

UGANDA

Principal Investigator: Dr. Robert Kajobe

Internship Title: Development of extension materials for post-harvest handling of selected vegetables in Uganda.

Time Period: August 4-17, 2024

Project Background: Muni University (<https://muni.ac.ug/>), together with partners are undertaking a horticulture research project to contribute towards Feed the Future Horticulture Innovation Lab program of transforming the horticulture sector in East Africa. The overall objective of the project is to develop innovative horticulture technologies for improved income and livelihoods among small scale women farmers in Uganda. Horticulture plays an important role in food security, employment opportunities and income generation. The project is being implemented in the 6 out of 12 districts in the West Nile region of Uganda. The project methodology follows The Embedded Research Translation (ERT) approach. All farmers and other stakeholders will be integrated early and throughout the research collaboration. The project will ensure that research outcomes are taken up and applied. The project targets women (70 %) and men (30 %). Out of these, the host population and refugees are expected to participate. The overall objective of the project is to develop innovative horticulture technologies for improved income and livelihoods among small scale farmers in Uganda. The specific project objectives of the project are to: 1) evaluate different agronomic practices for reduced losses in vegetables; 2) evaluate different postharvest practices for reduced losses in vegetables and 3) evaluate different marketing and market access strategies for vegetables by farmers. The outcomes of the project are: 1) improved household nutrition status of small-scale farmers; 2) increased sale of vegetables by small-scale farmers and; 3) increased household income status of small-scale farmers. The impact of the project is improved livelihoods of small-scale vegetable farmers and increased financial independence of small-scale vegetable farmers.



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Research Question(s) or Specific Issues to be Addressed	Range of Acceptable Disciplines	Deliverables
<p>How can extension materials be adapted to suit the local context and preferences of farmers in the country?</p> <p>How can extension materials incorporate low-cost, accessible technologies to improve post-harvest handling?</p> <p>What formats (e.g., printed guides, videos, workshops) are most effective for delivering post-harvest handling information to farmers in Uganda?</p> <p>How can extension materials be designed to be visually appealing, easy to understand, and engaging?</p> <p>How can the effectiveness of extension materials in improving post-harvest handling practices be assessed and measured?</p>	<p>Horticulture Agronomy Crop Science Soil Science Food Science Nutritional Science</p>	<p>The intern will be expected to develop extension materials for post-harvest handling of selected horticultural crops in Uganda.</p>