

# AFRICA GRADUATE MENTORSHIP AND COACHING PROGRAMME (AGMCP )



Memorabilia

Mentee

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Mentor

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# OUTLINE

1. Introduction
2. Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year
3. Most significant contributions of the fellowship to my professional career
4. Suggestions for the AGMCP management team
5. Acknowledgements
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## 1.0 Introduction

The Africa Graduate Mentorship and Coaching Programme (AGMCP) is a mentor-mentee network facilitated by the Interconnections for Making Africa Great Empowered and Sustainable (IMAGES) Initiative.

The program is gaining recognition across all parts of Africa, with applications coming from across all regions of Central, East, North, South, and Western Africa. This clearly shows that the impact of the program is being felt to the last dot.

In a nutshell, the competitiveness and inclusivity of the program accommodating Masters, PhD, and Post-doctorate fellows illustrate the meticulous achievement of the program

## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year

### Monthly webinars participation

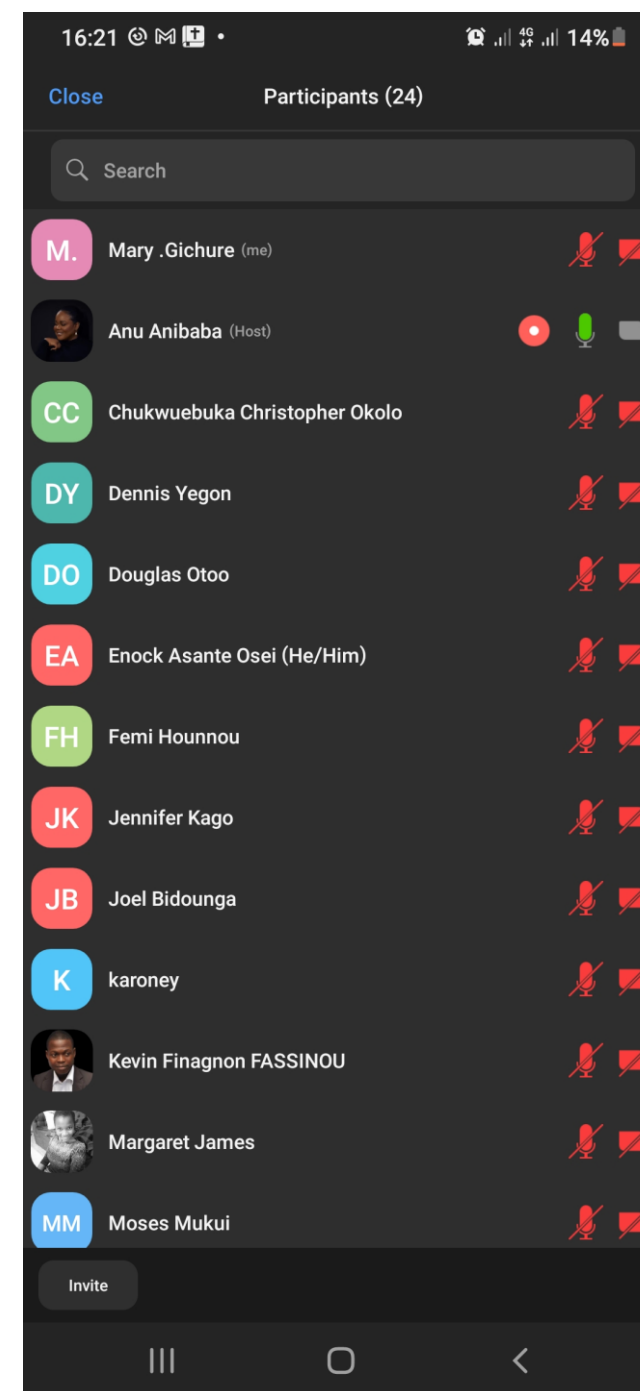
During my fellowship year, I attended several webinars and training organized to enhance fellows' knowledge and skills across multidimensional presentations.

