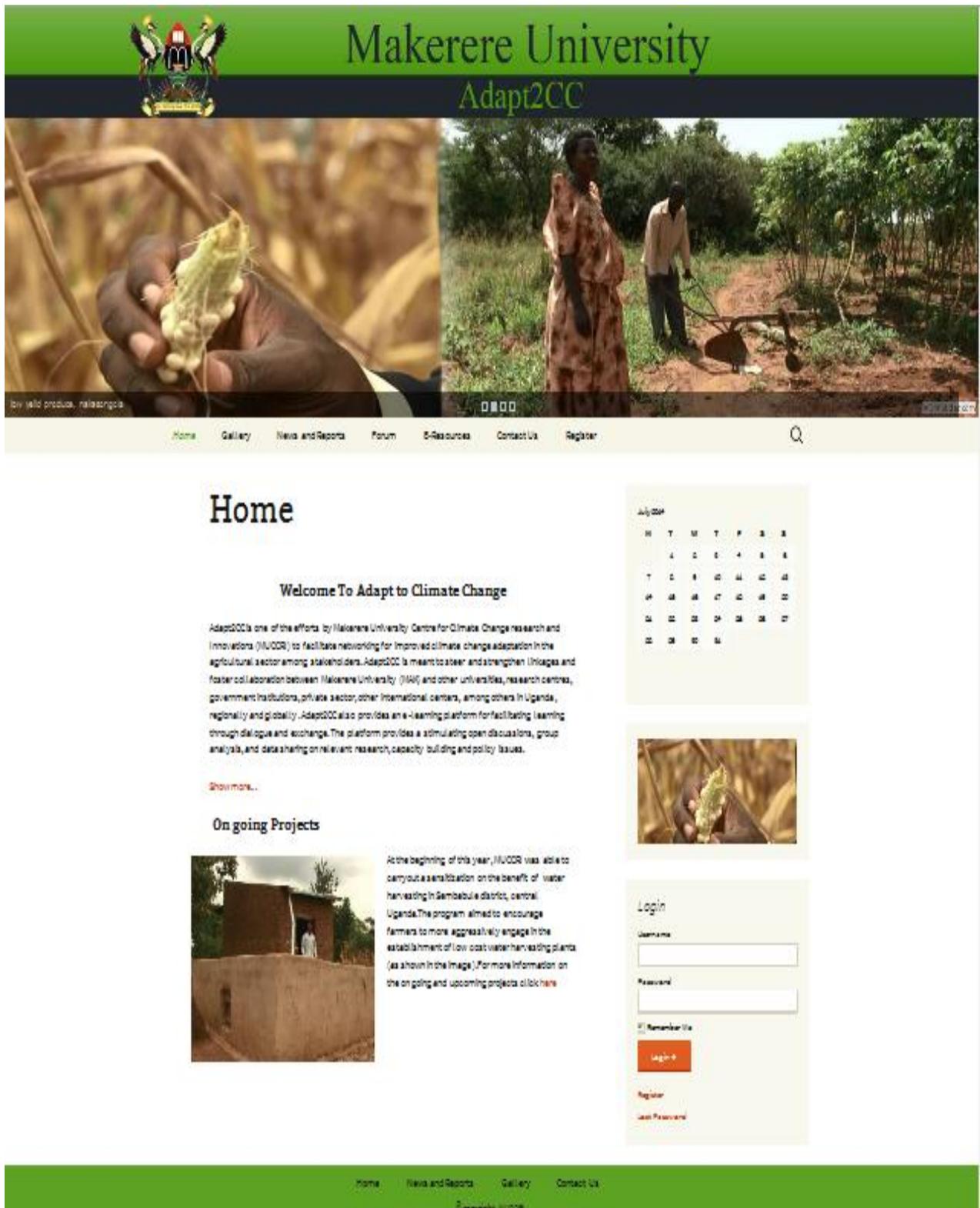
One hundred flash drives were procured for packaging climate change information compiled by the Activity and to support raising the visibility of the Centre by labeling them with MUCCRI and USAID. This is also a way of demonstrating one of the planned MUCCRI functions of serving as a center/collector of climate change information. The first beneficiaries of the drives were the media trainees on climate change basics. Other drives have been distributed within and outside MAK.

