

INSTITUTE FOR
CLIMATE CHANGE

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- The Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation is Launched
- Nineteen MCCA candidates and Fifty five PhD in Climate Change Adaptation candidates given admission to the Institute
- Five MCCA and Thirty five PhD students report for their respective courses

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UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

INSTITUTE FOR CLIMATE CHANGE AND ADAPTATION (ICCA)

NEWSLETTER

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The Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation Launches its First Programs

The newest Institute in the University of Nairobi, the Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation (ICCA), was launched through the admission of its first cohort of students on 18th February 2013. These included five Master of Climate Change Adaptation (MCCA) and thirty five PhD in Climate Change And Adaptation students.

The ICCA promotes capacity building for pro-poor and pro-growth adaptation that encourages climate-resilient economic development and sustainable livelihoods in the face of climate change. It will achieve this by supporting ideas and technology to integrate climate-related risks and opportunities into national planning and poverty reduction, while addressing the needs of

more vulnerable groups like women and indigenous people. It also means ensuring that those efforts are flexible and resilient enough to navigate the challenges that climate change may bring in the future.

With this aim, research and capacity development lies at the

heart of ICCA's approach to climate change adaptation.

ICCA believes in the creation of robust and responsive courses, delivered by a capable trans-disciplinary faculty drawn from the academic staff of all units of the University of Nairobi.



Prof. S. O. Wandiga, the Acting Director of ICCA standing in front of a photo of the Institute's banner

Innovative and Novel Ways of Teaching and Learning

The ICCA embraces trans-disciplinary approaches in teaching, learning and in conducting research. Trans-disciplinary methodologies encourage effecting constructive change through teaching, learning, research, and action of all the participants. In the spirit of trans-disciplinarity,

the ICCA offers two courses - ICCA 608: Critical Debates in Global Climate Change and Adaptation and ICCA 704: Advanced Seminars in Global Climate Change and Adaptation at the Masters and Doctoral level respectively. These courses engage candidates in the arena of

climate change and adaptation through interaction and discussion with real world practitioners. Distinguished national and international guest speakers are invited to lead discussions. These courses are examined through grading of assignments out of seventy per cent (70%) and semi-

Innovative and Novel Ways of Teaching and Learning

nar presentations out of thirty per cent (30%).

The first cohort of postgraduate (5 Masters and 35 and PhD) candidates made their oral presentations before a panel of six examiners on the 6th of June 2013. Dur-



The Ag. Director, Prof Wandiga and Prof Olago (Far Left) with two of the guest speakers in the seminars.

ing the oral presentations the candidates gave a critique of the draft *The Climate Change Authority Bill 2012*.

At the end of the presentation, the candidates submitted written copies of the critique. These will not only be examined for grading purposes, but the recommendations made will be extracted and forwarded to the task force charged with redrafting *The Climate Change Authority Bill 2012*, which did not get presidential

accent for it to be made into law.

This science-policy interface is in tandem with the goal of the ICCA which seeks to providing expert advice for national and regional policy formulation and implementation.

An Overwhelming Number of Students Apply for First Intake

The first call for students to the Institute received an overwhelming response from candidates. Thirty candidates applied for consideration for the MCCA course while fifty five applied for the PhD course.

Five of the MCCA applicants did not meet the minimum requirements for admission while rest were admitted. On the other hand, seven of the

PhD candidates did not meet the minimum requirements with the other forty eight being admitted.

However, only five students reported and completed their first semester for MCCA and thirty five for PhD, respectively. All the students are self-sponsored.

There was a delay in the admission process and the admis-

sion letters were sent to the candidates late. This could have hindered the processing of fees by the students resulting in the lower numbers reporting. Most of the students who did not report deferred their admissions to the next intake.

Call for Applications for the Second Intake



The Institute is currently receiving applications for admission into the Master of Climate Change Adaptation (MCCA) and Doctor of Philosophy in Climate Change and Adaption programs. This will be the

second cohort of students with commencement dates set for September 2013. The number of PhD students is restricted to twenty, while the number is open for MCCA.

Application forms can be obtained from the Board of Postgraduate Studies office or through download at

www.uonbi.ac.ke/bps.

The courses will be offered through evening classes in Chiromo Campus.



Institute for Climate Change and Adaptation

University of Nairobi
PO Box 30197-00100-GPO
Nairobi
KENYA
Phone: +254-20-4446140
Fax: +254-20-4446140
E-mail: icca@uonbi.ac.ke

The Vision

To be the institution of choice for innovative climate change and adaptation research and training

Mission Statement

Building human capacity necessary to address the unique climate change adaptation needs of vulnerable communities through teaching, action-oriented research, development of innovative technologies and community participation. Providing expert advice for national and regional policy formulation and implementation.

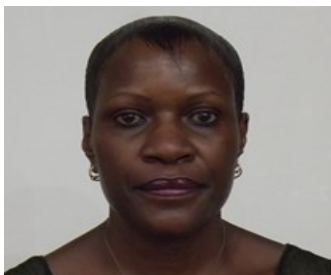
For Further information Contact:

Prof Shem Wandiga at +254-20-4446140



ICCA Continues to Promote the Science-Policy Interface at the International Level

Dr. Maggie Opondo was invited to participate in the *Expert Focus Group Discussion on Climate Change*, which was held in Mexico City, Mexico, on Tuesday, April 9, 2013. This focus group brought together a selected number of international experts to share with the Bank their experience and know-how and provide input



Dr Maggie Opondo

to the two-year process that the World Bank is currently undertaking to review and update its environmental and social safeguard policies.

The environmental and social safeguard policies embody core values of the institution and are the cornerstone of the Bank's efforts to protect people and the environment and to ensure sustainable development outcomes.

With this review and update, the World Bank is pursuing the opportunity to build on the core principles of the current safeguard policies; strengthen the effectiveness of these policies in order to enhance the development impact of World Bank-supported projects and programs; improve coverage of environmental

and social risks; deliver better environmental and social outcomes in the projects and programs it supports; and to better meet the varied needs of the countries that it is working with.