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AGRIBUSINESS AND AGROPROCESSING INCUBATION OPPORTUNITY AT Consortium for enhancing University Responsiveness to agribusiness Development Limited (CURAD):

CALL FOR INCUBATEES APPLICATIONS under the;

# Earn As You Learn Business Incubation program at CURAD

Are you an undergrad or post graduate student?, do you have a Brilliant Agribusiness idea you want to pursue but lack capital, experience and business acumen? Are you looking to earn from your business idea as you learn about entrepreneurship and practical business management?. This is your opportunity at the Consortium for enhancing the University responsiveness to agribusiness development (CURAD). If you are looking to make it as an agribusiness entrepreneur this is your opportunity. You can learn on the job through CURAD’s apprenticeship business component called Earn As You Learn (EAYL). There will be two categories of incubatees under EAYL.

The first category is one where CURAD will offer the incubatee full business support to start developing the business idea and turn it into a profit earning business as you learn business skills and while completing your studies. This offers you a “paid” apprenticeship as you make a profit from your business idea and learn about entrepreneurship and agribusiness management in an incubation environment.

The second category is one where CURAD will find already existing businesses where incubatees will be placed to have an experience in a company or factory and CURAD will ensure the incubates earns a modest salary while earning as they learn.

There are three advantages to participating in an official Earn As You Learn business component. With this program, you will complete an agribusiness incubation period when your entrepreneurial skills will have been enhanced; having developed your business model. The Nature of the Earn As You Learn business program will allow to pursue and develop your business idea in a safe and secure environment with supportive technical and business mentors. This is in addition to many other entrepreneurial benefits such as access to valuable industry and business contacts including development of your business idea/model into a bankable business plan. You will have access to world class business coaches, mentors, and successful peer agribusiness entrepreneurs who will walk you through and facilitate your further understanding of your business idea to become a reality.

It will not stop here because a good business plan must be one that is funded. You will, therefore, be hand-held and linked to start-up financing to implement your business plan. This is because CURAD is aware that starting and growing a business is hard but it is even much harder to start an agribusiness enterprise. This is a unique program and it will take only a maximum of 10 participants and will run for a maximum of one calendar year after which you will graduate Will it end here? CURAD will still follow you up to ensure that you that you succeed and upscale your business.

## Who Can Apply?

Because CURAD’s aim is to empower young men and women students to become successful agribusiness entrepreneurs; it is looking for BSc, MSc and PhD students and graduates (especially from Makerere University school of agriculture and environmental sciences and the coffee value chain) who would like to start and manage their own agribusiness enterprises to apply. The applicant must state his or her agribusiness idea he or she would like CURAD to facilitate to fruition. The program is focused on student agribusiness ideas with minimal startup up capital requirements and facility needs. It’s a student practical agribusiness training incubation program to incubate your agri-business.

**Fees Payment and benefits**

The fees for the incubation services per incubatee is Uganda shillings seven hundred thousand (700,000/=). This is paid after you have been accepted as a member of CURAD based on your application and you will be ready to start your agribusiness incubation period. More information on the benefits and payment for the course will be provided by the staff.

**How to apply**

Applications forms are available at the the CURAD office at Kabanyolo Agriculture research center (MUARIK), NUCAFE offices on Plot 35, Jinja road, Coffee House, 2nd floor Suite 2.7 and Makerere University College of agriculture and environmental sciences at school of agricultural sciences Deans office. And the CURAD website [www.curadincubator.org](http://www.curadincubator.org).

Filled applications and any supporting documents may be returned to the same physical addresses or mailed to: [asegawa@curadincubator.org](mailto:asegawa@curadincubator.org) or posted to the address below. An application fee of Uganda shillings one hundred thousand (100,000/=) is payable upon submission of the application form and is nonrefundable. Once you qualify the application fees will be converted into membership fees and you automatically become a member of CURAD.

Interested Incubatee’s should submit their applications forms including a Covering letter not later than 15 January 2014.