



FinCEAL+ DEVELOPING FINNISH SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION COOPERATION BETWEEN EUROPE AND AFRICA



Finnish-SADC Research and Innovation Cooperation in Health and Nutrition, 4th December

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Engel hall, Laivastokatu 22

1. Event background

Since 2009, the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in South Africa and the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs (MFA) have supported the NEPAD/SANBio Network (Southern Africa Network for Biosciences) through the BioFISA programme¹. With a joint contribution of EUR 7.82 million from Finland, South Africa and the participating member states, the second phase of BioFISA began in 2015 with a focus on:

- supporting an effective and dynamic regional research network, including the establishment of sustainable funding structures for collaboration;
- enhancing human and infrastructure capacity in the region; and
- supporting the development of innovative products within the priority focus areas of **health and nutrition**, including the development of entrepreneurial skills.

The FinCEAL+ project², funded by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture and implemented by UniPID, aims to strengthen Research and Innovation cooperation between Finland, Europe, Africa, Asia and LAC regions. The Africa component of the project has emphasized **Sustainable Agriculture, Food and Nutrition Security and Health** as priority themes. Having emerged from the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, support for research between the EU and Africa in these themes has seen a surge in funding from various schemes like H2020. The project facilitates the process of accessing these funds through various activities, e.g offering grants to researchers, giving input into the policy processes in support of the Finnish science community and organizing various events.

Southern African institutions have built a long record of accomplishment in collaborative research and innovation projects with different European institutions funded bilaterally or by the EU framework programmes. As it stands, South Africa attracts the highest percentage of Horizon 2020 funding in Africa.

Sustainable and strategic research and innovation cooperation between Finnish institutions and their African counterparts can only be achieved by engaging in areas of mutual interest and an understanding of the priorities for the two regions. Programmes like BioFISA that have been established on the interests of Finland and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region are a good platform for kick-starting further collaboration between the Finnish science community and those from SADC. In this regard, BioFISA and FinCEAL Plus are arranging a joint event on *'Finnish-SADC Research and Innovation Cooperation in Health and Nutrition'*.

The event will bring together Finnish scientists and their counterparts from the SADC working in these themes to broker new relationships, explore opportunities for collaboration and get first-hand information on different support mechanisms that exist for the development of these partnerships. 10 representatives from projects funded by BioFISA II will be present at the event. A list of these projects can be found on their webpage³. We invite interested researchers to register for the event by **27th November, through this link** <https://goo.gl/forms/2B34Ej7Uz0bSvjq2>

2. Draft Programme

Time: 4.12.2017

Venue: Engel hall, Laivastokatu 22

Schedule	Registration and Coffee	
14:00-14:10	Opening	Ministry of Foreign Affairs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Aki Enkenberg, Information Society and STI Advisor (TBC)</i> Southern Africa Network for Biosciences <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ereck Chakauya, Network Manager</i>
14:10-15:00	Presentations	BioFISA II programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Zvikomborero Tangawamira, BioFISA II Programme Manager</i> UniPID - FinCEAL Plus project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eva Kagiri-Kalanzi, UniPID</i> LUKE – FoodAfrica <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>TBC</i> Q&A
15:00-16:00	Workshop Session	Meet your counterparts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifying areas of mutual interest • building cooperation
16:00-16:10	Wrap-up	
16:10-	Networking Cocktail	