The compiled information included: climate science; climate change response actions; national and regional policies; climate change assessment reports; databases and data sources; and frequently asked questions. As was expected, distribution of the information has started raising interest from many potential users of MUCCRI services.

***Set-up MUCCRI website with a platform entitled Adapt2CC***

- Plan and design of concepts and prototypes for MUCCRI website

During this quarter, the Activity worked with Makerere University, College of Computing and Information Sciences (CoCIS) to initiate the process of developing a climate change adaptation networking and e-learning platform (Adapt2CC) within a MUCCRI website. With help from a CoCIS faculty, a group of four students from CoCIS was identified to work on concepts for a MUCCRI website and Adapt2CC hub/platform. The students wrote a project proposal under the guidance of the faculty and inputs from the Activity. Based on the proposed concept, the students developed prototypes that were presented to a wider audience for comments and suggestions for improvement. Through a series of prototype reviews, a website with provisions for e-learning and information sharing is nearly ready for testing.



MUCCRI website prototype page

### **Networking with partner organizations**

- Participation in partnership and network building meetings

The Activity team was involved in several networking and information sharing efforts with partners, particularly in meetings involving identification of potential areas of cooperation. The following are some of the meetings:

- Work planning retreat for the Activity included the MUCCRI steering committee, and CAES principal as well as the Activity staff and USAID representatives. The meeting was devoted to developing a work plan for the Activity as well as considering strategies for building networks and reinforcing partnerships with government institutions and revising the CAES strategic plan. The planning retreat was held at the start of the quarter on 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> April 2014.
- On 10<sup>th</sup> April 2014, the Activity adaptation specialist attended presentations for MSc students who were supported by the Rockefeller funded MUCCRI project. The student research findings will be among the information pieces that will be disseminated by the activity.
- On 7<sup>th</sup> May 2014 the Activity team attended a meeting at USAID offices to update USAID on the progress of the Activity. During the meeting avenues for enhanced partnerships and networking were explored by specifically describing other USAID funded projects to the Activity team and supporting interconnections.
- The COP and Adaptation Specialist attended a consultative meeting organized by the EEA on 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> May 2014. The purpose of the meeting was for developing a framework for training and awareness materials for climate change. Some of the results for the Activity baseline assessment were presented at that meeting. This effort is well aligned to the Activity Result Area 2. There are many partnership areas that have been identified in which the Activity will work with EEA including developing short courses. Other potential partner organizations also participated in the meeting.
- A meeting with the USAID-funded commodity production and marketing team was held on 12<sup>th</sup> May 2014. During the meeting it was established that the Activity will benefit from their network of community agents.
- The Activity staff attended a new project opening and introduction on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2014 presented by the principal investigator of a newly funded five-year mitigation capacity building project at CAES. Potential partnership areas identified include: media engagement, seminars and presentations, information resource center development, civil society engagement, and curricula reviews, among others.

