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HIGHER EDUCATION SOLUTIONS NETWORK - QUARTERLY REPORT

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RESILIENTAFRICA NETWORK (RAN)
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Acronyms & Abbreviations

| | |
|----------------|---|
| AAUN | Australian Africa Universities Network |
| AGIR | Alliance Globale pour l'Initiative Résilience |
| ACET | African Centre for Economic Transformation |
| ACTS | Africa Innovation Summit |
| CELT | Centre for Engaged Learning |
| CDD | Center for Deliberative Democracy |
| COCIS | College of Computing and Information Science |
| CSIR | Council for Scientific and Industrial Research |
| DP | Deliberative Polling |
| DFID | Department for International Development |
| DQA | Data Quality Assessment |
| DRC | Democratic Republic of Congo |
| DRLA | Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy |
| DT | Design Thinking |
| EA | Eastern Africa |
| EST | Eastern Standard Time |
| FGD | Focus Group Discussion |
| GCFSI | Global Centre for Food Systems Innovation |
| GIS | Geographical Information System |
| GPR | Global Partnership for Resilience |
| HESN | Higher Education Solutions Network |
| HCD | Human Centered Design |
| HoA | Horn of Africa |
| ICT4D | Information and Communications Technology for Development |
| IPR | Intellectual Property Rights |
| JPC | Joint Planning Cell |
| KPIs | Key Performance Indicators |
| LUANAR | Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources |
| MakSPH | Makerere University College of Health Sciences |
| M&E | Monitoring and Evaluation |

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| MEST | Meltwater Entrepreneurial School of Technology |
| MICT-BIC | Mekelle Information and Communication Technology – Business Incubation Centre |
| MIT-CITE | Massachusetts Institute of Technology Comprehensive Initiative for Technology Evaluation |
| MIT IDIN | International Development Innovation Network |
| MOOC/W | Massive Open Online Course Workshop |
| MOU | Memoranda of Understanding |
| MSU | Michigan State University |
| NAPHAM | National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Malawi |
| NEPAD | New Partnership for Africa’s Development |
| NHCE | National Council for Higher Education |
| NGO | Non-Governmental Organization |
| PEER | Partnership for Engagement in Research |
| PMP | Performance Measuring Plan |
| RFA | Request for Applications |
| RIAP | Resilience Innovation Acceleration Program |
| RIF | Resilience Innovation Fund |
| RILAB | Resilience Innovation Lab |
| SEI | Student Engagement and Innovation Working Group |
| SISE | Social Innovation Social Entrepreneurship Program |
| SSA | Sub-Saharan Africa |
| TBD | To Be Determined |
| Texas A&M | Texas Agriculture and Mechanical University |
| ToT | Training of Trainers |
| UCAD | Universite’ Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar |
| UCEW | University College of Education in Winneba |
| UDS | University for Development Studies |
| UHAS | University of Allied and Health Sciences |
| UP IFNUW | University of Pretoria Institute of Food, Nutrition and Well being |
| USAID | United States Agency for International Development |
| WITU | Women in Technology Uganda |

Executive Summary

The second quarter led to further progress in RAN's resilience activities and more in-roads in clarifying the innovation strategy. On the resilience horizon, all RILabs have completed their community consultations except West Africa. Tulane's DRLA has provided data analysis support visits to all RILabs, including training in Atlas Ti for data analysis teams. Data analysis is currently on-going in 3 of the 4 RILabs. RILabs are coding the data to identify vulnerability factors and adaptive capacities, which will form the basis for developing resilience dimensions. Additional data analysis support was given to the teams in Uganda, Somalia, DRC and Rwanda. Stanford's CDD has conducted 3 preparatory stakeholder consultative workshops for pilot Deliberative Polls (2 in Uganda and 1 in Ghana). Preparations are now in advanced stages for the pilot DP workshops in the Mt. Elgon Region of Uganda. Key issues for consultation of the community have been negotiated and elucidated.

On the innovations horizon, RAN discussed and refined its draft Innovations and Engagement strategy. RAN organized an innovations visioning workshop in which design thinking methodology was presented to the RILab teams as the standard to guide RAN's approach to innovations going forward. To strengthen capacity for the innovation environment in the respective RILabs, all RILabs have hired Innovation Officers. These officers attended the Training of Trainers workshop on Design Thinking Methodology. Three of four RILabs have acquired physical space within their respective universities for incubation activities. RAN has also participated in several external events to build innovations related social capital including the Africa Innovation Summit (Cape Verde), 'Building Resilience through Innovation' (Nairobi), Women in IT international symposium (Kampala). A first draft of the Resilience Innovation Framework to guide operationalization of the Resilience Innovation Fund has been prepared. On the MOOCs frontier, RAN has conducted a MOOCs visioning workshop facilitated by a team from Stanford University.

One innovation has been supported on RAN's innovation program (Matibabu – a non-invasive technology for diagnosis of Malaria). No new datasets have been generated, but the resilience team has collected formative data to guide development of Deliberative Polling tools for Eastern Uganda. Student engagements have included representation in innovations and MOOCs visioning workshops as well as the data analysis. Research internships have also been supported at Tulane, Makerere and Kinshasa, focusing on resilience data analysis. Inter-disciplinary collaborations involved team-based data analysis and innovation and MOOCs visioning. Tulane University has been at the center of data support activities while Stanford has led the innovations visioning support activities. Nine other institutional partners have been engaged on a non-funded basis. On High Value Areas of Collaboration, discussions on possible synergies have been conducted with AidData and MSU. RAN students have participated in cross-student discussions with MSU students, two students from Makerere have been selected to participate in the AidData Summer Internship program, two teams from Makerere have reached the final stages of the Big-Ideas competition, and the GCFSU Summer internship program has been disseminated to students in the network.

Locally, RAN has engaged with the USAID Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Contract team, while the Horn of Africa, lab had follow-up meetings with their local mission. RAN's Network Plus University focal person in Malawi (SA RILab) also had an engagement meeting with his mission. The M&E team has been working to improve the draft M&E plan, and is working on the latest round of comments from USAID. Key lessons and best practices learned include how the asynchronous approach to the data analysis can be tapped into so that labs that are further along in the data management processes provide learning for those in earlier stages and linking the resilience framework to innovations and unpacking the downstream processes in the innovations cycle.

Part I: Key Activities

I.1. Summary of Key Activities

| Activity No. | Activity | Activity Description | Status/Remark |
|--------------|---|--|--|
| I.1 | Complete the community consultations for assessment of resilience factors in 18 target communities using focus groups and Key Informants to develop and define qualitative resilience dimensions | RILabs will complete community consultations using Focus Group Discussions (FGD) and Key Informant Interviews (KII). They will analyze data to develop qualitative dimensions of the factors that underlie vulnerability and adaptive capacity | This activity is on-going. All RILabs except West Africa RILab have completed their community consultations. The EA and SA RILabs completed their consultations in Q2. The RILabs are in advanced stages of analyzing their data and working towards defining their resilience dimensions. |
| I.2a | Develop workshop materials and conduct RILab workshops to support planning for qualitative data collection and baseline surveys of resilience indicators (January-June 2014) | The key goals of the qualitative data collection include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To identify problem sets to guide innovation, and (ii) To identify context-specific dimensions of resilience. | Tulane's DRLA developed a plan for data analysis guidance support for the RILabs. Tulane implemented the plan and provided technical support for resilience data collection and analysis for the RILabs using virtual and in-person contact. In-person support was provided by holding the following workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 7-8 January, 2014 HOA RILab (Ethiopia and Somalia) at Woliso, Ethiopia • 13-14 January, 2014 EA RILab (Uganda, Rwanda, DRC) at Kampala, Uganda • 17-18 March, 2014 SA RILab (South Africa, Zimbabwe, Malawi) at Pretoria, South Africa • 20-21 March, 2014 WA RILab (Ghana) at Tamale, Ghana Formative data from the context analyses and the community consultations are currently being synthesized into qualitative themes that categorize the |

