22ND RUFORUM ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING ZAMBIA2026
30 Nov-04 Dec.

RUFORUM
Capacity Building in Agriculture




# ZAMBIA'S **SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE:**

## Nurture and mentorship of emerging scientists

## POSTER PRESENTATION PROGRAMME

**16-17 November 2026**

# OVERVIEW

### THE PROGRAMME AND ITS LINKS TO THE AGM THEMATIC AREAS

This conference is designed to nurture and mentor the participants. Every session is led by a session chair and rapporteur. The sessions respond directly to the four thematic areas of the 22nd RUFORUM AGM, as summarised below. Most presentations address Theme 2, reflecting Zambia's national priority on resilient and productive agriculture. Themes 1, 3 and 4 are addressed through dedicated sessions and through the mentorship design of the conference. The sessions link to the four thematic areas of the 22nd RUFORUM AGM as follows:

| AGM thematic area | Programme sessions |
|---|---|
| **Theme 1:** Enhance Africa's human capital to drive the continent's development | **Session 4 (poster):** Animal Health, Public Health and Human Capital |
| **Theme 2:** Building a resilient and productive economy | **Sessions 1, 2, and 3 (poster)** |
| **Theme 3**: Harnessing African universities and partner opportunities for mission delivery | **Session 3 (poster):** Agribusiness, Finance and Enterprise |
| **Theme 4:** Capacity sharing to train the next generation | **Session 4 (poster):** Animal Health, Public Health and Human Capital |

## DAY ONE:

### MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER 2026, 08:00–08:30 CAT

Webinar C

Registration Link: https://bit.ly/4BfSW8t

Official Opening Speeches

| Time (CAT) | Presenter / Responsible |
|---|---|
| 08:00–08:30 | • Professor Majaliwa J.G. Mwanjalolo, Research, Innovation, and Development Manager, RUFORUM, Uganda<br>• Professor Bernard M. Hang'ombe, Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research and Innovation), Copperbelt University, Zambia<br>• Professor Uphie Florence Chinje, the RUFORUM Technical Committee of the RUFORUM Board, University of Ngaoundéré, Cameroon |

**Webinar Chair:** Professor Gillian Kabwe, Forestry and Environmental Management, Copperbelt University, Zambia

**Rapporteur:** Ms. Yoranta Shamunau, University of Zambia, Zambia

| Time (CAT) | Session / Presentation | Presenter / Responsible |
|---|---|---|
| 08:40–09:00 | Keynote Address: Restoring Mined Landscapes and Managing Climate Risk: Emerging Zambian Evidence | Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Mususu Kosta Kaonda, Metallurgist,** University of Zambia, Zambia |
| **Session 1**: Mining, Environment and Land Restoration<br>**Session Mentor: Dr. Peter Kaluba,** University of Zambia<br>**Rapporteur: Ms. Yoranta Shamunau,** University of Zambia, Zambia | | |
| 09:00–09:15 | **Abstract 001-PP:** Bioremediation of Copper-Contaminated Soil and Water at Uchi Tailing Dams Using Microbially Induced Calcite Precipitation | Alice M. Mweetwa<br>University of Zambia, Zambia, Zambia |
| | **Abstract 002-PP**: Eco-physiological Characterization of Tailing-Native Tree Species of the Zambian Copperbelt: Implications for Ecological Restoration of Mine Wastelands | Tresor Ntale Muganguzi<br>Copperbelt University, Zambia |
| 09:30–09:45 | **Abstract 003-PP:** Potential of Selected Seed Technologies in Assisting Establishment of Tree Species on Copper Tailings Storage Facilities of the Zambian Copperbelt | Emmanuel Chikalipa<br>Copperbelt University, Zambia |
| 09:45–10:00 | **Abstract 004-PP:** AI-Enabled Environmental Monitoring of Mining Impacts on Water and Soil Quality in Zambia: A Framework for Sustainable Natural Resource Management | Clever Mayambi Wrel<br>Citizen University, Zambia |
| 10:00–10:30 | Mentor Feedback, Questions and Discussion | Session Mentor |
| 10:30–10:50 | Break | |
| 10:50–11:05 | **Abstract 005-PP:** Developing a Case Study-Based Circular Economy Framework for Photovoltaic Waste Management in Zambia | Mulenga Chilufya<br>Copperbelt University, Zambia |
| 11:05–11:20 | **Abstract 006-PP:** Tree-Ring Science as a Tool for Assessing the Response of Zambian Hardwood Species to Changing Climatic Conditions | Francis Munalula<br>Copperbelt University, Zambia |
| 11:20–12:05 | Mentor Feedback, Discussion and Session Synthesis | Session Mentor |
| 12:05–13:05 | Break | |