- Met on 27<sup>th</sup> May 2014 with Resilient Africa Network (RAN) staff to identify areas of potential partnership/cooperation. The Network is involved in activities aimed at strengthening resilience through such efforts as: information sharing, community based innovation, and others. Key areas identified for possible cooperation include: research, training and information dissemination. Following the meeting, the COP was invited to represent USAID and participate in a research-planning meeting from 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> June 2014.
- On 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014, a meeting was held at the USAID Learning Contract offices. The meeting was to learn more about the USAID/Uganda Feed the Future Learning Network. The focus of the meeting was on learning how to use the USAID Feed the Future Agrilinks collaborative online forums. Agrilinks is designed to allow agricultural development professionals to build networks, start discussions, and share resources pertaining to a defined topic or purpose.
- The Activity team participated in a CLA workshop on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2014. The lessons from the workshop have helped in shaping the Activity's approach to developing intentional partnerships.
- The COP presented a description of the Activity at a meeting of international donors engaged in climate change efforts, June 4. USAID chaired the meeting.
- 5<sup>th</sup> June 2014, the Activity team discussed with EEA a possible cooperative plan for a climate training targeting policy makers. From the meeting, it was agreed that EEA was to develop a training concept and that the Activity would focus on proposing training materials.
- The Activity hosted a meeting to discuss ways in which the (new) GoU, Department of Climate Change (DCC) can partner with the Activity in implementing the Adapt2CC e-information sharing platform. The meeting was held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2014 – and was the start of a series of working meetings between the Activity and the DCC around cooperative website development.
- Activity staff attended a USAID implementing partners meeting on monitoring, evaluation, and learning assessment on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2014. During the meeting, different partners shared insights and perspectives on how to implement monitoring, evaluation and learning during activity implementation.
- On 16<sup>th</sup> June 2014, the Activity COP and Adaptation specialist hosted a meeting with Intellectual Decisions for Environmental Actions (IDEAS) for Uganda. The organization is involved in school outreach programmes on environment, which is an important partnership opportunity for the Activity Result Area 4.
- The COP attended a meeting organized by USAID Feed the Future from 17<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014. One of the meeting's activities was to encourage individual partners to describe what they do and with others identify potential

opportunities for partnerships. There were other information and training sessions as well.

*RESULT 2: DEVELOPING CAPACITY OF UNIVERSITY STAFF, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, CIVIL SOCIETY AND PRIVATE SECTOR ACTORS THROUGH SHORT TERM TRAININGS*

Description of activities to support Result #2 for Quarter 3:

**Identify audience, partners, develop and deliver initial training efforts**

- Training/awareness raising on climate change basics for MAK student associations

During the past several months, meetings with Climate Change and Forestry student association leaders had been on going to discuss their requests to learn more about climate change and to help them get prepared to work with youth. As finals were approaching, and students wanted to start their learning about climate issues before finals and the semester break, an initial presentation on climate change overview/basics was prepared and delivered on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2014. There were 27 students who participated. Discussions that took place during and after the presentation highlighted the student's degree of interest, but also showed that they had little to no climate background or understanding, and could not take global information and think about how it might be applied to a Uganda setting. This session was the first step in what will likely be an on-going effort to educate and work with these MAK undergraduate students. Further meetings will start-up again when school comes back into session in August/September.



First training for MAK undergraduates on climate



Some of the undergraduates stayed for a

- Training for media on climate change basics.

The Activity staff presented part one of a two part climate training series to Uganda media from TV, radio, and print houses around the country. The program was assisted in the planning efforts by two local media personalities – one from radio (Sarah Mawerere) and one from TV (Florence Apolot). The half-day session was held on 17th June 2014 and there were 28 media participants. The training was about helping them to better understand climate change - the basic science, the impacts, and the possible responses - both mitigation and adaptation (for part 2) and how to use that information to make climate stories interesting rather than DBI (dull but important). How to translate the science into normal "speak", what words to use and which ones to translate, and how to ask questions to learn specifics to make a story interesting were all aspects of the training.



Our planning partners

Since the participants were from the media, the presentation was in a short story format (with each topic specifically discussed). The first 4 points were considered climate basics and the 5th was to avoid common confusions. The first 5 points were presented in this first session. Point 6 will be discussed at the next session in July. Presentation outline:

- Climate change is happening. The future will be different than the past.
- People are causing it this time.
- It is harmful to people (and other living things).
- Virtually all climate scientists agree on these points.
- (What Climate Change is NOT.)
- There is hope. We can limit the amount of change and the impacts if we choose. (Mitigation and Adaptation) (For Part 2)

The presentations were interspersed with small group activities. The activities required that the participants identify their "ah-ha moments" in the learning or what made the biggest impression on them and why (e.g. what was unexpected information or cleared-up a confusion for them or . . .). This small group work required that they verbalize and talk with one another about what they just learned. Discussing such issues helps to solidify new knowledge and through talking with peers one is often able to clarify and deepen individual understandings. The participants were also given a published story to critique on its scientific accuracy as well as the clarity of the discussion. Many aspects of environmental degradation are confused with and incorrectly labeled as climate impacts in many news reports which is why a section entitled: "what climate change is NOT" was specifically added to this presentation. The article they were asked to review

contained many wrong or inaccurate and misleading statements and with their new knowledge the media were able to identify and describe what was wrong in the article.