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| | | | resilience factors in the different target communities, as well as problem sets for innovation entry points. These themes will then be used to develop quantifiable indicators and tools for a baseline survey of resilience factors in the target communities. |
| I.2b | Conduct RILab workshops to support qualitative data collection and analysis | Data analysis workshop Follow-up support workshops | <p>13-14 January 2014 EA RILab researchers were trained in coding and basic qualitative analysis approaches.</p> <p>Tulane provided extra technical support for resilience data analysis for Uganda , Somalia, DRC and Rwanda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February 2014 EA RILab (Uganda & Somalia) • 12-14 March, 2014 EA RILab (DRC) at Kinshasa, DRC • 24-25 March, 2014 EA RILab (Rwanda) at Kigali, Rwanda |
| I.2c | Develop workshop materials and conduct RILab workshops to support planning for qualitative data analysis | Training on Qualitative Data Analysis Software (ATLAS.ti) | <p>29-31 March, 2014 HoA RILab (Ethiopia) Training organized at Jimma University in Ethiopia to further support the data analysis team in EA RILab.</p> <p>13 March, 2014 SA RILab A one day ATLAS.ti training was held at the University of Pretoria SHSPH and was run by Dr Elizabeth Archer from University of South Africa (UNISA).</p> |
| I.5 | Conduct preparatory activities and carry out the first set of two Deliberative Polls in two communities in sub-Saharan Africa | Preparatory activities include selection of relevant multidisciplinary stakeholders, identification of suitable topics for deliberation, setting timelines for activities, venue, logistics, and briefing materials etc. | <p>The Center for Deliberative Democracy (CDD) at Stanford University worked closely with the deliberative polling (DP) teams at two RILabs</p> <p>The CDD team, Prof. James Fishkin and Kathleen Giles facilitated the DP Stakeholders Workshop in Kampala, Uganda on 16-17 January, 2014 to plan for the upcoming Deliberative Polls in the Elgon region of Uganda (EA RILab). The workshop drew 34 participants from three districts of the Mt. Elgon Region (Bududa, Manafwa & Butalejja districts) that are affected by landslides and floods as a result of climate variability. At this workshop participants discussed the DP agenda at length in small groups and using the group discussions and the notes taken, the CDD team came up with a draft of the briefing materials which were used to create the first draft of the questionnaire. These materials also provide a key sharable qualitative database that can be referred to and used by other development partners.</p> |

Prof. Fishkin with the support of Dr. Alice Siu led a DP Workshop with the new WA RILab on 24-27 March, 2014 at the University for Development Studies, Tamale, Ghana. Participants were introduced to all components of Deliberative Polling (small group and plenary session logistics, briefing materials and surveys and data analyses) including a moderator training and mock deliberation.

A second workshop was conducted on 28-29 March, 2014 at Kampala with the EA RILab to further refine the DP policy issues for which communities' opinion will be sought. It was attended by 4 stakeholders from Bududa and Butalejja districts and one official from the Office of the Prime Minister working in the Department of Relief and Disaster Preparedness.

The CDD and the EA RILab teams have also been conducting weekly calls to further refine the agenda for the upcoming polls, discuss logistics of the polls, and develop the questionnaire and briefing materials to be used. About 11 calls have been held since February 2014

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| 1.9 | Develop resilience intervention problem sets to guide sourcing of innovations | Using available qualitative and quantitative data, and findings from the pilot DPs, RAN will work with the RILabs to develop resilience problem sets. | This activity is on-going. Tulane worked collaboratively with RILabs during the above data analysis workshops to create draft problem set templates. As the RILabs code and analyze the data they will capture Vulnerability Factors, Adaptive Capacities, Proposed Community Solutions, and Existing Intervention(s). These will be used as the basis for identifying resilience dimensions. |
| 2.1 | Finalize RAN Innovations and Engagement Strategy | Refining year 1 draft strategy to incorporate adopted innovation approach and current understanding of the innovations environment, and to get input from the RILabs and selected stakeholders. | The draft strategy was further refined with input from the Engagement Manager who joined the team in January. The strategy was presented to the team during the Innovation Visioning workshop (28 February, 2014). Comments received then have been incorporated into the draft. A final discussion on the key performance indicators (KPI) to be set for each of the strategies will be held in April, and the final draft will be discussed at the Partner's meeting in May. All input and feedback received from this meeting will be incorporated into the draft, which will then be finalized and adopted. |
| 2.2 | Conduct Resilience Innovation Visioning and | Establish a common vision and approach for RAN's innovation activities | We organized an Innovation Visioning workshop (Appendix 8.1 and 8.2) whose primary objective was to present the Design Thinking process - one of the human-centered design methodologies - that will be adopted across the RAN to ensure community involvement throughout the sourcing, design |

**Ideation
(Problem
Framing/Design
Workshops) in
each RILab**

and testing stages during innovation solution development. This workshop was held in Kampala, Uganda from 25-28 February 2014. It brought together 28 participants drawn from the four RILabs, USAID Washington, USAID Uganda mission, the M&E and Learning Contract¹, RAN secretariat, Faculty from partner universities and students from Makerere University. The Workshop was led by Prof. Banny Banerjee of Stanford with support from Stanford and Secretariat staff. During the first day and a half, participants were taken through the Principles of Design Thinking (DT) and took part in extensive group work with hands-on activities on needs finding, problem synthesis and framing, rapid prototyping, testing and iteration. The DT session was conducted in a train-the-trainer format with the objective of developing capacity at the RILab to conduct future DT sessions in their network universities. The next day and a half, the focus of the workshop was on strategic planning at the RILab level with respect to planning for innovations. Participants, working in their RILab teams underwent hands-on training on various topics ranging from understanding the challenge and key issues, articulating the innovation challenge vision and mission at the RILab level, stakeholder identification, desired outcomes and changes, proposed system transformation, identifying potential pathways, to ‘projectizing’ these pathways and project planning. The last day was a round-table discussion on various topics that are key to the successful implementation of the innovation agenda - M&E, Engagement and Innovation strategy, Managing IP within the RAN and stakeholder engagement. The RILabs are now well-placed to cascade DT skills across their innovator networks as they prepare them to participate in resilience innovation challenges to be identified in later quarters. Further, the process of moving from a challenge to a pathway and a full-scale innovation implementation project is now clear and the RILabs can adopt and apply this process going forward.

Going forward, Design Thinking methodology will form the back-bone of RAN’s approach to ideation and development of resilience interventions.

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| 2.3 | Strengthen capacity in | Create an enabling environment that is supportive of the | All the RILabs have hired innovation officers who are charged with leading the innovation and MOOC activities. These officers attended the DT ToT |
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¹ This is a USAID-funded activity and their main objective is to build monitoring and evaluation practice in USAID and implementing partners, and also works to support organizational improvement in application of collaborating, learning and adapting capacities.

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| Resilience Innovation across RAN | development of resilience innovations | and are thus well-equipped to conduct DT training in their respective labs. The EA, HoA and WA RILabs have acquired physical spaces within their universities that will be used to incubate innovations and provide a meeting space that will be used to host seminars, meetings and any face-to-face gatherings that are necessary to support innovators. The SA RILab is still in discussion with 'The Innovation Hub' (TIH) in Pretoria to explore possibilities of co-locating their activities in their space. The next steps will be to furnish these spaces and acquire relevant equipment such as computers and communication equipment to facilitate the innovators. Through the DT ToT workshop, RAN has started to develop capacity in DT training, and this will prove very useful as we seek to train innovators on how to employ DT in the innovation process. |
| 2.4 Build social capital for RAN in resilience innovations | Identify and engage varied stakeholders and participate in innovation-themed events with a view to strengthening RAN's innovations environment. | <p>During this quarter, RAN staff have participated in the following innovation-related events:</p> <p>(i) Africa Innovation Summit, held from 2-7 February, 2014 in Cape Verde. This summit was hosted by the government of Cape Verde and brought together African Presidents, NEPAD, innovation thought leaders, innovators, academicians, venture capitalists and innovation financiers largely drawn from the African continent. The focus of the summit was to discuss opportunities and challenges in relation to growing the African innovation ecosystem and encourage participants and their institutions to explore synergies and areas for strengthening collaboration. RAN's Director of Innovations attended this summit and established several potential collaborations. Discussions are ongoing to collaborate on an Africa-wide food security initiative working with the African Centre for Economic Transformation (ACET), African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS) and Africalics, the African chapter of Globelics which focuses on innovation and development in Africa. To this end, this group has put forward a funding request to Africalics to support the development of a joint proposal on 'Bringing traditional cereals back to the dinner table' as a key innovation in tackling food security on the continent. The proposal is under review, and if successful, the participating institutions will convene to develop a comprehensive concept paper, with the possible participation of the RAND corporation, and then work to jointly implement aspects of this concept. RAN's RILabs would be actively involved in sourcing and implementing innovations aimed at increasing the consumption levels of traditional cereals by looking at various aspects in the value chain from</p> |

production, processing, packaging, preparation and marketing. During this summit, RAN also established contacts with the African Virtual University, a leader in online learning on the continent and with plans to roll out a MOOC on peace and conflict management. RAN will continue discussions started at the summit with the objective of identifying potential areas for collaboration and/or co-creation especially on the MOOCs objective.

(ii) “Building Resilience through Innovation” workshop held in Nairobi, Kenya from 25-28 March, 2014. This conference was organized by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) and brought together ICT4D practitioners drawn from INGOs, NGOs, public sector, private sector and academia. RAN was represented by the Director of Innovations who was a panelist in an executive session that sought to identify the major setbacks to applying ICT to solve development challenges, and further to discuss the partnerships and opportunities that exist within the development ecosystem to surmount these challenges. Through this meeting, RAN has identified other players in the region with a focus on resilience programming and will pursue some of the collaboration leads generated from the workshop.

