

Africa Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund for Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology

Progress Report
27 June 2019

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Executive Summary

The Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund, the flagship program of the Partnership for skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET) aims to address fundamental gaps in skills and knowledge needed for increasing the use of science, technology and innovation for sustained economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This report provides a summary of progress in implementation of the RSIF Program for the three-month period, April to June 2019. Overall, the activities for the project are on track. Key activities implemented during the period are:

1. The Feasibility Study for the RSIF Permanent Fund is expected to start in July 2019. Following technical review at *icipe*, Lion's Head Global Partners (Kenya) in joint venture with MDY Legal (UK) was recommended to undertake the study and due diligence for the selected firm has been done. No objection has been obtained from the WB. *icipe* is evaluating the financial proposal from the Consortium.
2. Resource mobilization: Following the May 2019 PASET Forum in Kigali Rwanda, briefs on PASET RSIF have been shared and discussions held with Governments of Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo and Zambia. *icipe* has, in addition, initiated engagement with South Africa to interest them in participation in PASET at various levels. Similarly, *icipe* is reaching out to a wide range of development partners and some private sector institutions.
3. Seven additional African Host Universities (AHUs) have been competitively selected (approved by the EB in May 2019) to host RSIF scholars, bringing total AHUs to 11. *icipe* is currently discussing partnership agreements with the universities to enable RSIF students' training.
4. The first cohort of 16 RSIF scholars continues to progress well. They have completed their course work and are at various stages of finalizing research proposals and linking with international partner institutions (IPI) for their research internships. Unfortunately, one scholar has decided not to continue her studies. The other 15 scholars were facilitated to attend the Fifth PASET Forum in Kigali, Rwanda. In Kigali, the scholars received training on research communications, digital storytelling, research ethics, information literacy, reference management and open access e-resources. The scholars met themselves in Kigali for the first time.
5. *icipe* has matched 11 RSIF scholars for internships with IPIs and most hope to commence by September 2019. Six (6) scholars have been matched with the Korean Institute of Science and Technology and five (5) with Worcester Polytechnic Institute in the United States. *icipe* has intensified search for IPIs to host the remaining four (4) scholars. *icipe* facilitated signing of MoUs with four further institutions in Korea and Morocco that will host scholars in the second cohort.
6. A bi-lingual call for applications for the second cohort of RSIF scholars has been published and disseminated widely to a diverse audience in sub-Saharan Africa. *icipe* has been keen to ensure

that the call reaches underrepresented groups such as women, francophone and lusophone communities. The deadline for applications is July 22, 2019, upon which the scholar selection process will be initiated. Up to 45 PhD students are expected to be awarded RSIF scholarships through the PASET EB by September 2019.

7. The RCU (*icipe*) has initiated the development of a strategy for enhancing the participation of women in PhD training and research in ASET fields in Africa. A convening is planned for the next period to move this work forward.
8. During April 2019, with the support from a Senior Research and Innovation Specialist from the World Bank, the RSIF team has developed detailed design for windows 2 and 3 of the RSIF. Four calls for proposals have been developed targeting research groups from RSIF host universities and private sector collaborators (Window 3). Implementation of the Calls will start in the next period.

Key challenges during the period were:

1. One RSIF scholar (Lillian Roberts, Kenyan) has made the decision to separate from the PASET RSIF scholarship program and her studies at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). *icipe*, with guidance from the EB will prepare guidelines around student separation from the PASET RSIF Scholarship Program.
2. Tuition fees at SUA and AUST are higher than the allocated US\$3000 in the budget. Discussions have been held with universities and an agreement has been reached for the next cohort of students with a proposed fee structure. However, this will not apply to the 15 Scholars from the first cohort. The RCU is negotiating with the universities and will provide update in the next period.
3. Matching of students is not yet complete, and *icipe* is providing support to this process to both ensure the four unmatched students are matched, but also that the next cohort sandwich planning is initiated early on.
4. Support to female RSIF scholars who have children is currently not catered for by the RSIF Program. The gender strategy will respond systematically to these issues. However, there is need to clarify how to handle the current cohort of 16 students, particularly during internships overseas in the US and other northern partner countries. *icipe* will need to cover some additional costs to allow scholars who are mothers to travel with their children.

Introduction

The Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund, the flagship program of the Partnership for skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET) aims to address fundamental gaps in skills and knowledge needed for increasing the use of science, technology and innovation for sustained economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This report provides a summary of progress in implementation of the RSIF Program for the three-month period, April to June 2019. The describes activities undertaken during that period arranged in the key result areas of the program: Component 1: Capacity Development for Operation of the Scholarship, Research and Innovation Fund and Component 2: PhD Scholarships, research grants and innovation grants. Overall, the activities for the program remain on 'track'.

A. Component 1: Capacity Development for Operation of the Scholarship, Research and Innovation Fund

1.1 Capacity building for management of the RSIF General Fund and setting up the RSIF Permanent Fund:

1.1.1 Resource mobilization

Discussions have been held with various development partners and African governments to make them aware of PASET and to engage them to join the initiative. Following presentation and discussions with countries participating in the World Bank African Higher Education Centers of Excellence Project (Phase 1& Phase 3) in Djibouti in February 2019, follow-up meetings were held with government representatives during the Fifth PASET Forum in Kigali, Rwanda in May 2019. A total of 21 governments were represented at the Forum. *Icipe*, as the Regional Coordination Unit (RCU) delivered two presentations at the Forum Plenary on RSIF and organized an exhibition on RSIF (300 participants attended the Forum). The exhibition provided an opportunity for development partners and country representatives to interact with RSIF scholars. On 21 May 2019 during the Forum, *icipe* hosted a RSIF Breakfast Meeting and MoU signing ceremony to engage with countries on RSIF. The event was presided over by Prof. George A.O. Magoha, Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Education and Chair of the PASET Governing Council (GC) with remarks provided by Prof. Aminata Sall Diallo, the Executive Director of the PASET Executive Board (EB). Ministers representing Ghana, Guinea, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Zambia attended this meeting.

Several countries, i.e. Burkina Faso, Ghana and Nigeria are expected to join PASET RSIF as part of the World Bank ACE (Phase 3) Impact Project. Other countries that are expected to contribute through other World Bank projects include Mozambique, Tanzania, and Guinea. Countries such as Togo and Zambia are also exploring how to join.

