

# MAKERERE



# UNIVERSITY

## **ALLIANCE FOR AFRICAN PARTNERSHIP (AAP) AFRICA OFFICE**

### PRESS RELEASE

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#### **Makerere University Selected to Host Alliance for African Partnership Africa Office**

The Alliance for African Partnership (AAP) is pleased to announce that Makerere University in Kampala, Uganda, has been selected to host the **AAP Africa Office**. Makerere's proposal was chosen due to its strong institutional commitment, alignment with the AAP Strategic Plan, and demonstrated capacity to coordinate consortium engagement. This selection highlights Makerere University's continued leadership in advancing research, innovation, and global partnerships across Africa.

Dr. Racheal Ddungu Mugabi has been appointed Director of the AAP Africa Office. She is a scholar in the Department of Development Studies, Institute of Gender and Development Studies. Dr. Ddungu holds advanced degrees in Development Studies and is recognized for her research on intersectional inequalities in Uganda and other Global South contexts. Her appointment reflects confidence in her leadership and commitment to strengthening collaborative research and institutional partnerships.

Founded by Michigan State University (MSU) in partnership with 10 African universities and a network of agricultural policy research institutions, AAP focuses on developing research-driven solutions to key challenges in areas such as education, youth empowerment, health and nutrition, agri-food systems, science and technology, water, energy and environment, and culture and society.

Speaking during the launch of the office in Makerere, the Vice Chancellor, Barnabas Nawangwe, welcomed the partnership, noting: "One of the greatest challenges facing African universities is PhD training, particularly supervisory capacity. Through partnerships such as the Alliance for African Partnership (AAP), we can leverage international expertise to strengthen supervision—whether through training supervisors or through joint supervision arrangements."

The AAP Africa Office will coordinate consortium activities, strengthen research collaboration, support resource mobilization, and enhance engagement among African and global partners working toward socio-economic transformation.

Dr. Jose Jackson-Malete, Co-Director of the Alliance for African Partnership (AAP), noted that the organization's strategic plan is anchored on three pillars. The first, Building Bridges, focuses on fostering equitable, African-led partnerships across sectors and disciplines. The second, Transforming Institutions, seeks to strengthen the capacity of member institutions through collaborative initiatives. The third pillar, Transforming Lives, lies at the heart of AAP's mission – supporting research for impact to address societal needs and global challenges.

**For more information, please contact:**

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