



**1<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL REPORT 2011**

**PRESENTED TO  
THE UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI THROUGH  
SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES**

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

AMREF	Africa Medical Research Foundation
CDC	Centre for Disease Control and Prevention
IFS	International Foundation for Science
INASP	Institute of Development Studies on Pedagogical Skills for Trainers of Policy Makers.
KEMRI	Kenya Medical Research Institute
KU	Kenyatta University
NCST	National Council of Science and Technology
OAU	Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife Nigeria
RECCADE	Research Centre for Capacity Development
SBS	School of Biological Sciences.
SCI	School of Computing and Informatics, University of Nairobi
TCC	Training Centre in Communication.
UoN	University of Nairobi.
W.H.O	World Health Organization

## **TCC PROGRESS REPORT**

**JANUARY –DECEMBER 2011**

The following is a report on the activities of the Training Centre in Communication (TCC) from January to December 2011. TCC trains scientists in the region in scientific communication and publishing and is in partnership with the University of Nairobi through the direct linkage with the School of Biological Sciences (SBS). TCC is also in partnership with Kenyatta University (KU) Kenya through the Research Centre for Capacity Development (RECCADE) linkage and Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife Nigeria(OAU) through the Directorate of Linkages. TCC has its main office at the School of Biological Sciences, University of Nairobi's Gecaga institute of Tropical Endocrinology Building (serves East, Central and Southern Africa) and a satellite office at OAU that serves West Africa.

### **(a) Course Units For Training**

The modules offered by the Centre during the year 2011 include:-

- Basic note-taking and learning skills
- The main types of publications, and how to assess their quality, how to decide about a suitable forum for one's work
- The basics of scientometrics
- How to write a primary scientific paper, a review paper, a conference proceedings paper, a book chapter, and other types of short publications
- How to use graphical tools to analyze data and present technical evidence, how to construct tables and figures
- Introduction to R Program me
- How to submit, handle and revise manuscripts, the publication process from submission to final publication
- To prepare an oral presentation for different audiences, how to effectively deliver it
- How to design and prepare a poster for scientific national and international conferences
- How to participate at scientific conferences and how to interact with their peers
- What are the necessary criteria for a good proposal, and how to maximize chances of success when applying for funds
- How to effectively manage a funded project
- Legal and ethical obligations in research and publication

### (b) Training Calendar

The following courses were offered in the year 2011 :-

#### Kenya

- Scientific Communication and Publishing Course 4-8 April 2011 held at the School of Computing and Informatics (SCI), University of Nairobi Chiromo Campus Corporate Computer Laboratories.
- Proposal Writing and Grant Management & Oral Communication and presentation course 6-8 June 2011 at the School of Physical Sciences Board room University of Nairobi.
- Scientific Communication and Publishing held on 15-19 August 2011 at the School of Physical Sciences Board room, University of Nairobi Chiromo Campus.
- Scientific Writing and Publishing, Graphical Methods for Data Presentation was held 12-14 October 2011 at the School of Physical Sciences University of Nairobi.
- Scientific Communication and Publishing held from 5-9 December 2011 at the School of Computing and Informatics, University of Nairobi.

#### Nigeria

- OAU training 23-24 May 2011 on Oral Communication and Presentation held at OAU Nigeria
- Course on Scientific Writing and Publishing, Graphical Methods for Data Presentation, Oral Communication And Presentation, Proposal Writing And Grant Management 12-16 September 2011 held at OAU Nigeria.

### (c) Trained Participants And Institutions

#### Kenya

<u>Institution</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Africa Medical Research Institute Tanzania (AMREF)	2	0	<u>2</u>
Centers For Disease Control & Prevention(CDC)	5	3	<u>8</u>
Chandaria Medical Clinic Uganda	1	0	<u>1</u>
Crop Research Institute (CSIR)	2	0	<u>2</u>
Department Of Veterinary Services	1	0	<u>1</u>
Eduardo Mondlane University	1	0	<u>1</u>
Egerton University	2	1	<u>3</u>
Gertrudes Gardens Children Hospital	2	6	<u>8</u>
Great Lakes University Kisumu	0	1	<u>1</u>
Ifakara Health Institute Morogoro	8	0	<u>8</u>
Impact Research And Development Organisation	0	1	<u>1</u>
Ines Ruhengeri	0	1	<u>1</u>
Infotrak Research And Consulting	1	0	<u>1</u>
International Institute Of Tropical Agriculture	0	1	<u>1</u>
International Livestock Research Institute	1	1	<u>2</u>
Kenya Agricultural Research Institute	2	1	<u>3</u>
Kenya Commercial Bank	1	0	<u>1</u>
Kenya Industrial Research & Development Institute	9	11	<u>20</u>