The RCU continues to follow up and is planning targeted visits to African governments that have expressed interest. Briefs on RSIF have been shared with the Governments of Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Ghana, Guinea, Mozambique, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Togo and Zambia. *icipe* is holding discussions with other countries including South Africa to interest them in participation in PASET at various levels. The RCU has communicated with African Host Universities that are in countries that are not currently members of PASET through their Vice Chancellors to engage with their respective ministers responsible for higher education and research to highlight the benefits of their participation in PASET RSIF. Relevant commissions for higher education in these countries are being kept aware of the Projects activities.

During the period, *icipe* has held discussions with several development partners including the MasterCard Foundation, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA), the African Development Bank, Carnegie Corporation of New York, IDRC, Nuffic (Dutch organization for internationalization in education), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the African Capacity Building Foundation and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (UN).

A concept note for fundraising with the private sector in Kenya is under discussion with the Ministry of Education with similar events planned for other PASET member countries in 2020.

1.1.2 Permanent Fund design

The target is to have the Permanent Fund established by June 2020 and to mobilized at least USD 15 million by 2024. The Permanent Fund design will be based on a feasibility study undertaken by a professional firm on a consultancy basis to advise on legal registration, bylaws, statutes, governance, structure, investment policy and fundraising strategy. A request for proposals (RfP) was sent to five (5) firms that had expressed interest. Three (3) proposals were received by the end of April deadline (one firm formally withdrew, a second did not submit a proposal). Following review by a technical committee at *icipe*, Lion's Head Global Partners (Kenya) in joint venture with MDY Legal (UK) were selected, due diligence undertaken, and no objection obtained from the WB¹. *Icipe* is evaluating the financial proposal from the Consortium.

The Executive Board is requested to note the progress of the RCU in resource mobilization activities. The RCU request for support from the PASET EB and CAG in the organization of in-country level activities in member states with the objective to engage the private sector and other prospective contributors / partners.

1.2 Capacity development for the operation and management of doctoral training scholarships in selected AHUs

1.2.1 Host university selection

Following a competitive and rigorous process, seven additional host universities were selected and approved by the EB in May 2019. This brings the total number of RSIF African host universities to 11 (See Annex 1 for full list of AHUs). During the period, *icipe* engaged in virtual discussions with all current AHUs to agree and develop partnership agreements. As part of this process, *icipe* also organized side meeting with all 11 AHUs to discuss implementation arrangements, including intellectual property issues, for the RSIF programs at the Fifth PASET Forum in Kigali. Subsequent to the Forum, *icipe* held follow up discussions with each AHU to refine the scope of the partnership agreement and design a budget breakdown. The draft partnership agreement is awaiting RSIF AHU partner feedback and finalization.

1.2.2 Selection of 2nd cohort of PhD scholars

The proposed process for selection of the 2nd cohort of PhD scholars (up to 45 PhD students) was finalized. The bi-lingual [Call for applications](#) was published on 13 June 2019 and disseminated widely. The RCU is ensuring that the Call reaches potential applicants across Africa, including the disadvantaged and all target countries through various channels. The deadline for applications is **July 22, 2019**. A series of webinars will be held to ensure potential applicants have access to relevant information. The process will use a centralized online application form, followed by pre-admission to be done by the RSIF Host University based on the University's criteria for the specific PhD program and review by an independent technical committee prior to approval by the EB. The proposed timelines for the selection of the 2nd cohort of students are presented in Table 1.

1.2.3 Partner university selection (Korean, US universities and others) and MoUs

icipe-RCU has continued to engage various international partners to bring on board strong institutions to engage in joint research and training and raise the level of PhD training for the program including through institutional capacity building of the AHUs, including through support to processes for accreditation. These

¹ The other two bidders scored below the pass mark for technical proposal and thus did not qualify for further evaluation.

include over 15 international universities/ institutions in Europe, North America, Brazil and others (See Annex 2).

Table 1: Proposed timelines for selection of 2nd Cohort of RSIF students

Activity		Timeline (2019)
1	RSIF Scholarship Call for Applications	31 May -22 July
2	RCU compliance and eligibility check	24 July
3	African host university admission list and ranking based on University and RSIF criteria	12 August
4	RSIF scholarship applicants' record virtual (one-way) interview	12- 16 August
5	Applicant documents and interviews shared with Independent Evaluation Committees. Review of applications. Skype interviews of selected applicants.	19 August
6	IEC submission of scores to RCU	9 September
7	IEC virtual meeting (AHU representative present as observers)	16 September
8	RSIF scholarship nominations sent to PASET EB	20 September
9	Approval of final list of selected applicants by EB	23 September

During the period, PASET-RSIF signed agreements with four institutions: Korea Institute of Energy Research (KIER), Korea Research Institute of Chemical Technology (KRICT), Institute of Green Bio Science and Technology (GBST) of Seoul National University (SNU) and University Mohammed VI Polytechnic, Morocco. This is in addition to the previously signed agreements including with Korea Institute of Science and Technology (KIST).

1.2.4 Strategies for increasing the participation of women in PhD training and in research in ASET fields
icipe has initiated development of a gender strategy that will provide recommendations for how RSIF can support more eligible women to enrol into host-university PhD programs and support their performance, retention, completion, and transition to ASET research and training institutions. To inform strategy development, *icipe* will conduct research to elucidate the main socio-cultural, economic, and institutional factors that explain low representation of women in science and highlight best practices that are being used to respond to those limitations. During the period April to June 2019 key outputs were: (1) ToR developed for a consultant to develop the RSIF gender strategy. The core research to be undertaken by the consultant is a set of 11 case studies of PhD programs in ASET fields at African universities that are RSIF hosts. The main outputs of the research will be public access datasets, a journal manuscript, and the RSIF gender strategy; (2) concept note developed for a side event to consult on the development of the strategy in collaboration with the Association for Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD) at the first GoFoWiSeR (Global Forum on Women in Scientific Research) convening in Dakar, Senegal, July 18-19, 2019; (3) literature review done on issues for women in ASET fields; and (4) a preliminary gender study research approach developed.