Notably, webinars included;

**Food systems in Africa;**

Learning outcome:

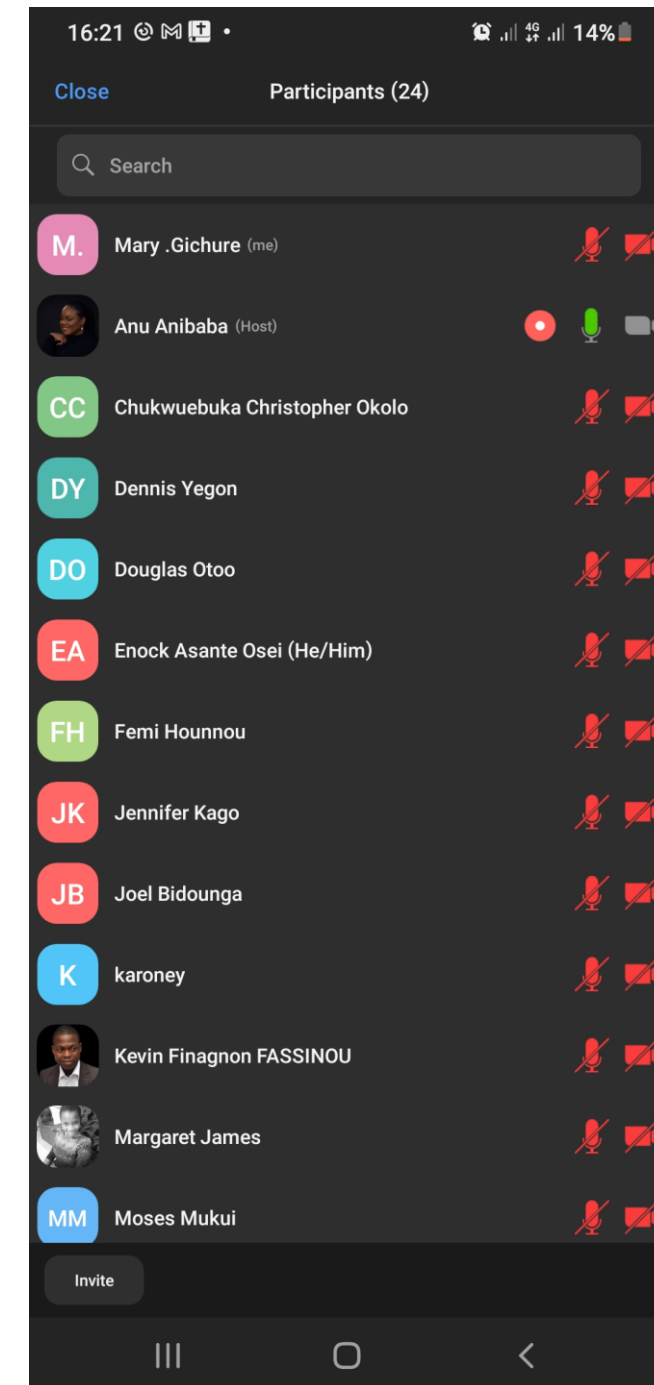
Discussion on farming systems and the effect of climate change



## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year...