(iii) WITU

Women in IT: One of the most famous world-wide events for Women in IT opened its Uganda chapter. RAN represented by the Communications Manager and Engagement Manager participated in the Girl Geek dinner event at Piato Restaurant in February 2014, to socially network with female innovators, listen to their experiences as well as identify potential female mentors and innovators to actively engage in the RILabs. The main goal of the Girl Geek Dinner (Appendix 8.3) was to provide a safe environment for women to meet other amazing women with the same passion about technology and innovation. Women speakers shared their experiences like the Pan Africa Regional Director of Thoughtworks, Betty Enyonam Kumahor. In RAN’s Innovation and Engagement strategy considerable participation of females as mentors and innovators is key. Given the overall low participation rates of women in science research and other roles, we hope to support many initiatives that encourage women to use and develop their abilities and to achieve their full potential in our research and innovation process.

DRLA Tulane met with Rebecca Otten, Program Coordinator for Social Innovation, Social Entrepreneurship and the Center for Engaged Learning and

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| 2.5 | Establish and operationalize the Resilience Innovation Fund (RIF) | Develop relevant documentation and guidelines on various aspects of the RIF; Operationalize the RIF | <p>Training on 7 March, 2014 to brainstorm ways to involve Tulane University students in RAN Innovation Creation. DLRA will give a presentation in the next quarter at Tulane 's Social Innovation Symposium</p> <p>We have developed the first draft of the RAN RIF framework that details the guiding principles driving RAN's resilience innovation agenda, sourcing of resilience solutions, managing the innovation pipeline, RIF grants and managing the RIF, as well as key aspects of RAN's RILab-based innovation incubation processes which include capacity building, mentorship, intellectual property rights (IPR) management, research and publications, stakeholder engagement, and project planning and management. This document will be refined in collaboration with the Stanford team, and presented for further discussion and refinement during RAN partner's meeting scheduled for Q3.</p> <p>RAN has adopted a two-pronged approach to sourcing innovations - the first is the Resilience Innovation Acceleration Program (RIAP) which identifies solutions already being developed within the network universities and that are in line with the thematic areas of focus, and the other approach sources ideas from stakeholders through the open innovation model. For the former, RAN will use innovation showcases and exhibitions held in partner universities to identify existing solutions.</p> <p>To this end, the EA RILab conducted an innovations exhibition on 14 March 2014 to identify innovations that may be considered for incubation. Over 90 innovators registered their innovations for consideration, with the best 32 being selected to showcase their innovations during the event. Using a team of expert judges, the EA RILab identified a total of 10 solutions for further vetting to be considered to join their RIAP. Selected² teams will then be incubated in the EA RILab where they will receive technical and/or financial support depending on their individual solutions and support needs. The other labs are scheduled to conduct their exhibitions in Q3, and all labs will undertake the open innovation approach also in Q3.</p> |
| 2.6 | Establish RILab and RAN Level innovation | Identify key stakeholders and innovation thought leaders who would be strategically placed to | The SA RILab have drafted Terms of reference for the Advisory body and identified potential members who will be invited to join the body. The composition of the advisory body is to include multidisciplinary faculty from |

² The judging templates, profiles of judges and score sheets for the finalist teams will be provided once this process is concluded

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| Advisory Bodies | support the innovation activities at the RILab-level, and constitute RILab-level advisory bodies | diverse backgrounds including Science and Innovation, climate change, Nutrition, Education Psychology, Engineering, Agriculture and Food Security, various public departments including the Department of Health and the Department of Social development as well as community representatives. The Director of the Centre for the study of Resilience at the University of Pretoria has also been identified as a potential member of the SA RILab's Resilience Innovations Advisory body. The other labs are still in the process of identifying potential members and are all expected to conclude this process by the next quarter. |
| 3.1 Research and Planning for prototype MOOCs design, development and delivery | Hold a MOOCS visioning workshop to agree on the design framework and approach to developing and piloting prototype MOOCs in the RILabs | <p>In the spirit of embracing human-centered design principles, RAN has elected to use the DT process to identify, design and develop prototype MOOCs that will be piloted in each of the RILabs. Stanford HSTAR Researcher Margarita Quihuis and Change abs strategist Tom Watson coordinated and facilitated a two day MOOCS visioning workshop in Kampala, Uganda, from 20-21 March, 2014 that used the DT principles that had earlier been introduced in the innovation visioning workshop held in February. Twenty five participants from the four RILabs attended, including each RILab innovation officer, 1-2 faculty per lab who expressed interest in leading the local RILab MOOC effort and students from all the four labs. The Stanford facilitators built on the training and work from the previous Innovation Visioning workshop. The participants applied the Design Thinking framework to their specific MOOC cases, conducted preliminary need finding with the student participants, created video prototypes of sample MOOC content and began fleshing out their preliminary activities to meet the Year 2 Objective 3 milestones. The workshop concluded with a roundtable discussion on key aspects that will need due consideration as we plan for the prototype MOOC development and pilot including technical/infrastructural requirements, student incentivization schemes, learner recruitment and support, and platform choices.</p> <p>Over the next two quarters, the RILabs will proceed to use DT processes and Stanford generated worksheets and tools, to identify a relevant MOOC course/topic depending on their resilience innovation focus, learning outcomes and target learners, and proceed to develop content and pilot the MOOC course with the support of Stanford partners. To this end, the SA RILab have begun discussions with the Academy of Science of South Africa</p> |

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| 3.3 | Assess prototype MOOC technical mechanics | Assess MOOC delivery mechanics taking into consideration the infrastructural and bandwidth capabilities at the RILabs | (ASSAf) exploring the possibility of having graduate students from ASSAf participating in the SA RILab’s MOOC pilot. Stanford, RAN Secretariat and the RILabs engaged in a deep discussion on MOOC mechanics and technical issues that need to be addressed as we prepare to pilot the first prototype MOOCs. The RILabs identified key departments and individuals within their universities who will be necessary to provide/assist or consult on technical resources and support available for MOOC platform selection and deployment. Stanford created a preliminary matrix of platforms and attributes (features, cost, scalability, availability) that was shared with the RILabs and secretariat. |
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1.1.1 Events

The following major events were achieved during this reporting period:

| Event Name | Description | Start Date | End Date | Location (City) | Location (Country) |
|---|--|------------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Data Analysis Workshops | Please refer to activity 1.2a and 1.2b above | | | | |
| Training on Qualitative Data Analysis Software (ATLAS.ti) | Please refer to activity 1.2c above | | | | |
| DP preparations | Please refer to Activity 1.5 above | | | | |
| Innovation visioning Workshop | Please refer to activity 2.2 above | | | | |
| Engagement with Social Innovation, Social Entrepreneurship and the Center for Engaged Learning and Training | Please refer to activity 2.4 above | | | | |
| Innovations Exhibition | Please refer to activity 2.5 above | | | | |

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| MOOCs Visioning Workshop | Please refer to activity 3.1 above | | | | |
| Global Partnership for Resilience | Tulane met with representatives from USAID and the Rockefeller Foundation to discuss avenues for utilizing RAN resilience data to support GPR. | 19 March, 2014 | 20 March, 2014 | Washington, DC | USA |
| RAN Program Retreat | The retreat provided a platform for orientation of RAN staff on reporting structures and core RAN documents. It was also an opportunity to emphasize the value of teamwork in not only achieving RAN's goal but in an individual's endeavours | 20 February, 2014 | 21 February, 2014 | Kampala | Uganda |
| College of Computing and Information Sciences (COCIS) Open Day | RAN joined in the CoCIS Open Day where over 60 students and faculty from multiple disciplines exhibited over 40 projects. RAN's efforts to bridge the gap between the Universities as higher institutions of learning and the communities was highlighted under the theme Achieving Vision 2040 through ICT: Innovations to Accelerate Uganda's Social-Economic Transformation | 28 February, 2014 | 28 February, 2014 | Kampala | Uganda |
| NHCE Exhibition | RAN represented by the Engagement Manager and M&E Manager attended the 7th Annual exhibition for National Council for Higher Education (NHCE)-Uganda in March. This year's exhibition attracted over 50 institutions (Public and Private Universities, Tertiary institutions and other corporate organizations like Telecom companies). RAN was able to identify interesting projects in Agriculture and Food security that can be followed up by the EA RILab and we were also able to establish links with potential innovators from ALL these institutions for future engagements. | 28 March, 2014 | 29 March, 2014 | Kampala | Uganda |
| RAN SA RILab/AAUN meeting | A joint stakeholders meeting was held for the ResilientAfrica Network (RAN Southern Africa RILab) and Australia Africa University Network (AAUN), at the University of Pretoria Hatfield | 28 March, 2014 | 28 March, 2014 | Pretoria | South Africa |

campus. The meeting brought together 24 representatives from different Faculties at UP, CISR, NGO's such as Circle of Life, Institute of Food, Nutrition and Wellbeing (IFNUW), USAID, Department of Social Development, Department of Health, and Medical Research Council of South Africa.

They discussed potential areas of synergies between the two projects, sharing of data on food security Introducing RAN and the SA RILab Innovation Acceleration Programme to potential Innovations Advisory committee members.