1.2.5 ICT tool development for RCU

The RCU has developed an online application system on the RSIF website and provided necessary updates to ensure the website is both secure and user friendly. An analysis indicated that the website that was inherited from AAU has some function issues that will require a 'revamping' of the site. A ToR has been developed for redesign and build of the website. The RCU will provide support on technical issues arising from online application process to ensure potential applicants can make use of the online interface. During the next period, module development for automation of grants systems and the scholarship application processes will be initiated. Support will also be provided to universities.

1.2.6 Project M&E

Two workshops were organized by the RCU to review Project indicators and to discuss how to enhance monitoring and learning by the Project. The M&E team for the project developed a template for Project reporting and initiated the development of an M&E strategy to guide the project implementation and learning.

A World Bank Technical Review Mission for the RSIF Project was held on May 23, 2019 at the World Bank Offices in Kigali, Rwanda. The Review Mission discussed progress in implementation of RSIF Project. The Mission noted, overall, that *icipe* is making good progress on Project Implementation and key issues were highlighted for improving implementation.

1.3 Capacity development for improving quality of PhD programs and research in ASET fields

1.3.1 Scoping study and gap analysis

Icipe has initiated the development of tools to undertake a scoping study to establish the status of research and training at AHUs and related key services including ICT services and facilities, access to journals, fiduciary processes etc. Draft tools have been developed by the RCU and a ToR developed to hire a consultant to provide quality assurance to the tools. The scoping study will be undertaken in the next period.

1.3.2 Scientific and technological journals and databases

To identify the current status of access to library resources, journals and other databases relevant for RSIF scholars, a questionnaire was sent to the head librarians of initial four AHUs (Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania; University Gaston Berger, Senegal; African University of Science and Technology (AUST), Nigeria; and Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny, Ivory Coast) to determine the number of journals accessible by PhD scholars in the universities. The rapid assessment revealed the perception that access to quality peer reviewed e-journals was expensive. It also highlighted the opportunity, in the short term, to increase availability to open access e-journal databases. *Icipe* provided sensitization and support to the universities for enhancing access to open source databases. Universities have been introduced to the *Research4Life* (R4L) program which provides free access to ~85,000 (including over 20,000 journals) peer-reviewed international scientific journals, books, and databases provided by leading science publishers. The study found that Sokoine University of Agriculture already had an agreement with R4L for accessing their content, but access by university users was low. *Icipe* has started to work with the University of Gaston Berger (UGB) and African University of Science and Technology (AUST), Nigeria to support them to benefit from R4L.

1.3.3 Development of training tools

A detailed manual on information retrieval and use of open access journals was developed and provided to RSIF scholars during the training workshop in Kigali. The manual will assist scholars keep up to date on information searching skills, available open access e-journals in ASET fields, publishing in peer reviewed journals and reference management. The manual will be shared with other scholars and researchers at AHUs.

1.4 Design of RSIF Window 2 (Research grants) and Window 3 (Innovation grants)

During April 2019, with the support from the Senior Research and Innovation Specialist from the World Bank, the RSIF team developed detailed design of the four Calls for proposals for RSIF research grants (Window 2) and innovation grants (Window 3). The calls will require that universities to collaborate with key stakeholder groups such as the private sector, civil society and international institutions, including the diaspora to raise the capacity and quality of research and innovation at the universities. The Calls were

presented to the PASET Governing Council and Consultative Advisory Group (CAG) during the 5th PASET Forum in Kigali Rwanda and comments received. *icipe* has finalized the revisions to the Calls based on comments from the CAG and will submit these to the EB by end of June 2019. The first call is expected to be published in July 2019. Timeframes for all the calls are provided in Annex 3.

The Executive Board is requested to note the progress of the RCU in implementing capacity building activities

B. Component 2: PhD Scholarships, research grants and innovation grants

2.1 Status of first cohort of scholars and engagement with KIST

The 15 RSIF Students from the first cohort continue to pursue their studies at the host universities. *icipe* processed their stipends for April, May and June which have been received by scholars. RSIF scholars have also submitted their quarterly reports for April, May and June which are being used to process payments for the next period. The reports indicate that:

1. Overall students are progressing well, and most have finalized their research proposals, and have linked with IPIs with matching underway (matching is completed for 11 of the 15 students and discussed below);
2. Scholars have completed their coursework for their respective universities (where applicable);
3. However, students still face some challenges:
 - a. Tuition fees at SUA and AUST are higher than the allocated US\$3000 in the budget. Discussions have been held with universities and there is agreement to change the fee structure for the next cohort. The proposed fee structure is included in Annex 4.
 - b. Research funds remain a key challenge for many of the students, particularly at Sokoine University of Agriculture and at AUST. This is being reviewed for the next cohort of students.
 - c. Some of the francophone students may require further English language support;
 - d. Matching of students is not yet complete, and *icipe* is providing support to ensure current students are matched, but also that planning is initiated early on for the next cohort.
 - e. Support to female RSIF scholars who have children is currently not catered for. The gender strategy will respond systematically to these issues. However, there is need to clarify how to handle this with the current cohort of students, particularly during internships in the US and other northern partner countries.

The RSIF Scholars (See Annex 5 for list of all scholars) were facilitated to participate in the 5th PASET Forum in Kigali, Rwanda. This was the first-time scholars met as a cohort. Scholars presented their scientific research to a diverse audience of government representatives and other stakeholders at the Forum. This was an important experience for them and enabled them to receive input and feedback from various stakeholders on their work, engage with potential mentors and partners, and to have opportunity to practice making a pitch/presentation of their research project. It also initiated important linkages across the scholars, that can benefit from working across national borders.

One RSIF scholar (Lillian Roberts, Kenyan) has made decision to separate from the PASET RSIF scholarship program and her studies at Sokoine University of Agriculture Center of Excellence for Infectious Diseases of Humans & Animals in Southern & Eastern Africa (SACIDS). There is need to prepare guidelines for student separation from the PASET RSIF Scholarship Program.

icipe facilitated a 2-day training session prior to the Fifth PASET Forum on research communications, digital storytelling, research ethics, information literacy, reference management and use of open access e-resources. Students were also trained on digital storytelling for scientists. RSIF scholars applied their skills by participating in a scientific blog writing competition.

