



## ACADEMIA SPARKS

### EVENT THEME: SUSTAINABLE LEADERSHIP FOR INNOVATIVE UNIVERSITIES

#### BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Academia Sparks is a one-day forum focusing on universities' sustainable leadership and development. The forum invites policymakers, businesses, industries and universities to discuss strategically sustainable universities which are innovative, transformative and interactive engines of communities. Behind Academia Sparks is Sustainable Leadership training, the programme of the SUSIE project for the managers and leaders of Tumaini University of Dar es Salaam College, Moshi Co-operative University and Mwenge Catholic University.

SUSIE project aims to foster HEIs through co-creation, co-designing and collaboration with public, private and third sectors to respond to complex challenges of 21st century in terms of innovation, sustainable development and employability. The project relies on reverse innovation thinking that has been examined in IRIS, the HEI ICI project (2017-2020). SUSIE empowers the social agency of HEIs that improves social responsibility and social entrepreneurship in business among student start-ups, micro-entrepreneurs and the circular economy for sustainable development and new business opportunities. In order to achieve this, sustainable strategy thinking is needed to improve HEIs in terms of resilience, transparency and inclusion.

#### OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this forum is to provide active learning, experience sharing and knowledge exchange platform between leaders of HEI and educational stakeholders in making universities innovative, sustainable and hubs for unleashing students' potential.

The forum will focus on how universities can innovatively and sustainably lead the way in becoming centres of excellence in transforming and unleashing student potentials to allow them to become innovative entrepreneurs who can turn community challenges into job opportunities.

#### EVENT DESCRIPTION

ACADEMIA SPARKS is a one-day event that will take place on **Wednesday 19th October, 2022** at Kisenga LAPF International Conference Center, Dar es Salaam from 9:00 to 4:30 PM. The forum will be a focal point for **150 people** from academia, HEI representatives from the government, national and international organisations, Finnish and Tanzania Diplomats, CEOs policymakers, private sector, and businesses, to catalyse, learn, and share experiences through interactive round tables and panel discussions.

There will be two main sessions, one in the morning with a theme "*The Expectations of Industry on Universities*" and the second one in the afternoon with a theme "*Transformation into Innovative generations*"

#### OUTPUT



The forum will produce a *"think-piece"* to be shared with University Vice Chancellors and educational stakeholders on how to lead universities and educational institutions innovatively and sustainably strategically. It will also provide a forum for networking and sharing strategic university leadership expertise among stakeholders.

## PROGRAMME

8.45 Registration and Breakfast

### Morning Session: Sustainable Academia and Leadership / Host Prof. Sife - VC MoCU

9.30 Introduction and Welcome Words / Prof. Sife

9.45 Opening Remarks

Dr. General Director, Moses Mwasaga, Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology

Therese Zitting, Ambassador of Finland in Tanzania

10.15 **Keynote Speaker: The Expectations of Industry on Universities**

Siaophoro Kishimbo, CRDB Bank Director for Human Resources and Training

10.45 **Sustainable Leadership for Innovative and Sparking University**

Dr. Vesa Taatila, Rector and President Turku UAS

Dr. Hawa Uiso, TUDARCo

Ms. Cecilia Ruoja, MoCU

Dr. Teresia Mkenda, MWECAU

11.45 **Dialogue with the Audience**

Prof. Esron Karimuribo, Director, Directorate of Postgraduate Studies, Research, Technology Transfer and Consultancy, SUA

12.15 Summary of the Morning Session / Ms. Lois -Singa Metili

### Lunch Break

### Afternoon Session: Transformation into Innovative Generations / Host Dr. Uusikylä

13.45 Opening the Afternoon Session / Dr. Uusikylä

13.55 Students' Views on the Innovative and Sparkling University



14.10 **Transformation into Innovative and Diverse Generations / Dr. Uusikylä**

**Panel Discussion**

Ms. Clara Danford, TUDARCo Students' Association

CEO Jumanne Mtambalike, Sahara Ventures

Dr. Eugene Lyamtane, MWECAU

Director, Association of Tanzania Employers- ATE

Prof. Hulda Swai, Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology

15 Dialogue with the audience and panelists / Hosted by Dr. Uusikylä

15.30 Way forward: Re-engineering Tanzanian Universities /  
Prof. Burton LM Mwamila, Provost TUDARCo

15.45 Closing Remarks / Honorary Consul Vesa Viitaniemi

**Refreshments, networking, photographs**