In addition to Activity staff presenters (Dr. Lynne Carter, COP and Dr. David Mfitumukiza, the Adaptation Specialist), Dr. Revocatus Twinomohangi a lecturer from Makerere University who focuses on the international aspects of the science of climate change as well as the policy perspectives also presented under the heading of *Virtually all climate scientists agree*.

From the evaluations, the Activity knows the participants gained new knowledge and they seemed delighted with that and pleased with the program. Flash drives were presented to the participants that were pre-loaded with a great deal of climate information (Uganda specific, international, some chapters from the US National Climate Assessment, and reputable websites for additional info, etc. – described in an earlier section) that they could use as reference materials and models for stories.

Media small group activity



### **Design and develop the next short term training effort**

- Planning for Central Government training with Enabling Environment for Agriculture Activity (EEA)

This Activity has begun the process of planning for a central government training effort in climate change in partnership with EEA. We have met together and they are working on a concept or draft of what needs to be included and how. This Activity will contribute climate information and materials. We will continue to meet until the training has been developed and there is a date set. Because this is for the central government, there may be some delays in receiving approval for such a meeting. It will likely take place in early Year two of this Activity.

*RESULT 3: UNDERGRADUATE, DIPLOMA AND POSTGRADUATE EDUCATION IN CLIMATE SCIENCE, METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION IMPROVED AND SUPPORTED*

Description of activities to support Result #3 for Quarter 3:

**Support MUCCRI/CAES crosscutting course approval**

- Follow up discussions on technical input for course approval.

The Activity staff are working with MUCCRI/CAES to identify technical inputs (e.g. specific topical information, documentation for course development, and expected resources to implement the course) that the Activity could provide to move the process of course approval forward. The specifics – mentioned above – are required to initiate the college process for approval of the course. Once the information is developed/gathered scheduling for the course submission process can be moved forward. The completion of this process is not likely until early in Year two.

**Support the process of approval for the MSc in climate sciences**

- Technical review of MSc programme

The Activity staff reviewed the MSc programme prior to its submission to the University Senate for approval. This allowed the Activity to offer specific technical support to the final development of the MSc programme. The approval process is underway but the schedule for decision-making is not yet public so it is still unclear when it will be approved. The Activity believes that it may not happen before early Year Two.

**Identify and access on-line course offerings**

- Identify and review on-line courses, etc.

The Activity has begun the process of cataloging what is available on-line in regards to climate change-focused courses. This will be an ongoing activity and continuous once the Adapt2CC site is available for uploading. This process is time consuming and requires some climate-specific knowledge so an experienced graduate student may need to be brought on board to focus on developing this database. As students are on leave and will be back in late August, more work on this will occur during the last quarter of Year One and in the following quarters.

### **Plan a monthly seminar**

- Consultations and meetings for monthly seminar plans

Plans for a monthly climate change-focused seminar for Year Two are just beginning. We are contacting research partners and those with specific expertise to assess their willingness and ability to present a seminar that would be relevant to climate issues and of interest to MUCCRI related faculty and students. The complete schedule will be developed and posted during the next quarter.

### **Support the launch and use of the aWhere Location Intelligence platform (LIP) for research results**

- Arrangement to have aWhere Inc. come to Kampala to work with CAES/MUCCRI to start training on using the platform

Formal partnership arrangements between aWhere and FHI 360 have been put in place as one of the first steps to engaging aWhere in working with the Activity and MAK/CAES on detailed applications of the LIP next semester. Arrangements are being made for the aWhere team to make a trip to Uganda to train and work directly with academic staff and students on how and what the platform is able to provide as support for the research and dissemination efforts by MUCCRI. aWhere technical personnel will be coming to Uganda in September to begin the training efforts but specific dates are not yet determined.