The PASET EB is requested to:

1. Provide guidance on separation of scholars from the RSIF program. We propose that contracts should include a clause on separation and that those that leave the program would refund funds spent on them. Students will have to work in home institutions for a least two years on return.
2. Provide interim guidance (until the strategy for enhancing participation of women is approved by the EB) on support to women with children for the first cohort, who may not benefit from the gender strategy, particularly when they are out of their home country and must travel with a child. The RCU proposes that practical additional support can be provided to female scholars who are mothers, with EB approval.
3. Approve the general new fees structure proposed (See Annex 4) for the next cohort of students.

2.2 RSIF scholar sandwich attachments

Six RSIF scholars have been successfully matched with KIST, five with Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and discussions are still underway to match for the last four scholars (Table 2).

Table 2: Progress on matching of the first cohort of RSIF Scholars (15)

No.	Student Name	Nationality	Gender	Destination International Partner Institution	Expected Date of Arrival at IPI
1	Sylvia Wairimu Maina	Kenyan	Female	KIST	20th August 2019
2	Maxwell Wambua Waema	Kenyan	Male	KIST	20th August 2019
3	Humphrey Andalo Mabwi	Kenyan	Male	KIST	20th August 2019
4	Emmanuel George Kifaro	Tanzania	Male	KIST	20th August 2019
5	Gahamanyi Noel	Rwandese	Male	KIST	27th October 2019
6	Frejus Ariel Kpedetin Sodedji	Benin	Male	KIST	20th January 2020
7	Richard Koech Kipyegon	Kenya	Male	WPI	1 October 2019
8	Jeanne Pauline Munganyinka	Rwanda	Female	WPI	1 October 2019
9	Jean Baptiste Habinshtuti	Rwanda	Male	WPI	1 October 2019
10	David Oluwasegun Afolayan	Nigeria	Male	WPI	1 October 2019
11	Emmanuel Effah	Ghana	Male	WPI	October, 2019
12	Traore Abdoulaye	Ivory Coast	Male	TBD	Discussions ongoing
13	Jean Nepomuscene Hakizimana	Rwandese	Male	TBD	Discussions ongoing
14	Levi Omache	Kenyan	Male	TBD	Discussions ongoing
15	Fatoumata Thiam	Senegal	Female	TBD	Discussions ongoing

*KIST= Korea Institute of Science and Technology; WPI=Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

All the 15 scholars had equal chance to apply to be hosted at KIST. The process including passing a TOEFL examination, a virtual interview and then participation in discussions with possible collaborators/supervisors at KIST for matching. *icipe*-RCU facilitated tripartite discussions between the AHUs supervisors, RSIF scholars and the KIST supervisors/collaborators. The scholars will be jointly supervised by AHU and KIST scientists while focused on a research topic that addresses African-centered challenges. Scholars will travel to Korea in late August 2019 (see Table 3). Two RSIF scholars have been invited to submit applications to the Samsung Dream Foundation that offers leadership training, mentorship and language training during their sandwich training in Korea.

Table 3. RSIF Scholar Selection Process for Sandwich Program at KIST, Korea

1	Apply for Admission Submission	PhD Students → KIST School homepage	Students who are interested in internship should apply online admission system at KIST School homepage	Mar. 4-29
2	Reviewing documents & Matching	KIST School → Faculty	Faculty review the applications and are matched with applicants	Apr 15-24
3	Interview	KIST School → Committee of the Interview → PhD Students	Recommended students have a phone interview from Committee of Interview of KIST School	May 7-13
4	Final Screening	KIST School Committee	KIST School committee decide final successful candidates with result of interview	May 15
5	Announcement of Final Results	KIST School → Students, World Bank, <i>icipe</i>	The successful candidates, World Bank and <i>icipe</i> are notified the results from KIST School	May 24
6	Visa Process	KIST School → Students	For the candidates, KIST School give a guideline to get a visa and enter the KIST School	May 27-28
7	Arrival	Students → Korea, KIST School	Students can move into a dormitory and have time to become familiar with surroundings	Aug. 26 - Sep. 1

An additional five scholars have been matched with two supervisors at the Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). Both supervisors are fully engaged and keen to support the RSIF. *Icipe* is now discussing the details of the partnerships. Three of these RSIF scholars have discussed with IPI supervisors and received official appointment letters as International Non-degree Student at WPI. Discussions for the other two continue. The inaugural cohort of students studying at WPI will begin their sandwich training in October 2019.

The Executive Board is requested to note the progress of the RCU in matching students with IPIs.

C. Crosscutting activities

3.1 RSIF communications

The RSIF Communication Strategy including key messages, target audiences and communication strategies was drafted during the period. The Strategy was shared with various stakeholders, including the AHUs for input. Comments are now being compiled to be used to revise and finalize the document. A stakeholder engagement strategy will be prepared to complement the Communications Strategy.

Implementation of the Communication Strategy has been initiated.

- *Icipe*- RCU organized a ‘gallery walk’ to display progress in its implementation of the RSIF. *icipe* supported the preparation of posters (15 for the students); and made use of pull up banners (10) to highlight the work of *icipe* in implementing the RSIF.
- The RCU has developed a mailing list of close to 900,000 individuals from various institutions and governments from across the world to whom we share regular updates on our work.
- Mail chimp, an ICT mailing application has been purchased and being used to share messages with stakeholders.
- The RCU has prepared and shared three press releases, including one on the recently launched call for RSIF scholarships.
- *Icipe* has developed various communication products including brochures targeting governments, international partners and the private sector and a booklet with the current 16 student profiles. The materials are available both in English and French.
- [video on RSIF](#) scholars was prepared for the Kigali Forum (screened during the PASET Forum closing ceremony). Other videos are under preparation.
- Two social media accounts have been created: @pasetRSIF Twitter account and @TheRSIF Facebook page which are actively used to publish regular project news and additional coverage of events where the project is involved. Analytics from May 30 to June 26, 2019 indicate 3,485 tweet

impressions, an increase in profile visits by 68.3% (from 140 to 204), and an additional 85.1% mentions (for the same time period).