Kenya Marine And Fisheries Institute	1	0	<u>1</u>
Kenya Medical Research Institute	3	1	<u>4</u>
Kenya Methodist University	0	2	<u>2</u>
Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate	19	24	<u>43</u>
Kenya School Of Law	0	1	<u>1</u>
Kyambogo University Uganda	0	1	<u>1</u>
Masinde Muliro University	0	1	<u>1</u>
Ministry Of Agriculture (Kenya)	0	1	<u>1</u>
Ministry Of Public Health (Kenya)	0	1	<u>1</u>
Muhimbili University Tanzania	0	1	<u>1</u>
National Council Of Science And Technology	0	1	<u>1</u>
Network For Ecofarming( Necofa)	0	1	<u>1</u>
New Model Era School Nigeria	0	1	<u>1</u>
Obafemi Awolowo University Nigeria	4	4	<u>8</u>
Ocean In Arid Lands International	1	0	<u>1</u>
University Of Agriculture Abeokuta Nigeria	1	0	<u>1</u>
University Of Dar-Es Salaam	1	0	<u>1</u>
University Of Gezira (Sudan)	2	0	<u>2</u>
University Of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital Nigeria	1	0	<u>1</u>
University Of Nairobi	26	34	<u>60</u>
University Of Toronto, Canada	0	1	<u>1</u>
University Of Zimbabwe	1	1	<u>2</u>
Walter Reed Project	0	2	<u>2</u>
World Agroforestry Centre (Icraf)	1	2	<u>3</u>
World Health Organisation,Liberia	1	0	<u>1</u>
<b><u>Totals</u></b>	<b><u>100</u></b>	<b><u>107</u></b>	<b><u>207</u></b>

### **Nationalities**

<b><u>Nationalities</u></b>	<b><u>Nos</u></b>
Dutch	1
Ghanian	3
Kenyan	168
Mozambican	1
Nigerian	13
Rwanda	1
Sudanese	4
Tanzanian	12
Ugandan	3
Zimbabwe	1
<b><u>Totals</u></b>	<b><u>207</u></b>

## **Nigeria**

On Oral Communication Presentation and Networking, 23-24 May 2011 at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife (OAU)

### **1. Attendance:**

The distribution of attendance at the workshop is as follows:

- Obafemi Awolowo University – 18
- Osun State University – 1
- Babcock University – 2
- Bells University – 1

### **2. Gender Distribution:**

- Male – 18 (82%)
- Female – 4 (18%)

OAU Training Scientific Writing and Publishing, Oral Communication and Presentation, Graphical Methods For Data Presentation And Proposal Writing And Grant Management held on 12-16 September 2011. Sixty five participants took part in this course

#### **(a) Consultancies**

- TCC facilitated training on oral communication and presentation to the AWARD program me women research scientists in Arusha, Tanzania from 21-26 February 2011. The training was funded by (IFS) International Foundation for Science and had 26 participants.

#### **Workshop Presentations**

- In January 2011 TCC made a presentation on its activities to IFS in Stockholm Sweden.
- In May 2011 TCC made a presentation on its activities to OAU.

#### **Linkages**

- TCC is in partnership with Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife Nigeria (OAU) and has opened a satellite office in West Africa (Nigeria) through the Directorate of Linkages.
- TCC is also in partnership with Kenyatta University Kenya through the RECCADE linkage.

#### **(b) Office Matters**

##### **TCC Staff trained in Pedagogical skills for Trainers**

- Ms Joy Owango, the Centre Manager was trained by the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) and the Institute of Development Studies on Pedagogical skills for trainers of policy makers in July 2011.

## Observers

- TCC started bringing independent observers from the Commission of Higher Education (C.H.E) Kenya. C.H.E is mandated to make better provisions for the advancement of University education in Kenya and for connected purposes and to oversee quality assurance and expansion of University Education ensuring sustainability, affordability and relevance.
- The other observer is DSW (*Deutsche Stiftung Weltbevölkerung*) an international non-governmental organization addressing Sexual & Reproductive Health (SRH) and population dynamics and finally the University of Nairobi

## Training of trainers

- TCC has FOUR new trainers, namely Januarius Agullo, John Kamanu, Anuradha Kodha and Prof Emmanuel Ohene Mr Januarius Agullo and Anuradha Khoda , will train *Introduction to R Programme*. Mr John Kamanu and Prof Emmanuel Ohene, will train Scientific writing and publishing. The latter will be based in the TCC Nigeria office.