## *RESULT 4: CLIMATE CHANGE, CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS, AND ADAPTATION RESEARCH AND FIELD TRIALS FOR AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CONDUCTED AND RESULTS DISSEMINATED*

### *Description of activities to support Result #4 for Quarter 3:*

#### **Supporting student research opportunities and cooperating with IITA and NARO**

- Recruited PhD and MSc students for research scholarships

In May 2014, the Activity, in partnership with International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Uganda (IITA-Uganda), the National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO), and MUCCRI advertised for interested students to apply for PhD and MSc Scholarships. The Activity is to jointly fund the research scholarships with another USAID Activity—*Enhancing climate resilience of agricultural livelihoods* (implemented by IITA/NARO). Through the partnership, the NARO-IITA field research activities will link

with the research and capacity building efforts of MUCCRI. The research scholarships are grouped into different thematic areas for PhD and MSc work.

PhD scholarships fall under the following research themes:

- I. PhD Crop Science: Climate-smart Robusta coffee; understanding the biophysical and economic challenges and opportunities at plot level.
- II. PhD Geography *or* Environment and Natural Resources: Climate change adaptation, climate smart technologies: Overcoming drought stress in key food crops, combining drought-tolerant germplasm with evaluating technologies for conserving, collecting, and supplying water.
- III. PhD Agricultural Economist *or* Agricultural Extension: Climate change adaptation at household and community level - diversification or specialization and the implications of control over assets.

The research themes for MSc Scholarships are:

- I. Generating agro-meteorological climate-risk analyses to inform decision-making at national, community, and farm level
- II. Assessing what policies affect farmers' vulnerability and adaptive capacity at the local level through stakeholder engagement, so as to create awareness, empower the farming community and trigger behavioral change of local policy actors.

For each of the themes above, one student was recruited to begin work in Year One. Three more MSc student scholarships will be advertised for and awarded in Year Two of the Activity.

Fifteen applications were received in response to the advertisement. Four of the applications received were from non-Ugandans. Due to the local capacity building focus of the 'Enhancing climate resilience of agricultural livelihoods' and the '*USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve Climate Change Adaptation* Activities, non-Ugandans were not considered in the selection process. One Ugandan MSc scholarship applicant was not short listed for the interview process because his referee indicated that the candidate had already progressed with another piece of research work including undertaking substantial data collection. It would be inappropriate for this student to receive a scholarship to do a different piece of work with a different focus required.

Ten candidates were subjected to further selection procedures including assessing their qualifications for the level of scholarship and research themes for which they applied. The assessment and screening for individual candidates before interviews was based on:

- Previous academic performance
- Relevancy of academic qualification to the theme applied for

- Quality of application (indication of the ability to write, communicate, and develop a clear focus on a given subject based on the format, detail and content of the cover letter, research concept, and CV)
- Previous research experience
- Strength of the submitted research concept
- General knowledge related to the theme applied for
- Evidence of ability to complete the research in the available time, mainly based on applicant's current engagements and presented plans to execute the research

Based on the above criteria, all of the 10 candidates qualified and were invited for oral interviews. The interviews were conducted on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2014. The interview panel consisted of representatives from IITA, NARO, MUCCRI, and FHI 360. The oral interviews for individual candidates were preceded by a discussion among the panel members to agree upon criteria and questions for the interview. The following criteria were used for assessing the candidates during the interviews:

- Content of self-introduction by the candidate
- General knowledge related to climate change
- Technical competence related to the theme applied for
- Research competence
- Vision and self-awareness by the candidate
- Availability and expectations
- General impression to the interview panel

For each theme, the interview panel discussed and evaluated individual candidates' performance. Based on consensus, successful candidates were chosen. For the MSc theme 2, the only candidate that was shortlisted could not be offered the scholarship because he did not have an admission letter and had not applied for admission to the University. It was agreed that consultations needed to be done with professors in the University to identify a suitable registered student to be considered for that scholarship. Successful candidates are to work on their research concepts that together with evidence of admission to Makerere University will be used as a basis for them to start receiving payments for stipends and tuition fees.