3.3 Safeguards, risk management and development of a grievance redress mechanism

Icipe hired a safeguards specialist, Ms. Catherine Asekenye, to support development of a grievance redress mechanism (GRM) for *icipe* and the host universities which will host RSIF scholars. During the period, the consultant worked with *icipe* to sensitize RSIF staff on safeguards, social risk management and development of a GRM. A one-day workshop was held with RSIF staff and discussions held to identify key risks for the project at the RCU and at universities. The consultant also reviewed existing *icipe's* frameworks and agreement with universities. The consultant provided a clause in the AHU – *icipe* agreement to ensure implementation of risk management for the Project at universities.

3.3 A summary of utilization of funds from the Governments of Kenya, Rwanda and Ivory Coast

Table 3.3.1: Expenditure by student

INCOME	Recipient	Description			Total
B8501G00001	<i>icipe</i>	Balance from AAU			3,413,977.25
B8501G00001	<i>icipe</i>	From Ivorian Govt			1,033,496.73
	Total Income				4,447,474
EXPENDITURE	Payee	Description	Jan-Mar 2019	Apr-Jun 2019	Total
B8501G21001	Maxwell Wambua Waema	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21002	Sylvia Wairimu Maina	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21003	Humphrey Andalo Mabwi	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21004	Levi Omache	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21005	Lilian Mulewa	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21006	Gahamanyi Noel	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21007	Jean Nepomuscene Hakizimana	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21008	Emmanuel Effah	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21009	Fatoumata Thiam	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21010	Richard Kipyegon Koech	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21011	Jeanne Pauline Munganyinka	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21012	Jean Baptiste Habinshuti	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21013	David Oluwasegun Afolayan	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21014	Sodedji Frejus Ariel Kpedetin	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21015	Traore Abdoulaye	Student's stipend	3,600	3,600	7,200
B8501G21201	Other PhD expenses	-	-	-	-
	Total Expenditure		54,000.00	54,000.00	108,000.00
	Balance			-	4,339,473.98

Table 3.3.2: Expenditure by Country and Awards

INCOME	Notes	KENYA	RWANDA	IVORY COAST	TOTAL
Funds received	A	1,979,177	1,963,292	1,033,497	4,975,966
Less : AAU Admin charges	B	131,105	130,387	-	261,492
Funds available for Scholarships	C =A-B	1,848,072	1,832,905	1,033,497	4,714,474
Scholarship Cost per student (4 years)	E	85,600	85,600	85,600	
Number of Scholarships Available	F=C/E	21	21	12	54
Allocation of Scholarships					
80% to Nationals	80% G	17	17	10	44
20% to Non Nationals	20% H	4	4	2	10
Scholarships Awarded					
Nationals	60% I	6	80% 4	-	10
Non Nationals	40% J	4	20% 1	-	5
Scholarships to Award					
Nationals	K=G-I	11	13	10	34
Non Nationals	L=H-J	-	3	2	5
Funds spent on Scholars					
By AAU	M	178,000	89,000	-	267,000
By Icipe	N	72,000	36,000	-	108,000
Fund Balance	O=C-M-N	1,598,072	1,707,905	1,033,497	4,339,474

3.4 Procurement during the period

An update on procurement by the RCU is included in Annex 6.

3.5 Workplan for Year 2, 2019/20

The workplan for the next period is presented in Annex 7.

The PASET EB is requested to approve the Year 2 workplan for RSIF

Annex 1: List of PASET RSIF African Host Universities

University	Description / PhD programme	Country	Thematic Area
1. Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (NM-AIST)	PhD program in Life Sciences & Materials Science and Engineering (MaSE)	Tanzania	Mines, Minerals and Materials Engineering
2. Kenyatta University	PhD Materials Science and Engineering	Kenya	
3. African University of Science and Technology, Nigeria	Pan-African Materials Institute (PAMI)	Nigeria	
4. Sokoine University of Agriculture	Africa Center of Excellence for Infectious Diseases of Humans & Animals in Southern & Eastern Africa (SACIDS)	Tanzania	Food Security
5. University of Ghana	PhD program in Applied Agricultural Economics and Policy/Agribusiness	Ghana	
6. University of Port Harcourt	PhD Program in Petroleum and Gas Engineering / Energy Economics	Nigeria	Energy
7. University of Nairobi	Doctor of Philosophy in Physics	Kenya	
8. University of Gaston Berger	Africa Center of Excellence for Mathematics, Informatics and ICT (MITIC)	Senegal	ICT
9. University of Rwanda	PhD program in Internet of Things: Embedded Computing Systems (PhD in IoT:ECS)	Rwanda	
10. Bayero University	PhD in Natural Resource Management and Climate Change	Nigeria	Climate Change
11. University Félix Houphouët-Boigny	Africa Center of Excellence for Climate Change Biodiversity and Sustainable Agriculture (CCBAD)	Côte d'Ivoire	

See Annex 2 for list of International Partner Institutions

	Institution	Status
KOREA		
1	Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotech (KRIBB)	Draft MoU has been reviewed and may be ready to sign soon.
2	Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST)	Potential: High Hayeon was to follow up.
3	Electronics and Telecommunication Research Institute (ETRI)	To follow up. Potential: Medium/Low
4	Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology (GIST)	To follow up
USA		
5	Arizona State University	Further discussions required. Potential: Medium
6	Kansas State University	Further discussions required. Potential: Very high
7	Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)	Further discussions required. Potential: Medium
8	Michigan State University	Further discussions required. Potential: Medium
9	Northwestern University	Further discussions required. Potential: Medium
10	Ohio State University	MoU will be ready for sharing with PASET in about 1 month.
11	Penn State University	Further discussions required. Potential: High
12	Rutgers University	Further discussions required. Potential: High
13	University of California - Irvine	Further discussions required. Potential: Medium
14	University of Maryland	MoU will be drafted soon. Potential: Very high
15	University of Vermont	Further discussions required. Potential: Medium
16	Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University	MoU ready for sharing with PASET.
17	Washington State University	Further discussions required. Potential: medium
18	Worcester Polytechnic Institute	MoU ready for sharing with PASET.
BRAZIL		
19	University of Sao Paulo	Further discussions required. Potential: High
20	Brazil Africa Institute	Further discussions required. Potential: Unknown
CANADA		
21	Simon Fraser University	Further discussions required Potential: Very high
22	Mount Royal University and 5 other Canadian universities	Further discussions required Potential: High
FRANCE		
23	University of Albi-Carmaux	Further discussions required Potential: Medium
GERMANY		
24	Max Plank Institute for Chemical Ecology	Further discussions required Potential: High
KENYA		
25	African Population Health research Consortium (APHRC)	MoU being developed. Potential: Very high
NETHERLANDS		