1.1.2. Publications

- i) There were no publications in this quarter but plans are under way to write manuscripts from the qualitative data collected during community consultations and from secondary data analysis exercise that was done by SA RILab. SA RILab conducted a secondary data analysis to determine the resilience factors associated with household (HH) food security in the presence of land degradation and explore the role of household HIV status. A draft manuscript has been developed and publication is expected by end of this year (Q4).
- ii) SA RILab has drafted another paper using data from a pilot study on measuring resilience within the context of chronic diseases on a small population of 100 people living with a chronic disease in Pretoria.
- iii) A team of Makerere University students working on the Matibabu project, one of the innovations under acceleration at RAN submitted an abstract to Regional Collaboration Research Conference organised by Makerere University, College of Engineering Design and Art (CEDAT) scheduled to take place on 22-24 June 2014. The conference will bring together researchers from Makerere University, University of Dar es Salaam and Universidade Eduardo Mondlane of Mozambique. The conference is open to participation from other universities and to all that would like to share their research and innovations for sustainable regional development. The annual scientific conference will be held under the theme; "Research and Innovations Forum for Sustainable Regional Development". This abstract will be developed into a manuscript that will be considered for publication.

1.1.3. Communications

| Communication | Description | Date | Link |
|------------------|---|------------------|---|
| Monitor Newprint | Makerere asks Government for more research funds page | 29 January, 2014 | http://ranlab.org/docs/Monitor_Jan |

| Publications | | | _29_2014.pdf |
|--|---|----------------------------|---|
| The Leadership Magazine | Uganda is challenged by failure to translate theory into practice pages 36 &37 | January issue | http://ranlab.org/docs/Leadership_Magazine_Jan_14.pdf |
| The Leadership Magazine | Makerere invents Malaria Diagnosis | February issue | http://ranlab.org/docs/Leadership_Magazine_February_issue.pdf |
| Innovations Exhibition and launch of the Resilience Innovations Acceleration Program (RIAP) | The workshop presented RAN's design-thinking based innovation approach and provided for understanding of the innovations process, enabling Resilience Innovation Labs (RILabs) Directors and staff to contextualize and customize the process for their RILabs. The workshop also laid the groundwork for the Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) activities in the RILabs, where MOOCs is one of the three top-level objectives of the RAN Program | 25-28 February, 2014 | http://www.ranlab.org/docs/web_presence.pdf |
| The Monitor Publications | Makerere breeds earthworms Use of Scientific innovation to integrate earthworm production into livestock and crop production as the main sources of income for rural areas | 20 March, 2014 | http://ranlab.org/docs/Monitor_Publications_20th_March_2014_page_3.pdf |
| The MakCHS Post, A Quarterly News Bulletin by Makerere University College of Health Sciences, January | Makerere University ResilientAfrica Network (RAN's) Resilience Innovation Acceleration Program launched | January-March 2014 Edition | http://ranlab.org/docs/MaKCHS_Post_January_March_2014.pdf |

I.1.4. Travel

The following international travel using full or partial HESN funding occurred during this reporting period:

| Location (City, Country) | Number of Travelers | Partner(s) Engaged (if applicable) | USAID Engagement (if applicable) | Purpose | Outcome(s) & Next Steps |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|--|--|---|--|
| Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | 3 | Jimma University Benadir University | | RILab Data Analysis Workshop | Provided technical support for qualitative data collection and analysis to define resilience dimensions and develop problem sets for innovators |
| Kampala, Uganda | 9 | Makerere, National University of Rwanda, University of Kinshasa | | RILab Data Analysis Workshop | Provided technical support for qualitative data collection and analysis to define resilience dimensions and develop problem sets for innovators |
| Tamale, Ghana | 2 | Makerere, UDS | | Formal face-to-face discussions of the partnership with the top UDS Management team | University for Development Studies (UDS), Tamale, Ghana signed an agreement to host the West Africa RILab replacing the University of Health and Allied Sciences (UHAS). The top university administrators expressed commitment to the program. Immediate actions included allocation of office space to the project. Since then, RILab activities have now started at this center |
| Kampala, Uganda | 2 | Makerere, Stanford | | DP Stakeholder Workshop | Issues set for Elgon DPs |
| Kampala, Uganda | 3 | Makerere, Tulane, University of Pretoria, UDS, Jimma University | | RAN Retreat | Closer and better interaction between RAN Secretariat staff and RILab Program Coordinators; -Better understanding about RAN reporting structure, Core Values, |

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|----|--|-----|---|---|
| | | | | | Objectives, resilience Framework, Administrative and Financial Rules, as well and M&E strategies -Sharing of Knowledge and experiences on team building and stress management |
| Kampala, Uganda | 14 | All Partners | Yes | Innovation Visioning Workshop | All RILabs understand DT and get a hands-on practice on the different stages of the process, bringing all labs to a common understanding of the innovation approach that RAN has selected. The innovation officers equipped with skills to train DT in their regional labs. |
| Kampala, Uganda | 1 | Makerere, Tulane | | M&E orientation, East Africa RILab Qualitative analysis and Resilience Envisioning Workshop | Provided Monitoring and Evaluation Support to the new M&E manager and Research Officer. Supported the East Africa lab in Qualitative analysis and contributed to guidance for qualitative resilience analysis. Participated in the Resilience Envisioning Workshop and facilitated a session on M&E for Innovations |
| Kinshasa, DRC | 2 | University of Kinshasa /Tulane | | Follow up Analysis Support | Provided technical support for qualitative data collection and analysis to define resilience dimensions and develop problem sets for innovators |
| Pretoria, South Africa | 6 | Tulane, University of Pretoria, University of Limpopo, University of | | Southern Africa Data Analysis Workshop | Provided technical support for qualitative data collection and analysis to define resilience dimensions and develop problem sets for innovators |

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|----|--|-----|--|---|--|
| | | Zimbabwe, Lilongwe university of Science and Technology | | | | |
| Washington, DC | 1 | Rockefeller, USAID | Yes | Global Partnership for Resilience | Tulane met with representatives from USAID and Rockefeller to discuss avenues for utilizing RAN resilience data to support GPR | |
| Tamale, Ghana | 2 | UDS, Tulane | | West Africa Data Analysis Workshop | Provided technical support for qualitative data collection and analysis to define resilience dimensions and develop problem sets for innovators | |
| Kigali, Rwanda | 2 | National University of Rwanda, Tulane | | Rwanda Analysis Workshop | Provided technical support for qualitative data collection and analysis to define resilience dimensions and develop problem sets for innovators | |
| Praia Cape Verde | 1 | RAN Secretariat | | First Africa Innovation Summit (AIS) | The Summit laid the foundation for an ongoing multi stakeholder dialogue and identified potential collaborations with other partners who are driving innovation in Africa. | |
| Kampala, Uganda | 11 | RAN Secretariat/Stanfor d/ RILabs/Tulane | | MOOCs Visioning Workshop | Developed a MOOC design framework and content development guidelines that will guide subsequent MOOC development, piloting and delivery activities at the RILabs | |
| Nairobi, Kenya | 1 | Makerere | | CRS 2014 ICT4D Conference: Building Resilience Through Innovation | Established linkages with partners who are active in resilience programming in the region, and we will continue to pursue collaboration opportunities. | |
| Tamale, Ghana | 2 | UDS, Stanford | | DP Workshop | WA RILab representative trained | |

| | | | | |
|-----------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Kampala, Uganda | I | Makerere, Stanford | DP Working Group Meeting | in DP methodology. Planning for Tamale DP began. Elgon DP issues finalized |
|-----------------|---|--------------------|--------------------------|---|

1.1.5. Solutions (Creation, Testing, Scaling)

The following innovations, technologies, and approaches were supported during this reporting period:

| Name | Type (innovation, technology, approach) | Phase (developed, piloted, adopted, scaled, evaluated) | Beneficiaries Reached (i.e. 10s, 100s, 1000s, more) | Focal Country or Region(s) | Description |
|----------|--|---|---|---------------------------------|--|
| Matibabu | Innovation | Development | | Uganda, Eastern Africa RILab | <p>A team of Makerere University students working on the Matibabu Project met with RAN and Malaria experts from Makerere University College of Health Sciences to establish areas of support of this innovation in January 2014. Their project is a non-invasive technology of diagnosing malaria without pricking the body for blood to test for malaria parasites. The team was advised to register their Innovation and work on determining the sensitivity and specificity of this prototype by carrying out field trials.</p> <p>With the assistance of RAN they had a meeting with the Makerere University Intellectual Property Management Policy office. The team then started on the registration process of their patent under Thinkit limited, a registered technology company and is almost completing the process with the application now in Arippe offices, Zimbabwe for final review.</p> <p>The team also submitted an abstract to a Regional</p> |

Scientific Research conference and is working on a paper/publication of this innovation with the help of the Research Officer. They have made the product better in terms of software development with an improved windows phone version 2.0 and have worked on the android version that was previously not developed. They also participated in giving a Ted talk at UNICEF global innovation event under the theme "innovation for equality."