### ***Plan for disseminating research results***

- Identify partnerships for developing and implementing dissemination pathways for research

The Activity staff devoted time to follow-up on avenues for information dissemination identified during the WSR and through the institutional baseline overview focused on information dissemination, as well as connections made with various media

representatives. Several meetings have been held with ResilientAfrica Network, IITA, NARO, and a number of USAID Feed the Future activity implementing partners. In reaching out to these partners and potential partners, shared interests for disseminating research findings are being identified. These are planned to be the basis for developing specific mechanisms through which research results will be disseminated once they are available. This is envisioned to be the starting point for building relationships that will help in building partnerships for MUCCRI dissemination efforts during and after this Activity.

#### **IV. COLLABORATING, LEARNING, AND ADAPTING**

Through partnership building and stakeholder engagement, a number of lessons are being documented. Lessons are also being gleaned from internal collaborations and the team is noting what has or not worked well. In weekly meetings, the Activity team members have continued to learn from each other and adapt activities accordingly for better results from planned activities.

During this quarter, one of the major activities was planning and design of concepts and prototypes for a MUCCRI website. We are working with COCIS, CAES, DICTS, DCC and other partners on this effort. Through these engagements, we have updated and changed our early perspectives on designs and functions of the Adapt2CC platform. It is anticipated that such changes will allow the scope of potential targeted users of Adapt2CC to broaden. The learning process, through collaboration, has also enabled us to identify leverage areas for sharing the costs involved in having a platform with a broader range of connection ability than was originally thought.

Through collaborative planning of our research efforts with IITA/NARO, the Activity has been able to identify leverage points for broadening the scope and information available to support a dissemination pathway(s). We are now working with them on identifying research results beyond our cooperative research efforts that could contribute to a more robust stream of research findings for a dissemination pathway. The details are still to be developed.

In the student research implementation plan, we are reflecting the results of the baseline assessment (for part 4a) that was conducted by reviewing a wide range of previous research activities and experiences. Some of the aspects now reflected in our student scholarship approach that we have adapted from the assessment include:

- Recruiting students on a full time basis which requires that they are provided with both stipend and tuition fees;
- Considering that inquiry into academic background and student grades is critical before they should be considered for research support; and

- Specification and inclusion of a plan for translation of the science into useable information for farmers and a plan to deliver that information at the farm level in all research projects by all students funded by the Activity.

## V. PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR NEXT QUARTER

Below is the outline of the activities for the different Result areas to be implemented in the next quarter. All of these activities will be initiated in the next quarter, some will be completed by September, some will continue into Year Two.

### *RESULT 1: TRANSFORMING MUCCRI INTO A LEADING CENTRE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE EDUCATION AND RESEARCH IN AFRICA*

#### List of upcoming activities to support Result #1 for Quarter 4:

##### Support Official Recognition of MUCCRI by the University

- Continue introducing MUCCRI to University departments and “actively wait” for Senate decision and be ready to assist in responding to Senate comments.

##### Review/Update of CAES Strategic Plan

- Actively wait for University Senate decision on MUCCRI. CAES faculty and MUCCRI Interim coordinator want to wait to develop recommendations of how to build MUCCRI into the CAES strategic plan until Senate approval to have accurate information to suggest re-alignment recommendations for the CAES strategic plan.

##### Develop an Informational Campaign

- Continue to inform about MUCCRI both informally and as invited speakers.

##### Plan for the establishment and meetings of MUCCRI Steering and Science Committees

- Early discussions with MUCCRI interim coordinator have resulted in his request to the Activity to hold off on identifying possible committee members and meeting dates for MUCCRI until MUCCRI is official. He feels that the University Senate could make some changes to the suggested committee composition in the proposal. He would rather work from an approved structure. Meeting timing will also depend upon timing of the decision and if/what revisions need to be undertaken.

##### Networking with partner organizations

- Collaborate with the REDD+ project on the MAK campus through serving on Post Doc interview team and presenting adaptation issues to graduate students at orientation.
- Follow-up meetings with many FTF partner organizations.