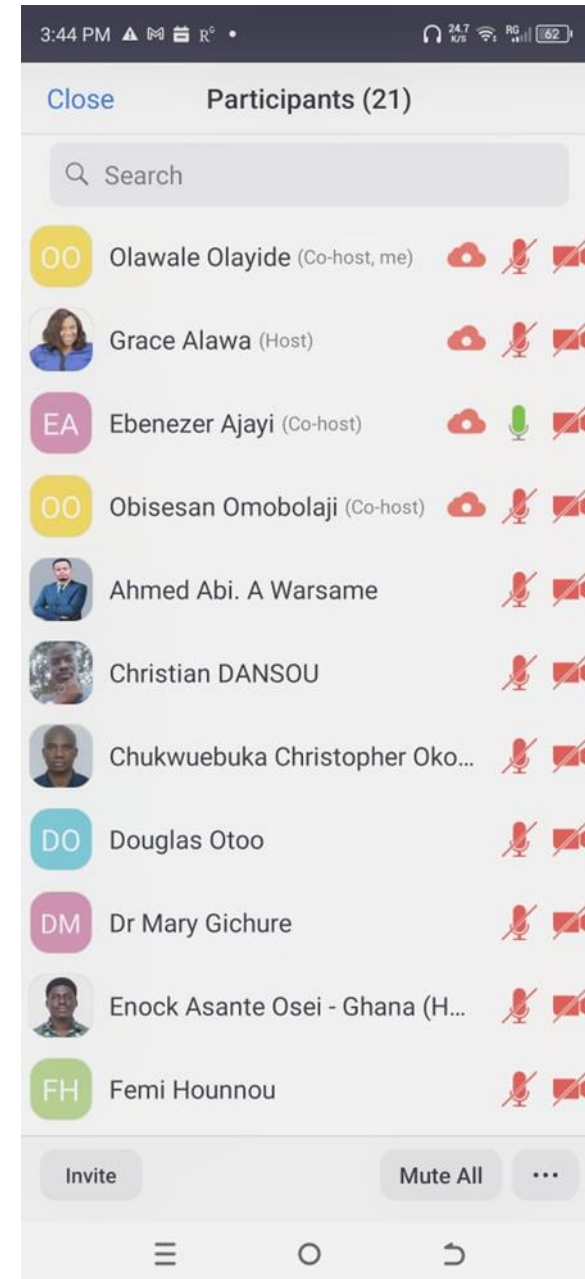
African Food Systems and The Comprehensive African Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP), the Malabo Declaration enlightened me on the works and progress of the African Union towards transforming the agricultural sector across Africa.

Key take home: African States/Countries were mandated to proportion 10% of their National but, few are implementing it.



## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year..

Short course on Resilience Index and Measurement Analysis (RIMA) delivered by FAO. The practical applications of *Shinny* to measure food insecurity were so captivating.



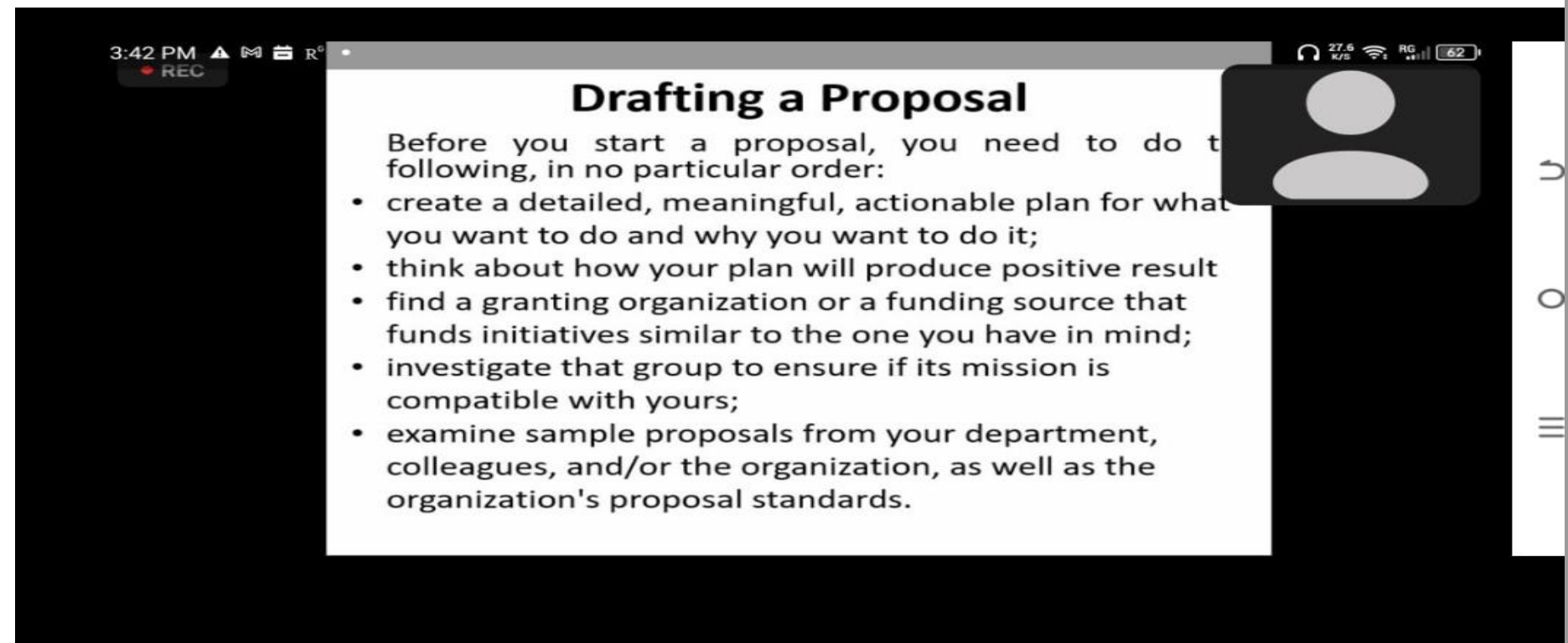
## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year..

