



Co-funded by
the European Union



**Partnership Strategy for Strengthening Teaching and Research Capacities and
Development Initiatives**

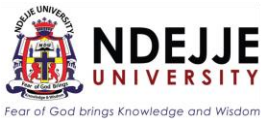
Dates: 27- 30 May 2026

Time: 14:00-17:00 EAT

Registration Link: <https://bit.ly/42ni2Sy>

**Co-Funded by the European Union under Grant No. 101237180
(ERASMUS -EDU-2025-CBHE-STRAND 1)**

The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.



www.strcuu.org



Co-funded by
the European Union



Project Title: Strengthening Teaching and Research Capacities in Recently Established Uganda Universities to Deliver Climate Resilience and Green Energy Solutions to Farming Communities

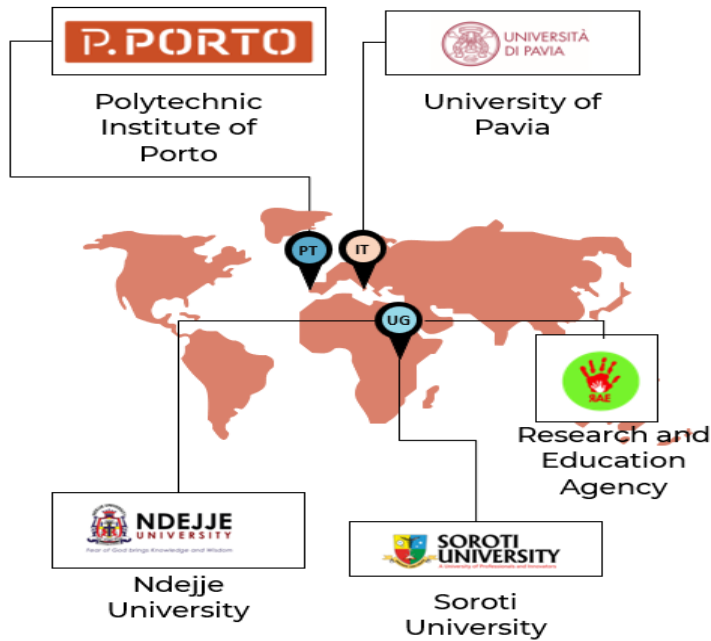
Acronym: STRCUU

Grant Call: ERASMUS -EDU-2025-CBHE-STRAND 1

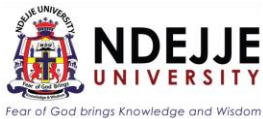
Grant Number: 101237180

Lead Institution: Ndejje University, Uganda

Partner institutions



The European Commission's support for the production of this publication does not constitute an endorsement of the contents, which reflect the views only of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.





Co-funded by
the European Union



Table of Content

1. Background and Rationale.....	2
2. Purpose of Partnership Engagement	2
3. Important point to note.....	3
4. Facilitator.....	3
5. Training Approach and Method.....	3
6. Programme Overview.....	4
7. Expected Competencies after training	5
8. STRCUU/RAE Contacts.....	5



Co-funded by
the European Union



1. Background and Rationale

Globally, climate change and energy transition urgently need skilled graduates, researchers and development practitioners. In Africa, these capacities are being built but are faced with the challenges of limited labs, staff and Infrastructure gaps, Curriculum lag, Research isolation, Industry disconnect, Local relevance gaps and weak networks. For example, Universities are expected to produce green energy technicians, climate researchers among others to meet development plans, Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC) targets and global commitments. New universities such as Ndejje, Soroti and Muni in Uganda, Laikipia in Kenya, National University of Agriculture in Benin, among others, face a specific challenge of huge mandate, and high expectations yet with thin resources and limited partnership engagement. Partnerships are core operating models for achieving credible teaching, research and innovations delivering mechanisms for fostering transformative change including in climate and energy within short periods. A well designed and executed partnership strategy therefore, presents an opportunity for institutions and individuals to deliver development solutions.

A Partnership Engagement Strategy (PES) is a structured approach that organizations and individuals use to foster collaboration and create mutual benefit among stakeholders. The strategy is essential for navigating the complexities of stakeholder relationships and ensuring sustainable engagement. Higher Education, Research and Development Institutions like Universities are increasingly adopting PES to engage with stakeholders, enhancing their role in societal development through collaborative research and teaching (Vorley, 2024).

