

REGIONAL COOPERATION: AFRICA 2008

NETWORK: **Food Science and Nutrition Network for Africa (FOSNNA)**

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IPICS grants:	k-SEK
2000	80
2001	177
2002	351
2003	109
2004	167
2005	253
2006	183
2007	322
<u>2008</u>	<u>255</u>
Total	1897

SUMMARY OF THE NETWORK

Food Science plays an important role in improving food accessibility and wholesomeness through improvement of shelf life, organoleptic properties, nutritional value, quality and marketability. It also has a role to play in poverty alleviation through enhanced food security and makes food suitable for special groups such as young children, pregnant and nursing mothers, the sick and elderly. Whereas Food Science has the potential of improving the livelihood of the people, nutrition deficiencies remains among the major public health problems in Africa and constitutes one of the principal causes of morbidity and mortality, particularly among the vulnerable groups. It is, therefore, important to integrate these two disciplines in order to address some of these issues.

Currently, circulation of information and exchange of knowledge in Food Science and Nutrition research in African countries is minimal. Further, little is also happening on the transfer of knowledge in solving problems at the ground level. It is against this background that the idea of establishing a Food Science and Nutrition Network in Africa (FOSNNA) was mooted.

FOSNNA is apolitical, non-sectarian and non-profit making network for professional and individuals working or interested in food and nutrition related area. The Network aims at providing an opportunity for exchanging of ideas among food scientists in Africa and knows each other through Internet, workshops and symposia. It addresses challenges related to R&D and how

to generate additional information that can improve transfer of technology. The Network was inaugurated in February 2002 during the first biennial scientific conference held in Dar as Salaam, Tanzania. 64 participants from 17 countries in Africa attended.

Scope of the work

- Promote collaborative research in food science and nutrition among African countries
- Linking members through internet
- Organise food science and nutrition conferences and workshops
- Provide information and facilitate exchange of researchers, students and technicians
- Encourage public-private partnerships in product development, diversification of products, and problems solving
- Encourage open laboratory system among member countries of the network
- Provide food science and nutrition information through mass media and producing printed information

Training, Research visits:

Participant (no of months; year)	Home Institute	Host scientist/Host Institute
Achu Mercy Bih (3 m; 2006)	Univ. of Yaounde, Cameroon	Clerge Tchiegang, Lab Food Science and Nutrition, ENSAI/UT, Ngaoundere
Akande Emmanuel Adedapo (3 m; 2006)	Univ. of Ibadan, Nigeria	Francis Mathooko, Jomo Kenyatta Univ. , Kenya
Bamwirie David Fosri (3 m; 2006)	Makerere University, Uganda	Francis Mathooko, Jomo Kenyatta Univ. , Kenya
George Oko (3 m; 2006)	Univ. of Nairobi, Kenya	Francis Mathooko, Jomo Kenyatta Univ. , Kenya
Samson Tafesse (3 m; 2006)	Ethiopian Health Nutr. Res. Institute, Ethiopia	Francis Mathooko, Jomo Kenyatta Univ. , Kenya
Demasse Mawamba Adelaide (3 m; 2006)	Univ. of Douala, Cameroon	Touridomon Issa Some, Lab de Chimie Analytique Univ Ouagadougou , Burkina Faso
Aweke Kebeke (3 m; 2006)	Ethiopian Health Nutr. Res. Institute, Ethiopia	Drug Administration and Control Agency, Ethiopia
54 students from KIST (1 m; 2006)	KIST, Rwanda	Francis Mathooko, Jomo Kenyatta University , Kenya
Mekonnen Tizazu (3 m; 2007)	Dept of Chem Engeneering, AAU, Ethiopia	Tedesse, Bahr Dar University, Ethiopia

Richard John Mongi (3 m; 2007)	Univ Agriculture, Tanzania	Francis Mathooko, Jomo Kenyatta Univ. , Kenya
Elizabeth Adalakun (3 m; 2007)	Univ of Tech, Ogbomoso, Nigeria	Maryna van de Venter, Nelson Mandela Metrop Univ. South Africa
Michael Afolabi (3 m; 2007)	Univ of Ibadan, Nigeria	Francis Mathooko, Jomo Kenyatta Univ. , Kenya
Lucy Gakuya (3 m; 2007)	Jomo Kenyatta Univ, Kenya	Simon Mahungu. Egerton Univ, Kenya
Monica Wanjiku Mburu (3 m; 2007)	Jomo Kenyatta Univ, Kenya	Joyce Kikafunda, Dept Food Science, Makere University, Uganda
Simon Ochanda (3 m; 2007)	Jomo Kenyatta Univ, Kenya	Joyce Kikafunda, Dept Food Science, Makere University, Uganda
Martin Alain Mune (3 m; 2007)	Univ of Yaounde, Cameroon	Mbombe, Inst of Med Research and Med Plants Studies (IMPM), Cameroon
Abate Mekonnen (3 m; 2007)	Chem. Eng., AAU, Ethiopia	Ato Eneyew Tadesse, Bahr Dar University