Grand proposal writing and research

### Key take-home:

Knowledge on grant writing

Plan and outline of the grant proposal



The screenshot shows a mobile document titled "Drafting a Proposal". The document content includes an introductory sentence and a bulleted list of five steps. The steps are: 1. create a detailed, meaningful, actionable plan for what you want to do and why you want to do it; 2. think about how your plan will produce positive result; 3. find a granting organization or a funding source that funds initiatives similar to the one you have in mind; 4. investigate that group to ensure if its mission is compatible with yours; 5. examine sample proposals from your department, colleagues, and/or the organization, as well as the organization's proposal standards. The screenshot also shows a status bar at the top with the time 3:42 PM, a "REC" indicator, and various system icons.

**Drafting a Proposal**

Before you start a proposal, you need to do the following, in no particular order:

- create a detailed, meaningful, actionable plan for what you want to do and why you want to do it;
- think about how your plan will produce positive result
- find a granting organization or a funding source that funds initiatives similar to the one you have in mind;
- investigate that group to ensure if its mission is compatible with yours;
- examine sample proposals from your department, colleagues, and/or the organization, as well as the organization's proposal standards.

## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year..

The application of GIS in today's research. This incorporated the use of FAST MAPPING TOOL incorporated (<https://fast-mapping.org/>)

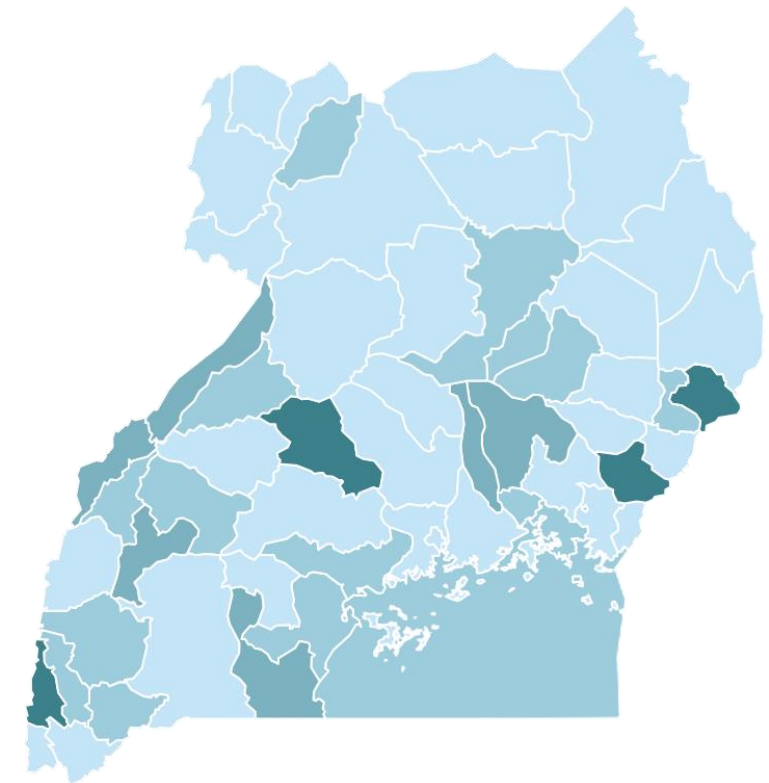
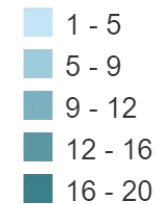
I attended the training that was focused on the application of Geographical Information Systems (GIS). This was delivered by AKADEMIYA2063