1.1.6. Datasets

No datasets, and new data-related technologies, tools, approaches and best practices were provided or made accessible to USAID or development stakeholders by the RAN Network during this reporting period. Plans are underway to develop a sharing platform and the discussions are held during the monthly meetings that RAN holds with the HESN data working group. The Eastern Africa RILab has collated its learning from stakeholder consultative meetings into an agenda of policy options to be appraised in the first pilot Deliberative Poll to be conducted in Eastern Uganda, to tackle the effects of climate variability.

1.1.7. Student Engagement

The following student courses or seminars were conducted or developed during this reporting period:

| Course Title | Description of Status | Institution |
|---|--|---------------------|
| Engagement with Tulane's Social Innovation Social Entrepreneurship (Center for Engaged Learning and Training) (7 March, 2014) | DRLA Tulane met with Rebecca Otten, Program Coordinator to brainstorm ways to involve Tulane University students in RAN Innovation Creation. Sofia Pendley will present in the next quarter at Tulane University's Social Innovation Symposium | Tulane University |
| Innovation Visioning Workshop (25-28 February 2014) | Four students from Makerere University attended the Innovation visioning workshop. Multi-disciplinary collaboration in the innovation process is one of the core values of RAN. The students were thus purposefully selected from different disciplines (Engineering, Environmental Sciences, Social Sciences and Information Technology). These will be part of the team that will train other students in Design Thinking and ideation skills; RAN's key approaches to developing innovations. | Stanford University |
| MOOCs Visioning Workshop (20-21 February 2014) | Eight students (a blend of Graduate and Undergraduate | Stanford University |

March, 2014)

students) from the four RILabs were trained on using Design Thinking methodology to develop a MOOC.

-EA RILab: 3 students were nominated from Makerere University and 2 from Gulu University (Network plus partner for EA RILab),

-South Africa RILab: One student participated from University of Pretoria, South Africa.

-Horn of Africa RILab: One student participated from Jimma University in Ethiopia.

-West Africa RILab: One student came from University for Development Studies, Ghana.

Introduction to ATLAS.ti

A one day introduction to ATLAS.ti training was conducted on the 13 March, 2014 to assist students from UP interested in qualitative data analysis. This was done as part of capacity building for the students. Six students out of 13 participants attended the training.

University of Pretoria

The following fellowship and internship programs and field practica took place during the reporting period:

| Program or Practicum Name | Host Institution(s) | Program Location (City, Country) | Student Type (undergrad, masters, PhD, undergrad/grad) | Description |
|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--|
| Research Assistantships | Tulane University | New Orleans, La | Masters | Tulane's DRLA recently hired two research assistants to aid in the resilience framework research and reporting activities. |
| Qualitative data collection | Makerere University School of Public Health | Kampala, Uganda | Undergraduate and Masters | 16 students from Makerere university trained in qualitative data collection methodologies and qualitative data analysis using ATLAS.ti Software. |
| Qualitative data collection | National University of Rwanda School of Public Health | Kigali, Rwanda | Masters students (MPH) | 3 students from the school of Public Health trained in qualitative data collection methodologies/techniques. |
| Qualitative data collection | Kinshasa School of Public Health | Kinshasa, DRC | Masters students (MPH) | 4 students from the school of Public Health trained in qualitative data collection methodologies/techniques. |

Part 2: Intra-Development Lab/ University Engagement

2.1 Interdisciplinary Collaboration

| RAN Partner | Interdisciplinary Activity | Collaborating academic units |
|-------------|---|---|
| Tulane DRLA | Formal and Informal discussions on how the departments could work together and provide opportunities for cross-collaboration between students, faculty and staff. | School of Social Work, School of Architecture, A.b. Freeman School of Business, School of Law, School of Public Health and Tropical medicine Center for Engaged Learning (CELT) and the Social Innovation Social Entrepreneurship Program (SISE) |
| HoA RILab | Data analysis and report writing | Three of the interdisciplinary team members |
| | Sharing of calls for research and innovation applications to staff | Jimma University, Addis Ababa University and Benadir University |
| | Involvement of faculty in the training on qualitative data analysis using ATLAS.ti | College of Public Health and Medical Sciences, College of Social Sciences and Law, Institute of Technology, and College of Natural Sciences |
| EA RILab | The innovation exhibition, and Innovation Visioning and MOOCs workshops | School of Social Sciences, Computer Science, Engineering, Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Food Science and Bio engineering, School of Law, College of Health Sciences, Art and Industrial design |
| SA RILab | A stakeholder engagement strategy has been drafted. To formalize collaborations a joint stakeholder meeting was organized by SA RILab and AAUN at University of Pretoria (UP). The meeting was aimed at discussing potential synergies and introducing the project to potential advisory committee members. The outcome of the meeting was sharing of a 2011 data on Food Security collected from all 6 districts in rural areas in Limpopo with researchers from Institute of Food, Nutrition and Well-being from the Faculty of Agriculture at UP in collaboration with researchers from University of Stellenbosch. No formal relationships have been forged with the Innovation Hub but meetings have been held | Faculty of Agriculture, Faculty of Education, Department of Education Innovation, Educational Psychology and Faculty of Engineering, |

to discuss on working together.

Development of tools and data collection to ensure that the tools developed are interrogated by people with varied and vast research expertise and in the end are good and simple to use at community level.

Faculty of Social Studies, College of Health Sciences and the Faculty of Agriculture from University of Zimbabwe. Faculty of Humanities and Faculty of Sciences and Agriculture (School of Agricultural Sciences and School of Social Sciences) with different backgrounds – that is Animal Production, Agricultural Economics, and Public Health Social Work from University of Limpopo.

2.2. Partner Engagement

The following partners were engaged during the reporting period:

| Partner | Partnership Funded (Funded, In kind, Unfunded) | Location (City) | Location (Country) | Relevant Activity Number(s) (if applicable) | Outcome(s) |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------|--------------------|---|--|
| Tulane University | Funded | New Orleans | USA | | Tulane has continued to support RILabs in the analysis of qualitative data collected during the community consultations. The outcomes of this analysis will be the identification of the resilience dimensions and drafting the problem sets that will guide the innovators. |
| Stanford University | Funded | Stanford | USA | | Stanford university has conducted three important activities: - Innovation visioning workshop led by Prof Banny - MOOCs workshop by a team led by Margarita - Deliberative polling Workshops in EA RILab and WA RILab led by Prof. James Fishkin |
| Benadir University | Funded | Mogadishu | Somalia | -Qualitative data analysis and report writing -Grants applications for research and innovations | -Preliminary report was shared -Preliminary resilience dimensions were shared -Information on grants applications was timely shared and receipt was acknowledged. |
| Research Team at Jimma University | Funded | Jimma Town | Ethiopia | -Qualitative data analysis and report writing - Grants applications for research and innovations | -Preliminary report was shared -Preliminary resilience dimensions were shared -Information on grants applications was timely shared and receipt was acknowledged. |
| Addis Ababa University | Funded | Addis Ababa | Ethiopia | -Grants applications for research and | -Information on grants applications was timely shared and receipt was acknowledged. |

| innovations | | | | |
|---|----------|----------|--------------|--|
| Medical Research Council of South Africa | Unfunded | Pretoria | South Africa | E-mail correspondence was made by Dr K Rendall-Mkosi with Prof R Jewkes of the Medical Research Council in Pretoria (Director: MRC Gender & Health Research Unit). We may collaborate in the future on the issue of men's use of clinic services and poor ART uptake |
| Medical Research Council of South Africa | Unfunded | Pretoria | South Africa | Discussion held by Dr K Rendall-Mkosi with Prof N Morojele of Medical Research Council in Pretoria (Deputy Director: Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Unit). She would be interested in being on the Resilience Innovations Advisory Committee, and collaborating on any substance abuse related interventions. |
| Academy of Science of South Africa(ASSAF) | Unfunded | Pretoria | South Africa | The RILab Director Prof Ayo-Yusuf had a meeting with the Senior Liaison Officer and SA RILab now has the potential to reach out to 300 graduate students from the Academy to pilot MOOCs. |
| University College of Education | Unfunded | Winneba | Ghana | Visit to site and presentation of letter of interest and draft MOU to Focal Person paving the way for signing of MOU next quarter |
| Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar (UCAD) | Unfunded | Dakar | Senegal | Email exchanges and letter of introduction and draft MOU to Vice Chancellor paving the way for signing of MOU next quarter |
| Université de Bamako | Unfunded | Bamako | Mali | Email exchanges and letter of introduction and draft MOU to Vice Chancellor paving the way for signing of MOU next quarter |

Part 3: High Value Areas of Collaboration [HVAC] (HESN Lab-to-HESN Lab)

