



*Nutrition and Treatment Outcome: Development of a
Ugandan – Irish HIV / Nutrition Research Cluster*

Two research studentship positions (PhD's) associated with the Irish Aid-funded NOURISH project available in *Makerere University Department of Economics* (with links to Trinity College Dublin) and *Makerere University Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics* (with links to Trinity College Dublin).

NOURISH (Nutrition and treatment outcomes: development of a Ugandan-Irish HIV/Nutrition Research Cluster) is a research project funded by Irish Aid as part of its programme of Strategic Cooperation with Higher Education and Research Institutes in Ireland and partner countries in Africa. The NOURISH project mainly involves Trinity College University of Dublin in Ireland and Gulu and Makerere universities, the Joint Clinical Research Centre (JCRC) and Infectious Diseases Institute (IDI) in Uganda.

NOURISH has three broad aims relating to HIV and nutrition in Uganda:

- 1) To build capacity in Ireland and Uganda to engage in cross-disciplinary and demand-led research linking HIV and nutrition
- 2) To increase understanding of the complex interactions between food insecurity, livelihood, nutritional deficiencies, immunosuppression, antiretroviral therapy, nutritional supplementation and HIV/AIDS outcomes
- 3) To develop ways of integrating HIV/AIDS programmes with activities relating to hunger reduction, food security and fighting under-nutrition

The research component of NOURISH is divided into three Work Packages (WPs). Of these, WP3 focuses on

- The role that a nutritional information campaign and a locally sourced and produced Ready-To-Use Therapeutic Food (RUTF) can play in improving health and welfare outcomes for women and children living with HIV in Uganda.
- The impact of providing entrepreneurship training to women attending HIV clinics in Uganda on micro-enterprise development, female empowerment, health and household welfare outcomes.
- Development of a framework to measure human health and welfare impacts locally. To provide public health input to validate data associated with each objective and to plan data analysis.

Both PhD research positions are full-time and fully funded, and are scheduled to commence as early as possible in 2013. The PhD positions are for three years. Students will be registered in Makerere University (MU) and receive their Degree from MU. MU PhD regulations will apply. In addition to fees and a stipend, funds are available through the NOURISH project to cover fieldwork costs, consumables, travel etc.

Both postgraduate students will receive supervisory support from the NOURISH research team, including from Professor Carol Newman, Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin (cnewman@tcd.ie), Dr.

Eria Hisali, Department of Economics, Makerere University (ehisali@fema.mak.ac.ug) and Prof. Archileo Kaaya, Department of Food Technology and Nutrition, Makerere University (ankaaya@agric.mak.ac.ug). The Student will also have the opportunity to collaborate with Partners in JCRC; Dr Cissy Kityo, Deputy Director and Dr Victor Musiime, Head of Research at JCRC. Within MU they will collaborate with Colleagues from the School of Public Health (Dr Nazarius M. Tumwesigye).

Applications are invited from candidates who fulfill the following criteria:

- Have at least a 2.1 (Upper Second Class) Undergraduate Degree in a relevant discipline. Relevant experience in Agricultural Economics, Health Economics and Development Economics will be an advantage.
- A Postgraduate qualification in a relevant discipline would be an advantage.
- Have demonstrable experience in data handling and statistics
- Previous completion of a piece of research (perhaps as part of an MSc) and a period of fieldwork will be an advantage
- Excellent written and oral communication skills are essential. English language fluency is essential.
- Candidates should be prepared to travel independently within Uganda and be able work collaboratively with partners outside the University system including people living with HIV disease.
- The candidate should have some experience in managing others including providing direction to research assistants associated with the project.
- Candidates will have a passion for excellence in research, a strong interest in Economics good team skills while being able to work independently.

For Further information and to submit an application in the form of an up-to-date CV, 2 references and a covering letter highlighting your skills and experiences relevant to the research detailed above please contact

- **PhD Opportunities in Department of Economics, Makerere University**
Professor Carol Newman, Department of Economics, Trinity College Dublin (cnewman@tcd.ie) and Dr. Eria Hisali Department of Economics, Makerere University (ehisali@fema.mak.ac.ug)
- **PhD Opportunities in Department of Agribusiness and Natural Resource Economics, Makerere University**
Prof. Archileo Kaaya, Department of Food Technology and Nutrition, Makerere University (ankaaya@agric.mak.ac.ug)

Applications should be submitted no later than the 15th of February 2013.