



UNI-LEAD: UGANDA



Climate Finance Hub (CFH) at Makerere University: Uganda

- ❖ TT Name: **Climate Finance Hub (CFH)**
- ❖ Housed in **Makerere University Centre for Climate Change Research and Innovations (MUCCRI)**, in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES), Makerere University.
- ❖ Established in line with Makerere University's 'Policy on establishment of Research Centres and Institutions'. Its an established unit at the University.
- ❖ Operationalized through a collaborative framework with between Makerere University and the Government Uganda: Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) & Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE)
- ❖ Has advisory committee – Membership drawn from the University, Government, Civil Society and Private Sector.

Vision and Objectives

Vision:

Strengthened technical and institutional capacity for attracting and mobilizing climate finance to support right investments that foster climate resilience, economic growth, and social and environmental benefits to everyone.

Mission:

Empower climate actors in Uganda to mobilize, access and effectively use climate finance to implement the right programmes and interventions in order to achieve climate resilience and promote sustainable growth.

Key Focus Areas / Priorities

- 1) Knowledge generation, acceleration and management on climate finance
- 1) Training and capacity enhancement
- 1) Working with government and other stakeholders on climate finance mobilization, access and utilization
- 1) Youth leadership: Catalyze thought youth leadership to enhance climate access and shape climate action .
- 1) Fostering Gender and Social Inclusion (GESI): Enhancing inclusive and gender responsive climate finance access and decision making.

Key Products and Services (Potential)

- ❖ Respond to Requests for Proposals (RfPs): to win grants (*we have some positive news from the Wellcome Trust, EU*).
- ❖ Provide fee-for-service products, in alignment with the TT strategic goals.
- ❖ Provide thought leadership to shape and advance enabling climate finance policies and business models and project pipeline development.
- ❖ Design and offer demand driven and tailored climate finance trainings, support integration of climate finance courses into existing university curricula.
- ❖ Offer consulting services to government, development partners and private sector.

Engagement with Govt in priority setting

- ❖ Both formal and informal engagement approaches and networking.
- ❖ Meetings, workshops, research and capacity building.
- ❖ Collaboration with Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development / Climate Finance Unit (CFU)
- ❖ Collaboration with Climate Change Department, Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) - UNFCCC Focal Point.

Major accomplishments

- ❖ TT is operational at Makerere University. The University has formally provided office space to the Think Tank / MUCCRI. The TT now has a permanent home.
- ❖ Developed a digital / online platform that foster science policy dialogues and enables e-learning: <http://muccriknowledgehub.mak.ac.ug>
- ❖ Developing a digital climate finance tracking tool. Prototype is in place, MoFPED is to provide data to feed into the tool before it is launched.
- ❖ Supports the design and accreditation of a new University curriculum “Master of Climate Finance and Green Economy” at Makerere University.
- ❖ Trainings in climate finance using UNI-LEAD short course materials.
- ❖ Support the development of a concept and proposals for submission to the GCF (develop a climate rationale) – Approached by Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA).

The Climate Finance Tracking Tool: Our flagship accomplishment

- ❖ A web platform for capturing, analyzing, tracking and reporting climate finance flow in Uganda.
- ❖ Consists of a centralized database for easy update and reporting.
- ❖ Allows users from public, private and international institutions to report data on the tool.
- ❖ Provides for data validation and approval mechanisms by relevant authorities.
- ❖ Provides real-time dashboards and analytics for timely decision making.
- ❖ Will increase TT visibility and credibility.



What partnerships have you developed?

- ❖ Climate Finance Unit (CFU) / Ministry of Finance Planning and Economic Development (MoFPED) – Focal Point for GCF, AF & GEF
- ❖ Climate Change Department (CCD) / Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) – UNFCCC Focal Point.
- ❖ The LIFE-AR programme implementation in Uganda – dealing with decentralized climate finance (under auspices of the LUCCC).
- ❖ Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI) in Uganda
- ❖ Sustainable Development Solutions Network – a network of universities supporting implementation of SDGs and Paris Agreement.
- ❖ MasterCard Foundation in Uganda

What are the key opportunities?

- ❖ Seed funding from the UNI-LEAD project (GEF / UNEP) to establish the TT.
- ❖ The support/coaching offered by START International and Climate Analytics.
- ❖ The LUCCC initiative, collaborative network of LDC universities for networking and lessons learning.
- ❖ Excellent reputation and high ranking of Makerere university globally, regionally and nationally.
- ❖ The support from Makerere University to establish TT, offered staff and office space
- ❖ Good partnership and collaboration arrangements with Government: MoFPED /CFU and MWE / CCD.

What are the key opportunities - 2?

- ❖ High interest in climate finance in Uganda, makes TT's capacity building products and services attractive.
- ❖ Grants funding opportunities (we see a silver lining).
- ❖ Youth / University students with a high interest in environment and climate change aspects.
- ❖ Advancements in ICTs and online platforms (at the university and beyond) that allow flexible and borderless learning.
- ❖ High demand for short-term training, skilling, mentorships and project development support.

What are the key challenges?

- ❖ Funding is the TT major challenge in the short term (1-2 years of operationalization): TT has no university budget allocation (staff salaries and other office operational expenses).
- ❖ Perception / expectation that the TT as a lot of donor funding. Some partners are expecting funding or pro-bono products and services.
- ❖ Limited competence in offering climate finance services amongst our university faculty – they need to be trained / retooled.
- ❖ Working with the university and government has a lot bureaucracy – operationalization and MoUs take a lot of time to complete.
- ❖ Rising competition from other universities / organizations that are aligning themselves on climate finance landscape.
- ❖ Limited appreciation and mobilization of the private sector in Uganda.

Thank you for your attention