26	Utrecht University	Further discussions required. Potential: Unknown
	SOUTH AFRICA	
27	North-West University, South Africa	Potential high for an MoU, but ability to host students is doubtful
	SWEDEN	
28	Swedish University of Agriculture (SLU)	Discussion recently started. Potential: Very high
	UK	
29	Keele University	MoU template under review by the University. Potential: Very high
30	University of Glasgow	Further discussions required. Potential: High
31	John Innes Center	Discussions recently started Potential: Very high

Annex 3: Timelines for Award of Innovation Type 1 Grants (RSIF Institutional Innovation Capacity Building Program)

Note that the RSIF RCU intends to publish this call after the process of negotiations and signing of agreements with select host universities is finalized in July 2019.

Activity	Timelines						
	2019						2020
	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Publish the calls on different platforms	30 th	8 wks					
Deadline for receipt of applications	30 th July-30 th Sept		6 wks				
Applications review by independent expert evaluators			1 st Oct-15 th Nov		2 wks		
Presentation to PASET Executive Board for approval					30 th Nov	8 wks	
Signing of agreements and funds transfer						1 st Dec to 30 th Jan 2020	

Timelines for Award of Research Type 1 (RSIF Research Awards)

Note that the RSIF RCU intends to publish these calls earlier to allow selected cohort 2 students participate in the research projects

Activity	Timelines (2019-2020)						
	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
Publish the calls on different platforms	15 th Sept	8 wks					
Deadline for receipt of applications	15 th Sept- 15 th Nov		6 wks				
Applications review by independent expert evaluators			15 th Nov-15 th Jan		2 wks		
Presentation to PASET Executive Board for approval					30 th Jan	8 wks	
Signing of agreements and funds transfer						1 st Feb-31 st March	

Annex 4: Review of RSIF Scholarship Grant Cost Breakdown

icipe has been the RCU for the PASET Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF) since September, 2018. As part of implementation, *icipe* has engaged with the four initial African Host Universities and 15 scholars including having discussions at the recently concluded PASET Forum in Kigali Rwanda. The discussions highlighted the need to review and adjust appropriately the scholarship breakdown to match the needs of the universities and the scholars to enhance the achievement of the RSIF objectives.

The Table below highlights the current and proposed scholarship breakdown respectively for the scholars. The adjusted figures were as a result of discussion with African Host Universities and scholars.

Scholarship Expense	Original Amount (USD)	Amended Amount (USD)	Notes on Adjustments
Tuition	3,000	3,000	No adjustment. This is maximum allowable.
Relocation allowance	0	400	This amount will be paid to scholars with the first disbursement of funds. This amount is intended to support students to settle at their new location – it may be used to contribute to student travel to the AHU.
Stipend	14,400	10,800	The monthly stipend has been reduced from USD \$1,200 to USD \$900. This amount allows the PASET-RSIF scholarship to remain competitive and contextually appropriate.
Medical insurance	0	1,200 (max)	RSIF scholars will be required to purchase medical insurance for the duration of their studies. Scholars will be required to submit a copy of insurance policy and accounting.
Student research costs	4,000 (previously included incentive to supervisors)	4,800	This amount will be paid to the AHU and managed by the RSIF liaison/representative. This amount is intended for student research activities.
Supervision allowance	0	1,200	This is intended as an incentive for supervisors
Total	21,400	21,400	

Justification for changes to original grant cost breakdown:

- Stipend:** RSIF is designed as a competitive scholarship program to attract high quality students. One of the factors contributing to the success of the program is the generous stipend amount. Upon further discussions with RSIF African Host Universities, the RCU is recommending an adjustment to the original breakdown to enable scholars to have access to relocation allowance, medical insurance and increased support for research related activities.
- Medical insurance:** The RCU will require all RSIF scholars to obtain comprehensive insurance. This is a global best practice, and will contribute to the health and well-being of scholars.
- Student Research Costs:** Providing adequate student research related activities is integral to student success. This amount will contribute to all student research related activities. The RCU recommends that student research costs remain separate from incentives to supervisors. Student research costs vary based on location and through qualitative assessment of the 1st cohort of scholars increasing the amount of funds to support research related activities is imperative.
- Supervision allowance:** Faculty at RSIF AHUs are critical to the success of the project. The RCU recommends that the incentive amount be lowered to contribute to student research costs.

Annex 5: List of the First Cohort RSIF Scholars, Universities and Research topics