3.1. Summary of collaboration across the HESN

3.1.1. Data

| Partner HESN Lab | Activity Number (if applicable) | Completed / Ongoing Activity | Outcome(s) |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| AidData – William and Mary (Contact: Alena Stern) | 1.4, 1.5, 2.3 | Ongoing | AidData has been collaborating with Tulane’s DRLA and assisting as the RAN team begins to look at developing the quantitative baseline tool. AidData will collaborate with Tulane’s DRLA in possibly adding a geocoded component to the quantitative survey. Necessary training will be determined in Q3. |
| Global Center for Food Systems Innovation (GCFSI) - Michigan State University (MSU) | | Ongoing | The Global Center for Food Systems Innovation (GCFSI) Lab under MSU has expressed interest to partner with the Department of Food science, Nutrition and Bioengineering under the College of Agriculture Environment and Natural Sciences, Makerere University. The partnership will focus on issues of food security in the target communities in Uganda |

3.1.2. Solutions (Creation, Testing, Scaling)

In this reporting period there were no solutions activities performed in collaboration with HESN partners

3.1.3. Student Engagement

| Partner HESN Lab | Activity Number (if applicable) | Completed / Ongoing Activity | Outcome(s) |
|---|---------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| HESN Student Engagement and Innovation Workgroup (SEI WG) 26 March, 2014 | | Ongoing | <p>During the TechCon - November 2013, the SEI working group was started to connect HESN universities. SEI WG has monthly calls to discuss strategies and activities to engage and promote students within their own labs, and ideas and opportunities to promote SEI across the network.</p> <p>Third meeting: Three students from Makerere University (EA RILab) participated on the conference call and shared their experiences on the importance of Design Thinking (DT) skills to a student Innovator, some of the helpful rules of structured brainstorming as a critical step in DT, ingredients of</p> |

| | | |
|--|---------|--|
| | | <p>rapid prototyping that can help a student innovator synthesize and frame a problem and the best way of building an innovation culture among students. During this call, these students were also able to hear from the team from MSU on GCFSI - Translational Scholar Program. GCFSI is developing a competency based program. As they design it, they would like to develop a pilot course over the summer, and implement in the Fall. They asked for collaborative input from other HESN partners going forward. The program will be more open to other students, perhaps with a MOOC structure or LMS environment. Students from RAN partner universities have an opportunity to participate.</p> |
| AidData Summer Internship Fellowship Program. (Call for Student Participation February 2014) | Ongoing | <p>AidData circulated a call for RAN universities to participate in their Summer Internship Program from May - August 2014.</p> <p>The AidData Summer Fellows program provides students with an opportunity to understand and influence how local universities, civil society organizations and research institutions incorporate data into their decision-making under the theme leveraging open, subnational data to solve development challenges. Selected Summer Fellows spend one week at the AidData Center for Development Policy in Williamsburg, VA for an intensive training boot camp and then travel to their host organization. These students work closely with their host organizations to build capacity to leverage AidData's geospatial data and tools and to identify opportunities to incorporate those tools into the organization's work.</p> <p>For this cohort, Two students from Makerere University have been selected among many that expressed interest and will work at Transparency International and Agency for Transformation Organisations in Uganda.</p> |
| Big Ideas at University of California Berkeley (Participating Universities; William & Mary, Texas A& M, Duke, Makerere University and UC Berkeley) | Ongoing | <p>2 Teams (5 students in total) submitted their Final proposals for seed grants to the Big ideas competition which closed on 15th March 2014. The Grand Prize Pitch day is on 6th May and the Awards Ceremony is on 8th May.</p> |
| GCFSI Summer internship positions for undergraduate and graduate students | Ongoing | <p>Through the SEI WG monthly call in February the GCFSI Call for student internship was shared and this was publicized with in RAN's network of Universities. A core element of the GCFSI's mission is to engage students across campuses and across departments. As part of this effort, development Internships</p> |

(enrolled at accredited universities worldwide)

HESN SEI WG Call
February 2014

were made available for students in the summer of 2014. These internships are meant to expose students to development work globally and to stimulate their thinking on solving challenges facing the global food systems. GCFSI sponsored internees are expected to work in developing countries on projects related to food systems along the entire value chain ranging from production, to processing, to packaging, to transportation. Students will also be placed on projects related to workforce training, gender, and use of ICTs as they relate to the food systems.

The following HESN Opportunities were shared with Universities in RAN:

1. Conflict and Development at Texas A&M unique student grant opportunity for any student at an accredited university worldwide. Students can earn up to \$5000. The deadline for applications is 14 May, 2014. The Student Media Grants Program is an annual photojournalism grant awarded to students interested in using innovative methods to research and chronicle issues facing fragile and conflict-affected nations. They should choose an international development area that reflects issues of food insecurity, health, education, land tenure, poverty, and other issues faced by people in fragile and conflict-affected nations. To apply, visit: <http://condevcenter.org/smgp-2014-open-for-proposals/>
2. Michigan State University's Global Center for Food Systems Innovation intends to issue a Request for Application (RFA) in April, 2014. The goal of this RFA will be to create innovation in the global food system by finding, incubating and evaluating new and potentially disruptive knowledge and technology based solutions to development challenges, with an emphasis on problems deriving from population growth, climate change and urbanization. GCFSI will provide funding of up to \$2,050,000 through three levels of grants in one RFA. To learn more, visit: <http://www.crdfglobal.org/grants-and-grantees/current-funding-opportunities/2014/03/06/advance-notice-for-rfa--msu-gcfsi-food-systems-innovation-grants-2014>
3. The Africa Engineering Prize program sponsored by the Royal Academy for Engineering, intended to spotlight and support African engineers working on development challenges.
4. The Desal Prize, under the Securing Water for Food, aims to develop cost-effective, energy efficient, and environmentally sustainable small-scale desalination technology that provides potable water for humans, as well as water appropriate for livestock and crops in developing countries. Up to \$500,000 in prize money and \$75,000 in seed money will be awarded to individuals or organizations through the Desal Prize.
5. All Children Reading: A Grand Challenge for Development (ACR GCD) launched its second round of competition to unearth and champion solutions to improve child literacy. Through both a grant competition and a software-themed prize competition, ACR GCD aims to catalyze the creation and expansion of innovations and programs that leverage the transformative power of technology to leapfrog existing challenges

and empower children to read. Approximately three awards per focus area will be made, with a total of \$900,000 available under each focus area, and with the flexibility to make more or less awards.

6. Study abroad scholarship program from GCFSI at MSU. RAN students were eligible <http://gcfsi.isp.msu.edu/news/1540/gcfsi-announces-study-abroad-scholarships-2014/>
7. The fourth RFA for the Saving Lives at Birth Grand Challenge, global problem solvers invited to answer the call for groundbreaking prevention and treatment approaches for pregnant women and newborns in poor, hard-to-reach communities around the time of childbirth. The partners anticipate awarding 25 seed grants and 5 transition-to-scale grants as a result of the final RFA. The actual number of awards in each category may vary. Applications are due 27 March 2014, 2pm EST. To apply: <http://savinglivesatbirth.net/apply>.
8. Amplify Program, an exciting opportunity to collaborate with citizens, scientists, development professionals, and others around the world to solve development challenges via a new initiative. DFID and the human-centered design gurus at [IDEO.org](http://www.ideo.org) have teamed up to create a set of 10 open-innovation development challenges - the first of which focuses on women and girls' safety in urban areas. This is your chance to share your ideas, knowledge, and experience with others through the OpenIDEO platform and help contribute to the development of human-centered solutions to improving women and girls' well-being. Contact Maurice Kent (mkent@usaid.gov) or Lynlee Tanner Stapleton (lstapleton@usaid.gov) for additional information, including how to get more involved in current or future Amplify challenges. To apply, visit <http://www.ideo.org/amplify>.
9. The Development Impact Lab (DIL) invited requests of up to \$200,000 to support the innovative use of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) to address a major problem in the developing world. Approximately 5 grants of \$50,000 to \$200,000 to be awarded in this round of funding. The deadline to apply is 31 March, 2014 at 11:59 PM Pacific Time. Visit: <http://dil.berkeley.edu/technology-portfolio/competitions-incentives/spring-2014-rfa/>

Part 4: USAID Engagement

4.1. USAID/Washington Interactions

Prof. Ky Luu from Tulane University met with USAID representatives at their Washington D.C. Office 19-20 March, 2014 to discuss avenues for utilizing RAN resilience data in the USAID/Rockefeller Foundation recent collaboration - Global Partnership for Resilience. He also met with Tara Hill and Margaret Linak of HESN to provide updates on resilience data collection from each of the four RILabs.

In this quarter RAN Lab has had about 12 telephone meetings with the USAID Washington DC team to discuss administrative issues and provide updates on technical progress.

4.2. USAID Mission Interactions

RAN secretariat represented by the Director of innovation, the Communications manager, and the M&E Manager had a meeting with the USAID Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Contract team at their offices in Bugolobi on 17 February, 2014. Another meeting was held in the same place on 18 March 2014 with two additional RAN staff: the director for resilience and the research officer. At the Innovation visioning workshop held at Kampala from 25- 28 February, 2014, we also interacted with the Learning and Adaptation Specialist, Mr. Mwesigwa Bikie Isharaza from USAID Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Contract. This is a USAID-funded activity and their main objective is to build monitoring and evaluation practice in USAID and implementing partners, and also works to support organizational improvement in application of collaborating, learning and adapting capacities. We have had discussions on how we can collaborate in order to learn, share and benefit from the vast knowledge created by RAN or accessed from across other networks. Mr. Mwesigwa also linked us with Mr. Hadas Kushnir, the Climate Change Advisor, and Mr. Geeta Uhl the Environment Officer, Economic Growth Office at USAID / Uganda with whom we will further explore collaborations particularly on climate change, one of RAN Lab themes, with the USAID/Uganda Education and Research to Improve Climate Change and Adaptation Activity.