Set-up MUCCRI website with a platform entitled Adapt2CC

- Continue to work in collaboration with the GoU DCC. Continue to review and revise the prototype platform as it is already developed and through collaborations is being modified. The next steps are to discuss software and hardware needs that are critical to allow DCC and CAES/MUCCRI/MAK, and others, to link websites and share resources.
- Follow-up planning meetings will be held to collaborate between this GoU Department and this Activity/MUCCRI/CAES on website and resource collection, sharing and availability. There will be continuous collaborating, adapting, learning and thus changes to the Activity's original plan as we work in cooperation to establish these linkable websites.

*RESULT 2: DEVELOPING CAPACITY OF UNIVERSITY STAFF, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, CIVIL SOCIETY AND PRIVATE SECTOR ACTORS THROUGH SHORT TERM TRAININGS*

List of upcoming activities to support Result #2 for Quarter 4:

Identify audience, partners, develop and deliver initial training activities

- Training for media on climate change basics – part 2.
- Training for District Environmental Officers Quarterly meeting – for NEMA.
- Presentation to new PhD students for Prof. Tabuti and the REDD+ project – August 5.

Design and develop the next short term training efforts

- Continue meeting with EEA to plan for the Central Government training.

*RESULT 3: UNDERGRADUATE, DIPLOMA AND POST GRADUATE EDUCATION IN CLIMATE SCIENCE, METEOROLOGY AND CLIMATE ADAPTATION IMPROVED AND SUPPORTED*

List of upcoming activities to support Result #3 for Quarter 4:

Support for MUCCRI/CAES course approval

- Activity staff and CAES faculty have discussed needed revisions to allow submission of a cross-college course for consideration by the CAES Academic Board. The Activity stands ready to support the further work however submission date and Board decision will depend on CAES and Board schedules and not Activity schedule. Follow-up engagement with CAES faculty on moving the course forward will be undertaken in Qtr 4. NOTE:

There is a typo in the WP – it is not the University Senate that approves this course, it is the CAES Academic Board.

Support the process of approval for the MSc in Climate Sciences

- Activity staff in “active waiting” mode as University Senate decision on MSc is not scheduled. Staff ready to support any needed revisions for approval. Decision timing not in Activity control.

Identify opportunities to review and develop climate change content for non-CAES courses

- Meetings will be set with representatives of three MAK departments and will lead to developing a list of potential non-CAES courses for possible addition of climate information.

Identify and access on-line course offerings

- Continue to identify and review on-line courses. This will likely ramp up once students have returned from summer break and we can bring one of them on-board – perhaps as a research project – who has some climate knowledge and understanding. It is time intensive and requires some specific knowledge and critical ability.

Plan a monthly climate change-focused seminar

- Will complete the plans and the invitations for a monthly seminar for the next semester and will have the listing posted by the end of the next quarter. The following semester announcement will be posted when students return from Christmas break.

Support the use of aWhere

- Will plan a visit for the aWhere technical personnel to begin the training on how to use the LIP system. It should occur just before the beginning of Year two (ideally during September) to allow students and classes some “settling-in” time once the semester begins in late August.

*RESULT 4: CLIMATE CHANGE, CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS, AND ADAPTATION RESEARCH AND FIELD TRIALS FOR THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR CONDUCTED AND RESULTS DISSEMINATED*

Description of activities to support Result #4 for Quarter 4:

Support student research opportunities

- The scholarship students should be starting their classes and research work.
- Will be undertaking to get them under contract and processed for tuition and stipend payments and procedures implemented.

