



Republic of Botswana



21<sup>st</sup> Annual  
General Meeting  
01-05 December 2025  
Botswana



# RUFORUM 21<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025

## CONCEPT NOTE

**Climate Finance, Green and Circular Economy for Africa**



## THEME

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### **Positioning Africa's Universities and the Higher Education Sector to effectively impact development processes on the continent**

**Hosts:**

The Government of Botswana and  
RUFORUM member Universities in Botswana led by Botswana University of  
Agriculture and Natural Resources

**Venue:**

Operations B/Room

**Date:** 27- 29 November, 2025

**Time:** 8:30-17:00

**Contact Persons:** Professor. Anthony Egeru; (a.egeru@ruforum.org)

## Background

Africa is stepping out of the global arena with increased intentionality towards a solutions-based approach by positioning the continent as a destination of global solutions to global climate change challenges. The last two concluded Africa Climate Summits have demonstrated that there's optimism and commitment towards this movement. From the Nairobi to Adis Ababa climate summit it is clear that solutions ought to be emerging from Africa to the rest of the world. However, the continent remains largely in a global imbalance of finance for example, Africa receives only 3% of the global climate finance flows to the developing countries, and of which only 36% of this is earmarked for adaptation. Yet, Africa's development and climate bill could only continue to rise if deliberate actions are undertaken on the continent.

Within the framework of climate finance, green and circular economy, it has been observed that taking a circular economy approach results in multiple benefits for every dollar invested for example; 11 million new jobs could be added to the economies, reduction of greenhouse emissions by 60% by 2030, increased access to the US\$546 billion global circularity market, and opportunities to tap into the US\$21.7 billion continent's waste management market size . Further, opportunities exist in various sectors such as ensuring just energy transition, championing adaptation and mitigation, leveraging Africa's green potential, and scaling up climate finance. But, moving this needle requires that the continent addresses significant barriers in its human capital resource base as well as other structural and systemic challenges within countries and across the continent. In fact, during the Africa Climate Summit in Adis Ababa, there is a call to bridge the 'know-gap' by moving beyond training to ensuring that human capital can be effectively utilized to improve quality and drive real change.

A consortium of African Universities involving; Stellenbosch University (South Africa), Makerere University (Uganda), University of Nairobi (Kenya), University of Kinshasha (DR. Congo), Ain Shams University (Egypt), Haramaya University (Ethiopia), and Université Félix-Houphouët-Boigny (Cote

D'Voire) in the RUFORUM network working with other private sector partners such as Green House Capital are co-creating a Pan-African initiative for translating Africa's potential into reality focused on building Africa's climate finance, green and circular economy ecosystem. The consortium has been working over the last one year seeking to co-create a unique initiative and strategic agenda for Higher Education Climate Finance, Green and Circular Economy Agenda for Africa. This year's working session will seek to advance this conversation and co-creation spirit among the African higher education institutions.

### **Overall Objectives**

The overall objective of this pre-conference event is to co-create African Higher Education Consortium on Climate finance, green and circular with a structured investment vehicle.

### **Specific Objectives:**

1. Take stoke of the Post-Windhoek, Namibia consensus
2. Co-create climate finance, green and circular economy higher education agenda for Africa
3. Advance the co-creation of building Africa Green and Circular economy ecosystems investment

vehicle

4. Map-key stakeholders and develop a fundraising approach for resourcing the investment vehicle

### **Expected Outputs:**

1. High level concept of the climate finance, green and circular economy agenda for higher education in Africa
2. Advanced program concept
3. Prioritized stakeholders and fundraising actions for execution

### **Participants:**

This is a consultative face to face meeting that will draw participants from University of Nairobi, Makerere University, Stellenbosch University, Kinshasa, and Yangambi Universities.

**Venue: Operations B/Room**  
**Session Chair: Dr Arfang Badji**  
**Rapporteurs: Polite M. Molathegi**

Time	Event	Person in-charge
08:00-08:30	Registration	Dr. Arfang Badji
08:30-09:00	<b>Opening Remarks</b> 1. Prof. Mark Swilling 2. Prof. Yazidhi Bamutaze 3. Prof. Anthony Egeru	Facilitator
09:00-09:30	Status of consortium activities post Namibia co-creation	Prof. Yazidhi Bamutaze
09:30-10:00	State of climate finance, green and circular economy	Prof. Mark Swilling
10:00-10:30	<b>Health Break</b>	<b>Hotel</b>
10:30-11:00	What is the place of higher education in climate finance, green and circular economy and what are the action areas	Paul Mukwaya
11:00-13:00	Co-creating the framework areas and action packs (agenda)	Paul Mukwaya (facilitator)
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>Hotel</b>
14:00-16:30	Co-creating the framework areas and action packs (agenda)	Paul Mukwaya (facilitator)

### **Day 2: 28th November 2025: Deepening Consortium Engagement**

08:00-08:30	Registration	Dr. Arfang Badji
08:30-10:00	Stakeholder Mapping and Stakeholder Priority Interests. Who is doing what in the continent and who has the lowest hanging fruits we can tap	
10:00-10:30	<b>Health Break</b>	<b>Hotel</b>
10:30-12:30	Stakeholder Prioritization and engagement actions	All
12:30-13:00	Presentation of Stakeholders and engagement approaches	Team Leads
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00-15:00	Re-visiting the climate finance, green and circular economy ecosystem	Prof. Mark Swilling
15:00-16:30	Building a Theory of Change for climate finance, green and circular economy ecosystem (Barriers Analysis, Interventions and Outputs)	Prof. Bamutaze and Dr. Patrick Byakagaba

### **Day 3: 29th November, 2025: Investment Clarity**

<b>08:00-08:30</b>	<b>Registration and open conversations</b>	<b>Dr. Arfang Badji</b>
08:30-10:00	Deepening Investment Program Design: Putting the Theory of Change together	Prof. Bamutaze
10:00-10:30	<b>Health Break</b>	
10:30-13:00	Deeper Description and Design of the Program	Participants create working groups and assign tasks
13:00-14:00	<b>Lunch Break</b>	<b>Hotel</b>
14:00-15:00	Putting the Investment Program Together	Working Teams
15:00-16:00	High level costing of the Investment	Paul Mukwaya and Mark Swilling
15:00-16:00	Road Map for Continued Consortium Engagement and fundraising	Dr. Patrick Byakagaba
16:00-16:30	Presentation of Co-created Investment and Proposed Road Map	Prof. Yazidhi Bamutaze
<b>16:30-17:00</b>	<b>Closing remarks</b>	<b>Prof. Majaliwa Mwanjalolo</b>