LAUNCH OF THE GREATER EASTERN UGANDA REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXPERTISE (GEURCE) ON 22ND JULY 2013 AT BUSITEMA UNIVERSITY

The official acknowledgement of Greater Eastern Uganda RCE (GEURCE) by the Global RCE Service Centre at UNU was in December 2012. This was a great achievement to Uganda and to all stakeholders of GEURCE. The steering committee for the GEURCE has proposed to officially launch the initiative. This will match with the official kick starting of the proposed RCE activities. Note that the GEURCE is the second of such initiative in Uganda after Greater Mbarara Regional Centre of Expertise. GEURCE will be coordinated and at Busitema University.

A one day stakeholder workshop has been organized to take place on 22nd July 2013 to officially launch the GEURCE initiative and this will take place at Busitema University main campus. The Chief Guest will be the State Minister for Higher Education under the Ministry of Education and Sports in the Government of Uganda; Honorable Dr. John Chrysostom Muyingo. The official launch is aimed at consolidating the initiative and to lay foundations to kick-start the proposed activities and also reawaken the stakeholders of the future of GEURCE. The steering committee welcomes all RCE fraternity to the above workshop which will serve as an inaugural meeting and a launch pad of the initiative for the second RCE in Uganda. For more information on the above innovative see website: [www.busitema.ac.ug](http://www.busitema.ac.ug)

The territory covered by the Greater Eastern Uganda Regional Center of Expertise

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**Key**

- Area covered by GEURCE
The vision of Greater Eastern Uganda RCE (GEURCE) is to advance public knowledge, awareness, education, skill and management capacity to achieve sustainable development. It will form a hub of knowledge networks and collective decision-making beyond the constraints of bureaucratic organisations to promote sustainable development.

**Motto:** “working together we will achieve much more”.

**Specific objectives of GEURCE are:**
1. To increase knowledge on sustainable development (ESD) targeting leaders in local government, business, religion, cultural, academic etc.
2. Enhance the quality and policy relevance of sustainable education in the region towards achievement of MDGs, Uganda’s National Development Programme (NDP).
3. Strengthen the capacity of the region to address keys issues such as climate change, urban waste management, HIV/AIDS, land degradation, poor academic performance, among others.
4. Document and scale up best practice for sustainable agriculture, health and small-scale business to the local community.

**Key stakeholders of GEURCE include:**
Universities (Busitema IUUI, Bosoga, Kumi), Other tertiary institutions, Secondary Schools and Primary schools, CSOs (Mifumi, World vision, Plan Uganda) private sector (Tororo Cement Ltd, Uganda Baati ltd, Sebu foods Ltd, Local government in the eastern Uganda,).

**Implementation activities and strategies:**
Collaboration and Partnership building, awareness and Advocacy, Dialogue, Multi-disciplinary research: Developing catchment based appropriate technologies, Promote use of renewable resources, the conservation benefits of natural ecosystems, community action, curricular Reorientation, Promotion of community-oriented projects, innovations, scaling up best practices.

**Strategy focus:** Articulating common problems, responsibility and agendas, building synergy network, communicating clearly, resource mobilization, and sharing benefits across partnership The vision of Greater Eastern Uganda RCE (GEURCE) is to advance public knowledge, awareness, education, skill and management capacity to achieve sustainable development. It will form a hub of knowledge networks and collective decision-making beyond the constraints of bureaucratic organisations to promote sustainable development.

**Persons interested in attending the launch can contact the workshop Coordinator:**

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