As a continuation from the Horn of Africa RILab's initial engagement in the first year, a meeting was held with the officials and staff of USAID Mission in Ethiopia on 9 January, 2014. The major points discussed at the meeting were: i) Progress report on Overall RAN Activities; ii) Progress report on the resilience project of HoA RILab; iii) Suggested date for the External Stakeholders' Forum of HoA RILab; and iv) Plan for Cooperation, and getting the list of focal persons at USAID Mission in Ethiopia. The outcomes of the meeting were quite encouraging as the participants from USAID Mission appreciated the resilience programs of RAN in general and those of HoA RILab in particular, and they showed great interest in strengthening collaboration and support.

Dr Donald Makoka from the SA RILab, had a meeting with Kerry Reeves the Environmental Officer; Science and Technology Officer, USAID/Southern Africa at the Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources (LUANAR) campus on 4 February, 2014. Dr Kerry Reeves' visit was to promote two funding initiatives that have not been fully exploited by Malawian researchers and development agencies. Dr Makoka and Dr Kerry Reeves discussed the possibilities that RAN researchers can apply for the two initiatives, as a collaborative project involving a number of countries in the African region. The two initiatives include:

- Partnership for Enhanced Engagement in Research (PEER) Science. This is a USAID-funded program that supports scientists and engineers in developing countries who are focused on collaboratively solving major development challenges and building in-country research capacity. The research projects are formed through USAID's partnership with the US National Science Foundation. More details are available at www.nationalacademies.org/peerscience
- Grand Challenges for Development initiative.

Part 5: Monitoring & Evaluation

5.1. Progress Narrative

The RAN Lab is on track with the M&E targets for this reporting period. With regards to objective one, RAN Lab has successfully completed community consultations for assessment of resilience factors. Qualitative datasets have been compiled and the Lab has gone through the steps (coding of qualitative data, analyzing them manually and using ATLAS.ti software) to define resilience dimensions. The processes of refining the resilience dimensions and the measures on how to share the datasets with stakeholders are still ongoing. In the forthcoming resilience workshop and partners meeting in May 2014, each RILab will draw on data from qualitative assessments to derive the resilience dimensions and problem sets and discussions will be conducted with partners in order to come up with a working set of resilience dimensions. Similarly data that will be obtained from the Deliberative polling will inform RAN Lab on the policy options to resilience challenges as identified by the community.

Given that this quarter focused mostly on collecting and processing qualitative datasets which are yet to be finalized for dissemination, there was no data to report on dataset dissemination indicators. A number of qualitative datasets have been compiled and plans for sharing them are still ongoing with the HESN data working group. A dataset is defined as a set of information similar on the following characteristics: respondent category, theme, geographical location and/or collection method. RAN Lab will draw on the sharing platform developed by HESN to share the datasets with stakeholders and we hope these will be shared in quarter 3.

Regarding objective two, resilience innovation visioning workshop was conducted to equip trainers with the skills to pass on to other trainees at the resilience innovation Laboratories (RILabs) which are expected to implement the skill attained in quarter 3. RAN Lab is still in contact with the team of Makerere University innovators working on the project called MATIBABU which was reported in the first year. The team is in the final process of registration of their patent with their application in Arippa office in Zimbabwe for final review. RAN Lab anticipates that the abstract the team submitted to a regional scientific conference that will be held at Makerere University in June 2014 will result in a publication. Similarly, to address objective three, the workshop on Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) visioning was conducted and efforts are underway for the trained participants to train other trainees in the RILabs. Although most of the objective two and three indicators are not reported in this quarter, these workshops have laid a good ground for the indicators to be realized in the next quarters.

In this quarter the M&E plan has undergone an iterative process of review by USAID and revision by RAN Lab in order to address the comments raised. As a result of the revisions to the M&E plan in March 2014, two HESN indicators, IR 2.3in1 and O3in3 have been added to the reporting template. RAN Lab has addressed the comments USAID raised in April and the revised M&E plan will soon be submitted back for review. As part of the revisions to the M&E plan RAN the Lab will discuss and set meaningful targets for the two indicators above and other indicators in the plan for which targets are not yet set. We also note that the current targets for some indicators will be revised at the end of the year to feasible values. Particularly, indicators 1.2 R.a (based on the number of datasets available) and 3.3 H.d are below what was realized in this quarter while indicator 1.3 H.a is higher than what is now anticipated from the RILabs.

Over the past year, Tulane University's DRLA supported RAN's secretariat (with input from USAID) to develop a monitoring and evaluation plan that outlines RAN's strategy for measuring performance and exercising data driven program implementation. RAN's secretariat had staff transitions; a new M&E Manager was hired on 17 February, 2014. The RAN-Tulane Research Faculty traveled to RAN's secretariat in Kampala for 2 weeks to participate in the new M&E manager's orientation.

With the support of the Director of Resilience, DCoP and other Secretariat staff, RAN-Tulane Research Faculty (Dr. Apollo Nkwake) accomplished the following:

1. Held discussions and clarifications on RAN's M&E plan (including indicator definitions, targets and target assumptions, etc).
2. Held discussions on Quarterly data path, RILab reporting tools, timelines, and data quality assurance/audit plans.
3. Participated with M&E Manager and DRLA Senior Program Manager in starting to collate mid Q2 data.
4. Participated with M&E Manager, Director of Resilience and DRLA Senior Program Manager in organizing at least 2 virtual discussions with RILab M&E officers.
5. Discussed plans for developing RAN's indicator database. The M&E Manager designed an excel spreadsheet to collect the data on indicators from the RILabs. However, we intend in future to develop a web-based M&E system across the RILabs and the RAN secretariat to enable easier and quicker collection and tracking of data.
6. Held discussions with RAN's innovations team on performance and impact measurement.
7. Held discussions with RAN team on strategy for development of problem sets.
8. Held discussions with RAN team on strategy for development of customized resilience survey tools for the RILabs.

Part 6: Lessons Learned/Best Practices

As the various country teams progress in their data collection and analysis, challenges around the developing/evolving methodology have come up repeatedly. These challenges revolve around analyzing the various data sets with a harmonized approach, while not over-prescribing the methodology so that each context, country, and set of expertise is free to fully explore their data. Countries that are further along in their data analysis have had the challenge of serving as 'pioneers' in the process. Their successes and shortcomings in data analysis serve to inform the other labs in their on-going analysis. The valuable outcome of this is the collaborative process across the continent that is both building capacity and enriching the methodology. One key lesson learned is the importance of documenting and sharing these methodological lessons in a timely, uniform manner.

Another challenge is creating the links between the resilience research and the innovation teams. The data must serve to inform the innovations, without becoming defined/limited by pre-conceived innovations, or by the innovative ideas of the researchers themselves (though the researchers are encouraged to participate in the innovation process after the data analysis is complete). The drafting of problem-set templates that provide guidance on how to summarize the resilience research findings to best support the innovation teams is ongoing. In this quarter, several drafts were developed, shared, and comments were incorporated to strengthen this tool.

The West Africa RILab noted that a Stakeholder Advisory Group is critical for the successful conduct of a DP and needs to work alongside the DP WG as a need to work with the local government system to ensure decisions of a DP are implemented.

Where gender stratification is entrenched in the fabric of a particular community or where the population is predominantly Muslim, it may be necessary to organise small groups for a DP according to gender to allow for more open and frank discussions so that the two groups can come together at plenary. It is recommended that the confidential questionnaire administration stage should be used to determine if groups can be composed using the original DP design and still guarantee free and open deliberations.

The Southern Africa RILab notes for the team in Malawi the major lesson for data collection was the use of community structures and institutions which vulnerable groups belong. It was very instrumental in identifying the 'hard to reach' study respondents that were willing to share their stories and experiences with the research team. The research team used the National Association of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Malawi (NAPHAM) to assist in identifying households that are affected by HIV/AIDS to take part in the FGDs. NAPHAM is well established even at the village level and has members in the communities in Malawi who have disclosed their HIV status and live positively. In both Zimbabwe and Limpopo they also used local community members to approach a potential participant which was useful in getting communities to participate and establishing a potentially long-term and sustained engagement, which would be key to the success of this project.

Part 7: Future Activities

The third quarter will be a busy and exciting time for the RAN resilience work. We anticipate revving up our efforts to provide technical assistance to RILabs and partners as they finish coding their qualitative data, develop resilience dimensions, identify problem sets and utilize their findings to build bridges to innovations.