It is upon this background that a training on Partnership Engagement Strategy for such initiatives that requires a multifaceted approach has been prepared. This strategy focuses on collaboration with universities, research institutions, NGOs and local communities, to ensure effective implementation and sustainability. For example, the key Partners for the EU funded STRCUU Project include Ndejje University, Soroti University both from Uganda, Polytechnic Institute of Porto and University of Pavia from Europe and; Research and Education Agency, an NGO in Uganda, are engaged in collaborative undertakings to build capacity for generating climate and green energy solutions for the farming communities in Uganda. This requires that they engage not only among themselves, but with other actors including industry and policy. Similar collaborative undertakings are being used Globally to foster effective delivery of development solutions and for achieving impact and sustainability. Hence the need to reflect on key elements for developing a functional and credible Stakeholder Engagement Strategy which is the focus of this training Event.

2. Purpose of Partnership Engagement Training

To equip universities, research institutions, Non-Governmental Organizations and other actors with skills to build and manage collaborations that improve their core functions as they integrate and align interventions with community and industry needs, ensuring that solutions are both scientifically sound and locally applicable.



Co-funded by
the European Union



By engaging with various stakeholders in this learning process, we seek to lesson learn and design effective Stakeholder Engagement Strategies for creating sustainable frameworks for addressing development challenges such as for developing climate resilient and green energy solutions.

3. Important points to note:

- Target group: Graduate students, academic staff, researchers and development practitioners, community and other interested persons
- Eligibility: Open to Global Participation
- Languages of delivery: English
- Registration fees: None
- Added advantage: Experience in handling diverse Partners

4. Training Facilitator

Sarah Akello Esimu, PhD
Lecturer
Department of Extension and Innovation studies
School of Agricultural Sciences
College of Agriculture and Environmental Science
Makerere University Kampala
Tel: +256 782 734 449: Email sarahakellok1@gmail.com

5. Training Approach and Method

The training will adopt a predominantly online approach with opportunity to share experiences on partnerships supported by guiding presentations on strategies for achieving successful partnerships. The program will serve as a flexible framework, accommodating participants' emerging and evolving learning needs through participatory methods. A highly interactive environment will be fostered, where learners actively participate in the discussions. Throughout the sessions, participants will be encouraged to freely engage with the facilitator while receiving continuous feedback from peers. The training will culminate in a structured evaluation process, allowing participants to reflect on the effectiveness of the training and provide input for future improvement.



Co-funded by
the European Union



6. Programme Overview

DAY ONE

Module 1: Foundations - Why Partnerships

- Types of Partnerships including in higher education and research
- Core Strategic Principles and frameworks
- Operational Engagement Guidelines for Partnership
- Key Components of Partnership Engagement Strategy
- Partnership vs Networking vs Collaboration

Module 2 Strategic identification and mapping

- Institutional needs assessment
- Stakeholder mapping tools
- Partnership selection criteria and due diligence
- Partnership Landscape analysis
- Proposed partnership module

DAY TWO

Module 3: Designing Equitable Partnerships

- Co-creation of shared vision, objectives and governance structure
- Roles and responsibilities matrix RACI (Responsible, accountable, consulted & Informed)
- Negotiations, MoU, agreements, joint budgeting, ethics and power dynamics

Module 4 Partnership for teaching capacity

- Curriculum co- development
- Work- based learning models
- Joint program delivery
- Faculty exchange and development
- Teaching infrastructure sharing

DAY THREE

Module 5: Partnership for Research capacity

- Joint proposal development
- Research infrastructure access
- Co-supervision and mentorship
- Joint publication and Intellectual Property
- Research uptake and policy influence
- Ethical clearance and compliance

Module 6: Partnership management and implementation

- Partnership work planning
- Communication protocols
- Conflict management
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Risk and financial management



Co-funded by
the European Union



DAY FOUR

Module 7: Sustainability and institutionalization

- From project to program
- Resource mobilization
- Institutional policy framework
- Knowledge transfer
- Partnership review and renewal
- Measuring impact

Module 8: Practical skills and tools

- Stakeholder mapping exercise
- MoU drafting clinic
- Proposal writing lab
- Negotiation role-play
- Partnership Health Scorecard

Cross-Cutting themes throughout

- Gender and youth inclusion
- Digital tools
- Decolonizing partnerships
- Documentation

7. Expected Competencies after training.

Participants should be able to: map, negotiate, formalize, manage, and evaluate partnerships that result in

- 1) updated curriculum with industry input,
- 2) joint research proposals and grants won,
- 3) co-publications,
- 4) increased students' internships,
- 5) policy briefs from research.

8. STRCUU/RAE Contacts

Website: www.strcuu.org

RAE: www.rae.co.ug

Training Contact person: Ms. Agnes Amoit, a.amoit@rae.co.ug