#### Plan for disseminating research results

- Meet with IITA on assessing research results that might be available for dissemination.
- Continue networking with research producers and disseminators on establishing a pathway for dissemination. Potential partners will be contacted during the quarter.
- Analyze available and potential networks and develop a first draft of a dissemination pathway for testing

#### **Table of Upcoming Events**

Below are planned upcoming events that might be of interest for USAID mission observation and/or participation in the next quarter:

DATE	EVENT	REMARKS
July 8	Training for media on climate change basics – part 2.	
July 10	Meet with IITA on assessing research results that might be available for dissemination.	A pathway for dissemination will be ready for testing by the end of Year One of the Activity. Pilot testing will take place in Year Two.
July 16	Working in collaboration with the DCC. Hold a meeting to review the prototype platform so far and to discuss software and hardware needs that are critical to allow DCC and CAES/MUCCRI/MAK to link websites and share resources.	There will be continuous collaborating, adapting, learning and thus changes to our original plans as we work in cooperation to establish these linkable websites.
July 18	Training for District Environmental Officers at their Quarterly meeting – for NEMA, in Soroti.	
July 22.	Collaborate with the REDD+ project on the MAK campus through serving on Post Doc interview team.	Take this opportunity to introduce MUCCRI and the possibility of Activity support to

		generate and implement climate change and climate adaptation info into a range of departmental courses
July 23	Meet with FTF Ag Inputs as potential partners in dissemination.	
July 25	One of numerous follow-up planning meetings (this one technical) will be held to collaborate between DCC and this Activity/MUCCRI/CAES on website issues	Since the prototype is already available for review, the technical portions of working together will be discussed and appropriate software and hardware will be discussed and assessed.
August 5	Climate adaptation presentation to new PhD students for Prof. Tabuti and the REDD+ project	This will be an invited session where MUCCRI will be introduced to Environmental Management graduate students as well as to faculty from a number of departments
August 8	Bring together numerous FTF partners to inform the three parts of the dissemination pathway (research results, translation, on the ground dissemination).	Analysis of the responses will allow development of a trial dissemination pathway.

## VI. ADDITIONAL OBSERVATIONS/ISSUES

The appointed MUCCRI Interim Coordinator, Dr. Revocatus Twinomuhangi, has made a great effort to work closely with the Activity team. He has supported the Activity, for example, in searching for and choosing a Program Assistant, in interviewing and choosing graduate student scholarship recipients, in working with the other MUCCRI faculty and in so many ways making this project more effective and run smoother. Dr. Twinomuhangi also participated in the media training by presenting on his specialty (international science and policy). This provided MUCCRI with a MAK-based point of contact for the media to recognize and identify. His appointment and attention has been extremely beneficial for the Activity and helps a great deal to maintain good relationships with the other MUCCRI-related faculty.

It is important to recognize that a good deal of time and effort this Quarter has been spent on finalizing the Year One work plan and the baseline assessment report.

Revisions and re-workings take meetings with experts, with the MUCCRI faculty, and much collaboration, learning, and adapting to arrive at something that is acceptable and workable for all involved. Specifically, the team spent 2 days on a focused work planning effort with the MUCCRI interim steering committee members including the CAES Principal, USAID representatives, and Activity staff to arrive at the Year One work plan that was submitted at the end of this quarter. We have also been expending effort on developing a Theory of Change (TOC) for this Activity that will lead to a finalized M&E plan and indicators that meet Mission requirements. The Activity submitted both the revised Baseline Assessment and Year One work plan at the end of this quarter, and are now working on the final revisions to these documents, as well as working on the TOC and what we hope will become a finalized M&E plan. We expect all three of these documents to be submitted early in the next quarter. Arriving at approved plans is part of the activity start-up and while we are still pursuing these, the team is also making progress in activities across all of the Result areas.

## **VII. CONCLUSION**

In our last report, the Activity noted that: “the focus of this Activity – climate change and climate change adaptation actions – seems to be one that excites and encourages working together.” This is becoming even more obvious as we progress. The Activity staff are becoming recognized as authorities and people with information and a positive and informative manner to share that information. We are working with students and student organizations, with the media, as presenters and contributing members of meetings on our topic and other related topics. MUCCRI is becoming recognized as a positive force even before it is officially recognized by the University – as witnessed by the invitation and the web-linking efforts from the GoU/DCC. This quarter has seen very positive movement toward accomplishing the goal of helping the University to become a recognized center for climate information and thus forms a good base to work from and progress.