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| **Session 2:** Crops, Climate Risk and Resilience<br>**Session Mentor:** Dr. Kennedy Zimba, Applied Entomologist, University of Zambia, Zambia<br>**Rapporteur:** Ms. Yoranta Shamunau, University of Zambia, Zambia | | |
| 13:05–13:20 | **Abstract 007-PP:** Response of Common Bean (Phaseolus vulgaris) to Rhizobium and Arbuscular Mycorrhizae Co-inoculation in Selected Soils of Zambia | Kasemuka, G.<br>Copperbelt University, Zambia |
| 13:20–13:35 | **Abstract 008-PP:** Remote Sensing for Crop and Environmental Management | Olipa N. Lungu<br>University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 13:35–13:50 | **Abstract 009-PP:** Operationalizing Agricultural Research for El Niño Resilience through Satellite Remote Sensing and Artificial Intelligence: A Zambian Case Study | Webby Chamyolo<br>Agrosynthiq AI / University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 13:50–14:20 | Mentor Feedback, Questions and Discussion | |
| 14:20–14:40 | Break | |
| 14:40–14:55 | **Abstract 010-PP:** Climate Shocks-Induced Migration of Smallholder Farmers into the Upper Kafue Catchment, Zambia | Samson H. Omondi<br>Copperbelt University, Zambia |
| 14:55–15:10 | **Abstract 011-PP:** Shock-Stacking and the Risk Perception Paradox: Rethinking Severity in Protection Motivation Theory | Timaeus K. Banda<br>Disaster Risk Management, Office of the Vice President, Zambia |
| 15:10–15:40 | Mentor Feedback, Discussion and Session Synthesis | Session Mentor |
| 15:40–16:20 | **Mentorship Clinic:** From Poster to Publication – strengthening abstracts and manuscripts in response to reviewers' comments | Sessions Mentors |
| 16:20–16:50 | Key Messages and Mentors' Reflections | Webinar Chair |
| 16:50–17:00 | Closing Remarks | Webinar Chair |

**Webinar C**

**Webinar Chair:** Dr. Bernard H. Moonga, Food Science and Technology Expert, University of Zambia, Zambia

**Rapporteur:** Mr. Geoffrey Maila, Human Nutrition Expert, University of Zambia, Zambia

| Time (CAT) | Session / Presentation | Presenter / Responsible |
|---|---|---|
| 08:40–09:00 | **Keynote Address:** Enterprise, Finance and Wellbeing: Emerging Science for Inclusive Development in Zambia | **Keynote Speaker:** Dr. Brian Mulenga, Executive Director, Indaba Agricultural Policy Research Institute |
| **Session 3:** Agribusiness, Finance and Enterprise<br>**Session Mentor:** Dr. Kelvin Mulungu, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Zambia<br>Rapporteur: Ms. Eurelia Kazekula, International Maize and Wheat Improvement Center (CIMMYT), Zambia | | |
| 09:00–09:15 | **Abstract 012-PP:** Value Addition in Soybean Production as a Pathway for Wealth Creation among Youth and Agrarian Communities in Zambia | Christine Ng'wane<br>Kapasa Makasa University, Zambia |
| 09:15–09:30 | **Abstract 013-PP:** Digital Financial Inclusion and Smallholder Market Participation: Evidence from Zambia | Daniel Sakala<br>University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 09:30–09:45 | **Abstract 014-PP:** Institutional Readiness for Warehouse Receipt Financing among Smallholder Farmers in Zambia: Implications of the Agricultural Credits and Warehouse Receipts Act, 2026 | Daniel Sakala<br>University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 09:45–10:00 | **Abstract 015-PP:** Catalysing Indigenous Entrepreneurship Formation and Growth in Developing Economies | Kalenga Mooka Nobutu<br>University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 10:00–10:30 | Mentor Feedback, Questions and Discussion | Session Mentor |
| 10:30–10:50 | Break | |
| 10:50–11:05 | **Abstract 016-PP:** Institutions, Public Policy and the Growth of Indigenous Businesses in Zambia | Kalenga Mooka Nobutu<br>University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 11:05–11:20 | **Abstract 017-PP:** Correctional Agriculture as a Pathway to Food Security, Rehabilitation and Sustainable Reintegration in Zambia: The Case of the Zambia Correctional Service | Monford Chishimba<br>Zambia Correctional Service, Zambia |
| 11:20–12:05 | Mentor Feedback, Discussion and Session Synthesis | Session Mentor |
| 12:05–13:05 | Break | |
| **Session 4:** Animal Health, Public Health and Human Capital<br>**Session Mentor:** Dr. Joyce Mufungwe, Animal Health Expert, University of Zambia, Zambia<br>**Rapporteur:** Dr. Memory Mukangwa, Animal Scientist, University of Zambia, Zambia | | |

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| 13:05–13:20 | **Abstract 018-PP:** Non-adherence to Antimicrobial Withdrawal Periods among Smallholder Dairy Farmers in Selected Districts of Zambia: A Qualitative Study of Knowledge, Drivers and Implications for Antimicrobial Resistance | Inyambo Mumbula<br>University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 13:20–13:35 | **Abstract 019-PP:** Assessing Fish Welfare Awareness and Management Practices among Small-Scale Nile Tilapia Farmers: Towards Integration of Fish Welfare Considerations into Sustainable Aquaculture Policies in Zambia | Moffat Njiko Musonda<br>Kapasa Makasa University, Zambia |
| 13:35–13:50 | **Abstract 020-PP:** Poverty and Social Determinants of Adolescent Pregnancy and Child Marriage in Chadiza District, Eastern Zambia | Evelyn Lungu<br>Copperbelt University, Zambia |
| 13:50–14:20 | Mentor Feedback, Questions and Discussion | Session Mentor |
| 14:20–14:40 | Break | |
| 14:40–14:55 | **Abstract 021-PP:** Digital Health Literacy and Its Influence on Healthcare-Seeking Behaviour among Medical and Health Sciences Students at Mulungushi University, Livingstone Campus | Simon Kacha<br>Mulungushi University, Zambia |
| 14:55–15:10 | **Abstract 022-PP:** From Mobility to Research Capability: A Networked Model for Strengthening Postgraduate Training and Knowledge Production in African Universities | Austin Mwange<br>University of Zambia, Zambia |
| 15:10–15:40 | Mentor Feedback, Discussion and Session Synthesis | Session Mentor |
| 15:40–16:20 | **Mentorship Clinic:** From Poster to Publication – strengthening abstracts and manuscripts in response to reviewers' comments | Sessions Mentors |
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