Tulane will organize and lead a Resilience Workshop in Kampala, Uganda from 6-8 May, 2014 to disseminate and discuss resilience findings and outline next steps for utilizing findings to develop innovative solutions to Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA)'s most-pressing challenges. Tulane also will take the lead in planning the annual RAN Partner's Meeting from May 9 – 10 in Kampala, Uganda. During the Meeting, DRLA will share lessons learned from qualitative findings and its resilience framework and help develop a successful strategy for Year 3.

Prof William Bazeyo, Prof David Sserwadda, Dr Wanjiku Nganga and Prof. Ky Luu will represent RAN at the Director's Meeting in Washington DC 15 – 17 April, 2014.

At the culmination of the second quarter, CSIS will complete, in collaboration with Tulane and the broader network, the first annual *State of sub-Saharan African Resilience* report, intended to demonstrate the Resilient Africa Network's value by examining each RILab's approach to building resilience in its target communities using the network's innovative Resilience Framework and profiling the RILabs' findings. The intended audience of the report will be two-fold: First a policy audience, less familiar with the concept of resilience. To this audience the report will offer examples of how resilience analysis can deepen understanding of development challenges and inform development choices. Second, an implementing audience, more familiar with the concept of resilience, for whom the report will provide rigorous, empirical evidence of how vulnerability and resilience play out in specific, localized contexts.

March-May 2014: CSIS staff will hold a series of structured interviews with each of the lab directors, to draw out progress within the labs and lay out the context of the specific communities with which the labs are working. CSIS will also draft the opening chapters of the report, conveying the purpose and progress of the RAN and the RAN's approach to resilience analysis.

April-June 2014: CSIS staff will work with Tulane and the labs to process and convey the findings of the individual labs in analyzing resilience vulnerability in their respective communities. It will assist in formatting and lay out of the final *State of Resilience* report. Estimated publication date of the report is June-July 2014.

West Africa RILab will in the next quarter (May 14-16) sign an MOU with the University College of Education in Winneba (UCEW) Ghana as discussions advance to include a fourth network plus university in Ghana. The RILab WA team will travel to Senegal and Mali in the middle of next quarter (18-23 May) to sign an MOU with the two universities (Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar - UCAD and Université de Bamako respectively).

The Horn of Africa RILab plans to strengthen its initial link with Kenya (University of Nairobi) and create more links and partnerships with some strategically important universities in Ethiopia, such as Bule Hora and Haramaya, so that we can broaden the HoA RILab network for better performance and results.

A set of two Deliberative Polls will be held in the Elgon Region of Uganda in July 2014. Plans are underway to have approval of the questionnaire by the end of Q3. Ongoing planning activities via weekly calls with the CDD team and the EA RILab DP work group will continue throughout Q3. Similarly, the CDD will engage with the WA RILab DP group to begin plans for the Ghana DP project as a result of the successful DP Workshop held in Tamale, Ghana in March 2014. This activity is related to Objective 1.5.

Part 8: Appendices

Appendix 8.1 Videos of the Innovation Visioning Workshop

URL: http://ranlab.org/workshop/Innovation_Visioning_workshop.3gp

Appendix 8.2 Summary of the Innovation Visioning Workshop by Rand Robinson, USID Uganda Mission

I wanted to offer USAID a read-out on a Design, Innovation and Visioning Workshop hosted late February by USAID's Resilience Africa Network in Uganda. The workshop was facilitated by a widely-respected, re-known systems designer, Banny Banerjee, founder of Stanford University's Design for Change Labs.

I attended most of this workshop with about @25 mostly African professionals from RAN's research network where Banerjee rapidly drove us through/experienced an Innovative Design Methodology that. To address today's deeply protracted socio-development challenges, Change Lab's approach focuses on appreciating and invoking systems analysis, management sciences, and social economics, among other fields to promote new, significantly broader perspectives for design thinking, striving to develop aptitudes and design standards that are Not 'provincial', outperforms today's normative modes, and offer Real Scale and broader, transformational change.

Given that our living conditions and challenges are now so stressed, the world needs @40% more freshwater by 2030 and @50% more food as just two of these, and problems we face may well outstrip our current response capacities, then **governments, industries and leading actors need to develop much fresher, FAster bolder design thinking capacities than we use today**. In our workshop, small groups addressed and designed (quick, tentative interventions/prototypes) around some very tough, innovations challenges like:

Earn As You Learn: How might we combine micro-work and education?

Education As Business: How might we get rural entrepreneurs to provide high-quality education as a business?

Govern Thyself: How might we teach people to create better self-governance?

Thinking about and working on such challenges is, as it felt like in our groups and as Banny puts it, like '**Cutting Cubes Out of Fog**', where both the process and outcome are unclear, and seeing how Foggy Projects can become more like Movies, whereby the process is pretty clear, but outcomes usually not.

This is extremely ambitious way of looking at our design world. Donors today still follow relatively much simpler design guidance for promoting socio-economic change and our perceptual lenses remain relatively constrained.

Yes, Designers are often accustomed to invoking deductive and inductive thinking, but not **ABductive thinking (imagining possibilities that don't yet exist) or RETROductive thinking (imagining rules, policies, regulations that don't yet exist)** and imagine/discuss/model how people would behave and resources treated under such conditions.

Rather than ordinarily ineffective "Ground Rules" for the workshop, like Be Respectful and Cell Phones Off, ours paid attention to '**Potential Failure Modes**'. These included Thinking only Incrementally, Getting Convergent and Divergent Thinking Modes Associated with Different Design Exercises Confused, Not Being Human/Client-centered or 'hands-on'/free-riding. We spent the week furiously working through a Design Arc, including Need Finding, discerning between "What Is/Appears to Be There" vs. "What's *Actually* There", and how to get Real Insights with end users/beneficiaries (an Art Often Lost or Short-Circuited), framing challenges creatively. Our small groups posed a **Series of "How Might We..." questions** to break down, generate concepts, open up lines of investigation and generate 'creative confidence' for exploring how to address our larger innovation challenges.

Groups then brainstormed potential solutions, thought about an 'acupuncture-like' approach/selected down from among most promising, and rapidly produced/even actually built!, and **presented 'prototype' models, ideas,--all 'low-resolution solutions'** that helped align our thinking and conversations which our design groups then tested, iterated, and got helpful feedback from rotating groups. The workshop's speed and productivity were masterfully orchestrated.

Banerjee maintains that the aptitudes for more earnest Design Thinking---built around Visions, Experiences, Systems, Strategies and Interventions-- represent the new form of Today's Leadership competencies so needed in business schools, politics and organizational life, and one that frames Big Problems creatively, gets The Right People together in conversations that generate much more innovative, bolder strategies, solutions, and paradigms for imagining new futures, markets, and transforming systems. The concept, "Innovation", should be seen as providing *both* short and long-term benefits (often we consider one or the other but not both) and mostly just demonstrating Courage/Convictions and Gumption in challenging the status quo in our Design Thinking.

What Implications Could Such Design Thinking Have For USAID? Because of deeply entrenched political, cultural and administrative practices and perspectives in directing and designing our foreign assistance programs, it may well be unrealistic an organization as complex as USAID can hope to get beyond still relatively uni-dimensional, 'not-as inter-team-consultative/developing New Ideas Approach-as-we-would like', Results Framework-oriented project design practices.

On the other hand, recently USAID is promoting a push towards 'Complexity', asking staff to develop a better understanding of (system) relationships, boundaries and perspectives and otherwise 'significantly augmented' considerations, and analyses, for more holistic project design, implementation and evaluation.

USAID/Uganda's Feed the Future experience is increasingly reflective of appreciating some of such perspectives and adopting, what we call, a 'facilitative approach' to project implementation. Some aspects of USAID's facilitative approach used here in Uganda might be what Banerjee calls 'Designing for Change in Behavior'. Either way, what we right now still call a 'facilitative approach' in USAID/Uganda may be 'mis or under-named' (i.e., understood).

Finally, USAID's own veteran designers and interested technical/sector 'experts', perhaps by creating more active **Communities of Practice and Exchange**, as Designer Scholars and Practitioners, could try to 'keep apace' as to how Stanford's Change Labs and an increasingly larger number of progressive, socially-minded businesses are looking at how to address larger, trans-disciplinary social change challenges. Developing more robust design and innovation protocols for addressing some of the world's increasingly vexing and really urgent problems should be one of USAID's central interests. Were we to understand how to use the proper software, even some basic **computer modeling** could be used, in some cases, to test our proposed design interventions, surface and check our programming assumptions and making output/outcome projections.

A fascinating, broad presentation of Design and Innovation Thinking by Banny Banerjee is linked here:

<http://talkminer.com/viewtalk.jsp?videoid=KXdp2UwYFW8&q=&row=1&N=5#.UxRjLvmSwdo>

Appendix 8.3 More Girls needed in Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) (New Vision Publications Thursday 13 February, 2014)

URL: <http://www.newvision.co.ug/news/652546-more-girls-needed-in-ict.html-->

Link to screenshots: http://www.ranlab.org/docs/More_Girls_needed_in_ICT.pdf

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