Host	Name of Candidate	Country	M/F	Research Topics
SACIDS	Maxwell Wambua Waema	Kenya	M	Development and evaluation of recombinase polymerase amplification assay for detection of porcine cysticercosis in resource-limited settings, Tanzania
	Sylvia Wairimu Maina	Kenya	F	Potential use of medicinal plants of ethnoveterinary importance against small ruminants' morbillivirus
	Humphrey Andalo Mabwi	Kenya	M	Micro-biome and Antimicrobial resistance metagenomics in Cattle
	Levi Omache	Kenya	M	Epidemiological studies of peste des petits ruminants at the livestock-wildlife interface in the greater Serengeti ecosystem
	Lilian Mulewa*	Kenya	F	Molecular Mechanisms of Host Tropism and Virulence in Mycobacterium Tuberculosis Complex
	Emmanuel Kifaro	Tan.	M	Development of Microfluidic Multiplex PCR Assay for Simultaneous Detection of Hemorrhagic Swine Fever Viruses
	Gahamanyi Noel	Rwanda	M	Determining transmission dynamics and Antimicrobial resistance of Thermophilic Campylobacter in humans, animals and the environment in Kilosa district, Tanzania
	Jean Nepomuscene Hakizimana	Rwanda	M	Understanding genetic variation and epidemiology of African swine fever virus in Eastern and Southern Africa
MITIC	Fatoumata Thiam	Senegal	F	Designing self-optimized irrigation in the Sahel area based on the Internet of Things
	Emmanuel Effah	Ghana	M	Implementation of new fault tolerance solutions in a wireless sensor network in a multi-channel context
PAMI	Richard Kipyegon Koech	Kenya	M	Solar energy (Photovoltaics/solar thermal systems/energy storage)
	David Afolayan	Nigeria	M	Optimization of Mineral Bioprocessing and Nano-based Strategies of Nigerian Barite Beneficiation for Utilization as Oil Drilling Mud and other Industrial Raw Materials.
	Jeanne Pauline Munganyinka	Rwanda	F	Mining and Mineral processing: Development of methods to optimize Gold recovery and minimize waste and environmental hazards: Case study of Rwanda and Nigeria.
	Jean Baptiste Habinshuti	Rwanda	M	Minerals development (optimization of beneficiation methods for Tantalum)
CCBAD	Sodédji Fréjus Ariel Kpédétin	Benin	M	Identification of biocompounds involved in the resistance of cowpea (<i>Vigna unguiculata</i> (L.) Walp) to the legume pod borer (<i>Maruca vitrata</i> Fabricius)
	Traore Abdoulaye	Ivory Coast	M	Effect of Orange Sweet Potato (PDCO) on the nutritional status of households in northern Cote d'Ivoire: case of Korhogo

*Lilian left the program in May, 2016.

Annex 6: Progress in implementing the RSIF Procurement Plan

<u>S.no</u>	<u>Procurement activity</u>	<u>Status</u>
<u>1</u>	Attend training on STEP in April	Done
<u>2</u>	Procurement of computers and accessories	Done, awaiting delivery by 30 th June,2019
<u>3</u>	Consultancy for English to French and French to English translation (Individual)	Done
<u>4</u>	Consultancy for Photographer, Videographer and Interviewer for the 5 th PASET forum (Individuals)	Done
<u>5</u>	Procurement of service providers for printing material for the 5 th PASET forum	Done
<u>6</u>	Consultancy for development of safeguards and grievance redress mechanism framework (Individual)	Done
<u>7</u>	Procurement of office stationery	Supplier identified
<u>8</u>	Consultancy for feasibility study for establishment of an endowment fund (firm selection)	Process ongoing, to contract by 15 July
<u>9</u>	Consultancy for English to French and French to English translation services (Firm selection)	Process ongoing, to contract by 15th July
<u>10</u>	Procurement of a creative software for design work	Done
<u>11</u>	Consultancy for development of a gender strategy for RSIF	Process ongoing, to contract by 15th July
<u>12</u>	Procurement of office furniture	Process on-going

Annex 7: Key planned activities for the next quarter (July-September 2019)

General Fund and Endowment Fund

- 4.1. Conduct feasibility study on the establishment of the permanent fund.
- 4.2. Continue to implement the interim resource mobilization plan per the activities and schedules indicated therein
- 4.3. Initiate planning for 'fundraising' activities/events in selected countries
- 4.4. Follow-up and targeted visits to international development partners (viz. Japan – TICAD in August and possibly Sweden in September)
- 4.5. Follow-up and targeted visits to SSA countries (viz. send customized RSIF briefs and visit Zambia and Southern Africa) to encourage membership to PASET

Management of PhD Scholarships and Research Grants

- 4.6. Finalize agreements with second cohort of host universities
- 4.7. Advance in the selection of at least four additional international partner organizations
- 4.8. Launch call for proposals for innovation grants (Window 3 Type 1 -Institutional Capacity Building Grants)
- 4.9. Conduct proposal writing training workshops for prospective grant applicants in RSIF Host Universities.
- 4.10. Initiate development of gender strategy

Capacity building of host universities

- 4.11. Finalize tools development for the scoping studies for university research and training and undertake scoping study
- 4.12. Build capacity of host universities to implement safeguards and the grievance redress mechanisms for RSIF
- 4.13. Enhance access to journals and databases for RSIF scholars

PhD Scholarships

- 4.14. Finalize discussions on matching of students with partner institutions in Korea and other countries
- 4.15. Revise quarterly and annual student reporting tools
- 4.16. Implement the selection process for the second cohort of students
- 4.17. Host virtual orientation session for independent evaluation committee to provide in-depth details on the student selection process and RSIF scholarship selection criteria
- 4.18. Initiate development of cross cutting courses for RSIF students

Cross cutting activities

- 4.19. Hire consultancy firm to offer English to French/French to English translations
- 4.20. Develop an RSIF communication strategy and continue preparations of relevant communication materials targeting key stakeholder segments, including governments, private sector executives, and donors in English and French.
- 4.21. Initiate hiring of a communication firm to support communications and branding for RSIF
- 4.22. Establish a Grievance Redress Mechanism (GRM) and social risk management framework for the project and initiate implementation.

Annex 8: Summary Update on Resource Mobilization for RSIF

This document provides a summary of the current progress in the resource mobilization for RSIF over the last six months. The report is divided broadly into three sections: Foundations/ development partners; countries and the private sector.

