

UNIVERSITY OF RWANDA

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE ANIMAL SCIENCES AND VETERINARY MEDICINE (UR-CAVM)

CALL FOR APPLICATION: TRAINEES AT THE AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE COOLING AND COLD CHAIN (ACES).

1. Introduction

The University of Rwanda is a Public Institution of Higher Learning committed to supporting the development of the country through the generation and advancement of knowledge, research, innovation, and community outreach among other core activities. The University of Rwanda is the implementing partner for the Africa Centre of Excellence for Sustainable Cooling and Cold Chain (ACES) funded by the Governments of Rwanda (GoR) and the United Kingdom (UK's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs [Defra] through the United Nations Environment Programme's United for Efficiency (UNEP U4E) and being developed by an international academic team led by University of Birmingham (Top 100, World University Rankings).

2. Terms of Reference (ToR)

2.1. Background

ACES was established in 2020 by GoR and the UK, the UNEP U4E, the Centre for Sustainable Cooling, and a range of academic institutions (University of Birmingham, London South Bank University, Cranfield University, and Heriot-Watt University). It is in line with the Government's commitments on climate change, the Kigali Amendment to the Montreal Protocol, and overall sustainable development.

ACES aims to catalyze pan-African adoption of energy-efficient and climate-friendly integrated Community Cooling, Cold-chain, and Postharvest Management technologies and strategies using food cold chains as the foundation upon which to meet the social and development goals of rural communities including health cold-chains. ACES will empower farmers to increase export revenues, enhance job creation, reduce malnutrition, and enhance food safety, with sustainable business models that attract investment, mitigate climate and environmental impacts, and foster low-carbon development. Specialized Outreach and Knowledge Establishments (SPOKES) in strategic locations and with particular areas of specialization (e.g. value chain opportunities well-suited to that community) across the continent will showcase how such solutions can be deployed in practical applications. The first of these is being developed in Kenya. The SPOKES will exchange best practices and lessons learned through the ACES hub as part of an interconnected whole.

2.2. Purpose

ACES plans to initiate a comprehensive programme to train a cadre of skilled trainers who will play a pivotal role in educating local farmers about optimal refrigeration and cold-chain technologies, enhancing postharvest management techniques, strategic integration of renewable energy solutions within farming operations and development of customized business models that cater to the specific needs of local communities.

ACES invites applications for its upcoming training programme. We are seeking dedicated individuals with a background in refrigeration, agriculture, engineering, agribusiness, or related fields to join the ACES Train the Trainers programme. Selected participants will receive comprehensive training, and advanced skills necessary to assist local farmers in crucial aspects such as refrigeration technologies, post-harvest management, renewable energy integration, and business model development.

3. Selection Criteria

The following are essential and desirable criteria for potential applicants.

3.1 Essential

1. Relevant Bachelor (A0), advanced diploma (A1) or high school certificate in refrigeration, agriculture, engineering, agribusiness, or related discipline.
2. Experience in working in the food and/or pharma sector, whether governmental, private, or NGO.
3. Good understanding of English and Kinyarwanda to effectively communicate with stakeholders.
4. Capacity to use computer applications, such as Word and Excel.
5. Availability to actively participate in the entire training program. Willingness to commit to training local farmers on an ongoing basis.
6. The ability to identify challenges faced by farmers, traders, and all elements in the cold chain in Rwanda and develop practical solutions is highly valuable and desirable.
7. Previous experience in training, teaching, or extension.
8. Experience working with farmers or rural communities, demonstrating previous connections with cooperatives and extension organizations.
9. Employment status/ recommendation of the employer

3.2 Desirable

1. Strong verbal communication skills.
2. Understanding basic business concepts

4. Location, Duration of the training and facilitation

The training will be held at ACES headquarters (UR-CAVM-Rubirizi Campus) and will last 7 months from 25th September 2023. The trainees will be given stipends for the whole duration of the training.

5. Questions to the applicants

In order to consider your application, please truthfully answer the following questions. If you have any supporting documents, please attach them to the application.

1. Please describe your background in the food supply chain.
2. What do you want to achieve by attending this training?
3. How will this course contribute to your community?
4. How do you think this course will change your career path?

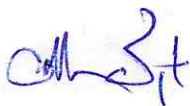
Application Procedure

Interested and qualified candidates should submit their applications online by the designated deadline to the University of Rwanda, College of Agriculture, Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine to principal.cavm@ur.ac.rw and copy the ACES Academic and Research Coordinator at uracesinfo@gmail.com and also copy UR-CAVM Director of Research and Innovation at j.uwihirwe@ur.ac.rw. The application file must be a single PDF file and should contain the following documents:

1. Application letter in English addressed to the Principal of the College of Agriculture, Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine at the University of Rwanda.
2. A detailed Curriculum Vitae
3. A copy of the academic degree and transcripts
4. A proof of previous relevant experience in the field.
5. A copy of the national ID or the passport front page
6. Answers to questions in Section 5

The deadline for submission of the application is set on 20th September 2023 at 23h59. Only shortlisted candidates will be invited for the interview.

Done on 14/09/2023.



Dr. Guillaume Nyagatare

**The Acting Principal of the College of Agriculture, Animal Sciences and Veterinary Medicine
University of Rwanda**