

Agricultural Extension & Food Security in Africa

The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio
October 20-21, 2014

Call for Paper Abstracts Submission

Deadline: September 5, 2014

The Center for African Studies (CAS), Ohio State University Extension (OSUE) and Office of International Programs in Agriculture (IPA) at The Ohio State University cordially invite papers for their international conference on Agricultural Extension and Food Security in Africa.

Extension for Agricultural Transformation in Africa

The importance of agricultural extension in Africa's agricultural transformation agenda cannot be overemphasized. Smallholder farmers make up over 70 percent of the continent's one billion population. For the vast majority of these farmers agricultural extension is their gateway to information on modern farming methods. However, extension systems in Africa, and throughout the developing world for that matter, face dire challenges, such as large farmer-to-agent ratio, and poor working conditions, but most significantly, the paucity of their training.

Agricultural and rural development strategies, as exemplified by Integrated Rural Development Programs (IRDPs) and National Poverty Reduction Strategy Programs (NPRSPs), have become increasingly complex, yet extension workers charged with their implementation lack the training,

knowledge and sophistication to cope effectively with this increasing complexity of rural development programming.

The future of extension in Africa is very critical, therefore, the social scientific basis for extension; the training needs of extension workers; the relevance of prevailing curricula at agricultural extension training institutions; the empirical testing and replication of extension models; and scholarly discussion on the theory and practice of extension models cannot be overlooked. Extension scholars, students and policymakers are invited to submit abstracts of research papers focused on the conference theme—extension and food security in Africa.

Abstracts of no more than one page should be sent to: cas@osu.edu Closing date for abstracts is September 5, 2014 and authors of selected peer reviewed abstracts will be notified by September 15. There is no conference registration fee. However, paper presenters are responsible for their transportation and hotels. Meals for the two days will be provided free of charge.

For more information contact cas@osu.edu or call (614) 292 8169.

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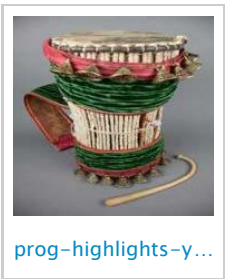
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