The tool uses data that covers all the countries in Africa.



This map has been generated with the Fast Mapping Tool developed by AKADEMIYA2063

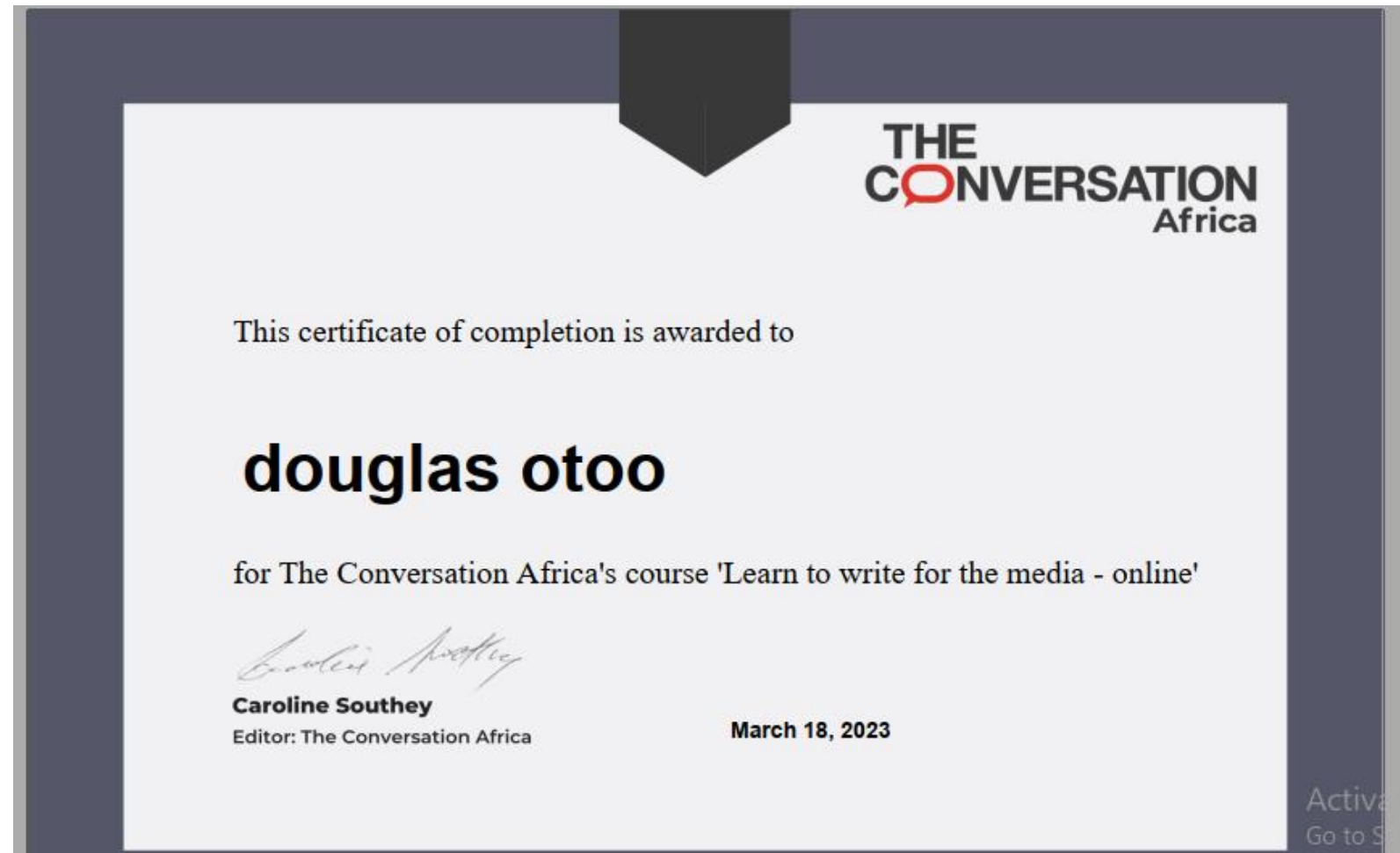
### Legend





## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year....

The Writing for media training was a very fundamental knowledge added on how the scholars can easily translate their research into easily comprehensive-able output by the non-academic public audience



## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year....

I participated in the Circularity Africa conference that was premised on theme the “Enhancing sustainable management of food waste and food loss in Africa”.

### Key Take home:

Africa that suffers from food insecurity should strive to reduce the losses in the food sector.



## 2.0 Experiences, activities, and outputs of the fellowship year....

Submitted Abstracts for different conferences:

- 1ST EASTERN AFRICA AGROECOLOGY CONFERENCE, 21 - 24 March 2023
- Circularity Africa Week & Conference 2023, 10 - 11 May 2023
- International Sustainable Development Research Society (ISDRS), the Sustainability Conference, ISDRS2023 hosted by Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

### 43. Agroecological Distribution and Market Access of Neglected and Underutilized Species in Uganda

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Neglected and underutilized Species (NUS) or forgotten crops are believed to directly and indirectly benefit agricultural diversification, broadening and diversification in agroecology, reduction of imports, and self-reliance on African food systems. Uganda is one of the many African countries with a number of indigenous neglected and underutilized crops spread across its 9 agroecological zones. The NUS is embedded with vast nutritional, medicinal, and economic potential to transform the African food systems. In spite of the great potential of NUS and matched with two rainy seasons (March-June and August-November) in Uganda, NUS production, utilization, and consumption have remained low. Critically, little research has been conducted on the potential of such crops. Therefore, the study aims to explore the