

Business schools Respond to Africa's institutional and human Innovation Needs for Sustainable development (BRAINS).

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Social impact in Africa is constrained by deficits in human and institutional capacities to innovate, which are prerequisites to nurturing entrepreneurship. African business schools are not sufficiently prepared to meet the needs of inclusive business with emphasis on customer development alongside service/product development. The training does not include entrepreneurial experiential learning. Graduates often cannot create jobs or find employment while many small businesses lack staff with skills (for customer, service/product development, advocacy and networking) needed to drive innovation and entrepreneurship. The relationship between the demands of the private sector and what business schools teach and what research does is too weak. Nowhere are these deficiencies more critical than in agriculture, Africa's dominant industry with millions of farmers, youths and women.

The creation of an agribusiness MBA option alongside an incubator is an attempt to break the barriers, bridge the gap and foster partnerships between business schools, business, research and government to create cultures and environments that will promote inclusive innovation and social entrepreneurship in especially agribusiness value chains. To this end, the private sector, the business schools, government and research institutions enter into a consortium as partners to create an agribusiness incubator to ensure that a former platform to strengthen their ties and effective channel of transformation is created.

An incubator, by way of facilitating can support many interventions ranging from reforms in curriculum, creation of successful social enterprises especially start-ups as small and medium enterprises and farmer organizations by providing them with business development support services, clustering and networking opportunities with financial institutions and development partners. The objective of an incubator is to facilitate creation of businesses/jobs and raise incomes through sustainable agribusiness development; enabling business schools, private sector and research institutions to jumpstart business ideas and commercialize innovations and produce graduates with inclusive entrepreneurial skills through incubator partnerships and enabling access to facilities or services that would otherwise be extremely difficult to access.

The objective is attained by having, among other things, curriculum that responds to the needs of the private sector through production of graduates with the potential to become effective entrepreneurs, commercialisation of agribusiness innovations, up-scaling innovations, nurturing partnerships that contribute to entrepreneurial culture within a conducive policy environment using appropriate business models such as the farmer Ownership Model along the agribusiness value chain.

It was a great opportunity for the scholarship for me to study my MBA in social entrepreneurship of ALTIS Graduate School of Business and Society of the Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, where I was able to acquire more skills that have strengthened me in empowering over 600,000 coffee farmers in the market, influencing policy change and upscaling my business model; creating shared value as Uganda's coffee revolution. I have established an agribusiness incubator with Makerere University and the National Agricultural Research Organization where so far over 100 agribusinesses for young men and women have been jump-started and are up and running.

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