## Administration

- The TCC conference room has been refurbished into a meeting and training room that has a capacity of up to twenty people and is open for use by the College of Biological and Physical Sciences for meetings.
- TCC held its 1st partners meeting that included representatives from OAU and UON between 8<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> August 2011.
- TCC accounts for 2010 were audited by Ng`ang`a Mwangi and co Certified Public Accountants.
- TCC is now a member of KIMISITU SACCO. Kimisitu is a Savings and Credit Co-operative Society for the employees of International Organizations, Foreign Missions, Embassies, Non-Governmental Organizations and any other organization approved by the Board of Directors whose aim is to positively transform members' lives by offering them an opportunity to save securely and earn returns at attractive rates of interest. TCC contracted staff will be eligible to the SACCO in meeting their financial obligations.
- TCC has been in the process of engaging a Public Relations firm to handle its marketing and public relations activities and a Human Resource Consultant to create Human Resource policy for TCC growing number of staff.

## **Awarding Programme**

In order to keep track of TCC` alumni, the centre started the TCC Awarding Programme. This programme gives awards to those who came for the TCC course and produced better presentations and published academic papers in journals.

## **Work Study programme**

Training Centre in Communication (TCC) has introduced a Work Study Program me whereby it partially pays school fees for its staff at an Undergraduate and Postgraduate level. The objective of the Work Study Program me is to provide a platform for the young academics on the ethics and ethos of running program mes, in preparation for their careers, at the same time assisting them with their academic financial obligations.

- The Work Study Program started on July 4th 2011. The recipients of this program are Ms Judith Mwihaki a 2nd year student at the University of Nairobi Chiromo Campus taking Bachelor of Science in Environmental Conservation and Natural Resource Management. She is the Administrative Assistant at TCC under this program
- The other recipient is Mr. Felix Abdalla who completed his 4th year in June 2011 at the School of Biological Sciences UON where he was taking BSc. in Environmental Conservation and Natural Resource Management. He is the Program Assistant under the program. The two recipients were on a three month probation period between July and September 2011. Mr. Abdalla enrolled for a Master of Science in Biology of Conservation at the School of Biological Sciences in September 2011.

## **(h) Outputs**

- Judith Mwihaki represented TCC and participated in The Annual Mazingira Challenge; which was about wetlands, forests and related environments and emerged as 1<sup>st</sup> with the University of Nairobi team.
- Felix Abdalla represented TCC and presented a paper at the aGRO 2011 Biennial Conference organized by the Faculty of Agriculture University of Nairobi, Upper Kabete Campus.
- Joy Owango represented TCC and gave a talk on Oral Communication, Presentation and Networking, at the Application of Information Communication Technologies to Teaching, Research and Administration (AICTTRA 2011) an international conference on ICT applications organized by Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife.
- Dr. Robai Gakunga represented TCC and gave a talk on Graphical Methods for Data Presentation, at the Application of Information Communication Technologies to Teaching, Research and Administration (AICTTRA 2011) an international conference on ICT applications organized by Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife.



- Tonny Omwansa represented TCC and gave a talk on Emerging Trends in Micro financing using Mobile phones, at the Application of Information Communication Technologies to Teaching, Research and Administration (AICTTRA 2011) an international conference on ICT applications organized by Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife.
- Tonny Omwansa represented TCC and gave a talk Introduction to proposal writing and Grant management at the Application of Information Communication Technologies to Teaching, Research and Administration (AICTTRA 2011) an international conference on ICT applications organized by Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife.
- Ms Anne Marie Nyamu represented TCC and gave a talk on Scientific Writing and Publishing, at the Application of Information Communication Technologies to Teaching, Research and Administration (AICTTRA 2011) an international conference on ICT applications organized by Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile Ife.

## **(J) Challenges**

The following consultancies were postponed due to various reasons:-

- The Southern Sudan`s Sanofi Aventis sponsored training was moved following the political uncertainty in the region in 2011.
- The following possible partnerships fell through due to technical reasons, Mount Kenya University, Kabarak University, United States International University Africa and Kenya Methodist University
- Requisition of quotations for refurbishment of the adjacent room to the TCC conference room has delayed.