

**Strengthening Educational Capacity and Development Impact in the Africa
Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable
Environment**

2017 Call for Faculty Outreach Applications

1. The Background

The Centre for Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE) is the Africa Centre of Excellence (ACE) for agriculture development anchored at the Federal University of Agriculture Abeokuta (FUNAAB), Nigeria. The Centre is focused on teaching, learning and research excellence in agricultural productivity and sustainable environment.

The action plans to achieve these objectives are 1. Capacity building and research activities in collaboration with relevant industries and other stakeholders. The capacity building programme involves post-graduate curricula leading to Master & Doctoral Degrees in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (M.AgSE/Ph.D.AgSE) in programmes such as *Crop and Pasture Production and Sustainable Environment; Livestock Science and Sustainable Environment; Food Processing and Value Addition; Environmental Systems and Climate Change; Agricultural Mechanization and Sustainable Environment; and Agricultural Economics and Environmental Policy*. 2. Short-term skill acquisition for industry stakeholders and specialized workshops, and 3. Internships for students and Outreach placement for staff.

2. Outreach Placement Scheme

One of the unique features of the Africa Centre of Excellence platform is Outreach placement for faculty. Faculty outreach is an outstandingly novel scheme which is expected to cover 1 continuous month placement in a private sector industry or a higher education institution relevant to the field of specialization of the faculty.

A staggered placement of at most two sessions which cumulatively add up to 1 month period, with each spanning two weeks, is however acceptable.

3. The Call

The Centre of Excellence in Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment (CEADESE) is pleased to announce the 2017 call for applications towards faculty outreach placements within Nigeria, and in some cases within the West African Sub-region. The Management Board of CEADESE has agreed to sponsor twelve (12) placements by December 2017. Applications would undergo very thorough screening based on a set of criteria while successful candidates would be notified.

4. The Objectives

The Scheme is designed to promote regional integration using the platform of the Africa Centre of Excellence by facilitating academic mobility and encouraging networking among regional institutions. The overall objective of the scheme is to afford academic staff teaching or supervising students in the ACE, the opportunity to forge robust scientific collaborations with industries and relevant institutions.

Other objectives include achieving regional integration, curriculum development to make relevant to labour needs, knowledge transfer, joint demand-driven research conceptualization, uptake of research findings, and industrial skills acquisition.

5. Financial Supports

CEADESE shall maintain financial supports to cover the following:

- a) Transport fare, either by air or road, to and from the outreach location.
- b) Upkeep allowance, for living and other incidental expenses, to the tune of US\$ 1,500 and US\$ 4,000 for outreach within Nigeria, and within the sub-region respectively.

Transport return fare shall be paid upfront and only once, regardless of whether the placement is continuous or staggered, in addition to 70 % of the total stipends package.

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The balance would be paid upon the submission of final evaluation reports by faculty and disengagement/completion reports fully endorsed by the host institution or industry.

6. Eligibility

All academic staff teaching or supervising at the ACE, and immediate employees of the Federal University of Agriculture shall be eligible to apply. Staff who have sourced financial supports elsewhere and would only require partial supports from CEADESE may stand a better chance, while women are especially encouraged to apply.

The outreach missions would have to be completed between August 1, 2017 and May 31, 2018.

7. Application Procedure

Signed applications from interested academic staff (addressed to Director, CEADESE) stating full contact information of the hosting institution/organization/industry, and period of placement should be forwarded to trainingunit.ceadese@gmail.com on or before COB Friday July 7, 2017.

The following documents must be attached to the applications which must be forwarded to the same email addresses:

1. Invitation letter from the host
2. A 2-page abridged Curriculum Vitae highlighting involvement in CEADESE, research achievements, a list of scientific publications/awards in the past 3 years, and three referees.
3. Memorandum of Engagement detailing agreed schedule of activities during the outreach
4. A 2-page proposal highlighting schedule of activities and a list of expected outcomes.

The outcomes should be:

- (i) verifiable,
 - (ii) publishable in a high impact journal; and
 - (iii) relevant to the overall objective of the ACE.
5. Evidence of financial or any other kind of supports outside CEADESE, if any

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Successful candidates would be notified latest by August 1, 2017.

8. Further Clarifications

Please contact:

Monitoring and Evaluation Office

monitoring.evaluation.ceadese@gmail.com

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