potential of NUS in Uganda. The objectives of the study are to: profile neglected and underutilized crops in Uganda; map the NUS by agro-ecological zones; and assess the market potential of NUS. The results from the study would be used to publish different NUS crops according to their agroecology. Additionally, policymakers would pick interest in the promotion of these crops. Lastly, market development both within and regionally would be established. The study deploys systematic literature review as the research design to retrieve the required information. Web searches on websites like the African Orphan Crops Consortium (AOCC), Forum of Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), Google Scholar, and web of science. Keywords, abstracts, and lists of publications will then be explored using words such as orphan/neglected/traditional/indigenous crops, production, nutrition, consumption, and market. Only those articles fit for the study purpose will be considered for review and analysis. Preliminary findings reveals the agroecological distribution of NUS by crop type and market potential of neglected and underutilized species in Uganda.

## 3.0 The most significant contributions of the fellowship to my professional career

- Scientific writing
- Data analysis using different softwares such as RIMA, SPSS
- Application of GIS in my day-to-day hustles (Fast Mapping tool)
- Networking and collaboration

## 4.0 Suggestions for the AGMCP Management Team

Firstly, the AGMCP Management Team should create an email group for all the mentees to be able to access the information in a timely manner. WhatsApp is fast but tracking information sometimes becomes challenging.

Secondly, physical meeting interaction between the mentor and mentees should be encouraged provided resources are available.

## 5.0 Acknowledgements

- Grateful for the IMAGES for providing this opportunity
- Many thanks and appreciation to my Mentor Dr. Olawale Olayide
- Appreciation to my fellow Economic sustainability food system fellows; Mr. Ibrahim Tuzee A. Raheem and Dr. Mary Gichure
- Appreciation also goes to my fellow Cohort 4 AGMCP fellows 2023

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