1. Bilaterals, foundations and other development partners:

- a. MasterCard Foundation- Held Discussions with Dr. Peter Materu and a few other MCF officers (e.g. Joseph Nsengimana & James McIntyre, Kimberly Kerr) to agree on a means to engage MCF in support of PASET RSIF specifically. Following discussion with Dr. Materu, icipe has included the African Host Universities to be reviewed as part of an on-going MCF review of African universities that could be supported within the MCF program. The review is currently underway and all the 11 AHUs are included. We are awaiting the outcome of this review. Dr. Materu requested an officer to attend the Forum in Kigali on his behalf to understand the progress. We have a planned meeting with Kimberly Kerr in Early August to discuss the regional programming of MCF, which Kimberly heads. The DG continues to follow up with the Presidents office.
- b. Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation: BMGF has recently initiated a new strategy and at present does not support capacity building directly (some support is available through research projects). Icipe has held discussions with a senior program officers (Jodi Lilli) who is following up internally to find the right opportunity for icipe to come to the foundation and brief the entire Foundation discuss at a luncheon, or other opportunity. We have been requested to focus on requesting for research support that includes northern partners to complement the RSIF scholarship support being provided by African governments. Initially, BMGF suggested we link with John Innes Center in UK to explore having them as an international partner. We have linked John Innes Center to the Food Security Universities and have had several discussions. They have committed to take three students initially for the coming cohort as we explore how to have a longer-term partnership. We are waiting for feedback from the Foundation and in the meanwhile, we keep them updated on our progress.
- c. African Development Bank. Icipe was invited to participate in the discussion to develop the African Education Fund (AEF), which is an outcome of resolutions by the Ministers of Education through the Conference of Ministers on Education Development in Africa and the Committee of ten heads of States Championing Education, Science and Technology in Africa. The RSIF manager attended the meeting 15&16 July in Abidjan and also held bilateral discussions with the Education team to discuss PASET. Following this discussions, we held bilateral meetings with Dr. Oley Dibba Wadda, Director for Human Capital, Youth and Skills Development (ADB). The agreement is that icipe should consider to work on gender to support RSIF students capacity building in partnership with AWARD and the Association for Development of Education in Africa (ADEA). A draft concept note will be shared with the ADB by the end of August. Discussion has also been initiated with AWARD on a second proposal on Technologies for Agricultural Transformation in Africa (TAAT), an ongoing ADP project.
- d. Carnegie Corporation of New York: We did discuss as length with Ms. Andrea Johnson at the Foundation. She highlighted that the Foundation is not in a good place at the moment and the only way new partners can be brought on board is to leave out existing partners, which is unlikely. The current Carnegie President feels that the current climate is risky and there is fear that the foundation asset base might shrink. Carnegie focus has been of late on postdoc training- in the past they supported a number of networks including CARTA, RUFORUM, RISE among others.
- e. Nuffic – through the South Africa NESO office: We have a discussion planned for mid July to explore what partnership icipe / RSIF (discussion is planned with Huba Boshoff from the Joburg office). This

is exploratory. We did also explore partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Foreign affairs who at present are not able to engage- their focus is on TVET and something that could be considered for other initiatives of PASET. We continue to remain engaged.

- f. African capacity building Foundation: An appointment has been secured for August to meet with their CEO to discuss partnership with RSIF.
- g. Norway – DG organized presentation on RSIF to Norad team at icipe and we are awaiting feedback from them on their potential interest. We have also organized presentations to selected Norwegian institutions (NIBIO).
- h. Sweden- DG has been having discussions with SIDA at various levels and we continue to update them on progress. We are also exploring partnership through SLU and the Agrifose 2030 Project - icipe will visit Sweden in September to follow up on these;
- i. France – DG has provided comprehensive presentation to the Government of France (Various development agencies). Dr. Kelemu was also invited by the French Embassy in Kenya to attend various functions when the President of France came to Kenya. We continue to follow up with them.
- j. Rockefeller Foundation: We are seeking for appointment to meet with Ms. Betty Kibaara in Nairobi and following that will follow with Roy Steiner in the New York office to discuss collaboration. We did secure an appointment that was not possible due to conflicts in our own activities. RF has a long history of capacity building and an important potential partner to follow up with. The new President Rajiv Shah appears to wish to reengage in human capital development, in addition to work on nutrition among other areas.
- k. UK Research and Innovation (UKRI): held discussion with Alexandra Spittle, Senior Manager for Policy of the International Development Team of UKRI. She is interested in supporting UK researchers to engage with PASET and particularly for students to intern in the UK with support from UKRI. She will update on the current budget situation and possibility of discussing further this support.
- l. DFID: Held discussion with Leah Mwai who leads the research systems strengthening initiative for DFID East Africa Research Hub. More discussions are planned for early August.
- m. IDRC: Held discussions with Dr. Diakalia Sanogo (Senior Program Officer) and Dr. Ellie Osir. This discussion showed that there was interest but there is need for further discussions to see where this might go.
- n. BADEA (Arab Development Bank for Agricultural Development)- Discussion planned with the African Organisation for Agricultural Development in late July 2019.
- o. FAO: discussions on-going.

2. Follow up on Countries:

- a. Briefs sent to Zambia, Benin, Tanzania, Guinea, Burkina Faso, Togo, Mozambique. We continue to send other briefs.
- b. Angola: We have not met with a representative from the Ministry of Education (Lucia Pascoal-lucia.pascoal74@gmail.com) and from the Ministry of Finance. We shall organized to share brief and travel to meet with the ministry team towards the end of this year to discuss their participation in RSIF.
- c. Malawi: This was delayed awaiting confirmation of new cabinet before engaging with them- the cabinet was released in early July. We have initiated discussions with Mr. James Namfuko (jamesnamfuko@gmail.com) from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology to whom we shall share the brief.
- d. Mozambique: We have reached out to a number of higher education ministry people who are working on the Bank Project engagement. Briefs have been sent out and received. There has also

been follow up from the team. We involved a ministry person in the evaluation of the host universities.

- e. South Africa: Through the CAG Member (Miriam Altman), we have prepared a letter to be send to the new Minister of Education South Africa (Hon. Blade Nzimande) and his Director General (Phil Mwajara). We have also reached out to the National Research Foundation of South Africa through the head of the International Office (Dr. Aldo Stroebel) and some South African Universities, particularly the University of Pretoria (Prof. Frans Swanepoel and others).
- f. We have reached out to SADC and ECCAS (RECs) and awaiting to see if we can join their meeting for November this year when their 14 member countries will be present- these are mainly IBRD countries and an important opportunity to catch many at the same time.

3. Private sector (this has been our weaker area,):

- a. Icipe planning to organize private sector events in the five PASET countries in the coming year. For Kenya, we have shared concept note to the ministry through PS Kevin Desai and will also organize a second event at icipe. We discussed also the same with Prof. Aminata to organize for early 2020 in Senegal. We shall share concept note with her in early August. We have held one planning meeting for Nigeria, involving the three host universities there and the National universities commission and agreed on the need to host the event in Lagos. We will be engaging with Rwanda, Ethiopia and Ivory Coast. We also will plan to organize an event for Korea as earlier agreed.
- b. We hope to engage with OCP through UM6P when we travel to Morocco in early September.