



2020-2021



# AFRICA ONE HEALTH UNIVERSITY NETWORK (AFROHUN)

YEAR 2

**UGANDA** 

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

2020-2021

This publication was prepared by the AFROHUN secretariat headquartered at Plot 16A, Elizabeth Avenue, Kampala Uganda.

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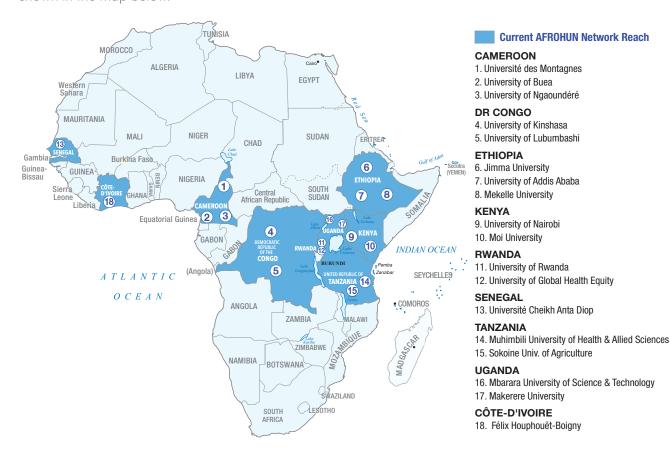
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#### **CONTENT**

This report represents a collaborative effort in which all AFROHUN countries provided content. This publication was developed and contributed to by Africa One Health University Network (AFROHUN), as part of the One Health Workforce - Next Generation Global Consortium.

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

In particular, we would like to extend special thanks to AFROHUN (AFRICA ONE HEALTH UNIVERSITY NETWORK) and the member institutions as shown in the map below.



#### **LAYOUT & DESIGN**

**AFROHUN Secretariat** 

#### **SUGGESTED CITATION**

Africa One Health University Network. 2020-2021 Semi-annual Report. AFROHUN secretariat, 16A, Elizabeth avenue, Kampala, April 2021.

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## UGANDA



Africa One Health University Network



#### **COUNTRY CHAPTER**



MEMBER INSTITUTIONS



STUDENT ONE HEALTH INNOVATION

**CLUBS** 



100

INDIVIDUALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN OHW-NG ACTIVITIES



10

ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR YEAR 2



4

ACTIVITIES COMPLETED OR ON-GOING

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

- Trained 36 Community Based Education Research and Service (COBERS) supervisors on One Health (January 2021; see AFR-83 and AFR-86 for more information).
- Incorporated One Health competencies into the COBERS supervisors' tool (January 2021; see AFR-83 and AFR-86 for more information).
- Piloted a strategy to define a One Health worker (February 2021 present).

## **ACTIVITIES**

**OBJECTIVE**TRAINING AND EMPOWERMENT OBJECTIVE ASSESSMENT AND TRACKING 2 OBJECTIVE ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

#### **OBJECTIVE 1**

#### TRAINING AND EMPOWERMENT

The One Health Institute (OHI), which includes theoretical principles in Infectious Disease Management (IDM), is one of AFROHUN's flagship programs in Uganda. This year, AFROHUN Uganda held a stakeholders' workshop to review and formalize course content of an IDM course hosted by Makerere University (UG activity 1.1.6). The workshop reviewed OH training gaps, identified in previous assessments, and identified OH competencies for participants. The next steps will be to integrate the identified competencies in the revised OHI training curriculum. AFROHUN Uganda trained 36 COBERS supervisors (20 from the field/ community and 16 faculty supervisors) to promote community-based One Health training at Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) (Ug activity 1.3.3). The training covered OH concepts, including infectious diseases and their investigation and response, gender, culture, and ethics, and community engagement. Additionally, the COBERS field supervisors' tool was revised by incorporating OH components. The revised tool will be piloted during the next recess term between July and September 2021.



UG 2: Participants engaging in competence gaps identification during the stakeholders workshop. Photo source: AFROHUN Uganda.

Personal protective equipment, distancing, and group size standards in this photo were consistent with local public health guidance and COVID-19 status in the specific country and time it was taken. This may not reflect best practices for all locations where COVID-19 is still spreading.

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### OBJECTIVE 2 ASSESSMENT AND TRACKING

For more information on how AFROHUN contributes to One Health workforce assessment and tracking, please refer to the Secretariat section, page AFR-14.



#### **OBJECTIVE 3**

#### ORGANIZATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

#### Stakeholders Engagement

AFROHUN Uganda participated in a stakeholders' meeting where we conducted a mid-term review of the OH strategic plan 2018-2023. We identified various activities that we shall plan to be implemented during Year 3 (2021-2022). In addition, we have participated in stakeholder meetings with government officials, and they proposed several activities some of which will be considered during Year 3 planning.



UG 3: Participants engaged in group discussion during stakeholders workshop in Bushenyi, Uganda. Photo source: AFROHUN Uganda.

#### Year 2 kick-off meeting

AFROHUN Uganda held a kickoff meeting at the start of the year. Facilitated by AFROHUN Secretariat staff, the meeting enabled participants to assess implementation of Year 1 (2019-2020) activities, identify challenges, and draw on lessons learned in order to improve implementation of Year 2 (2020-2021) activities. The meeting was attended by Deans, Thematic Leads, Activity Leads, and the Country Manager and Country Administrator. By the end of the meeting, we developed Year 2 activity implementation schedules, which were peer reviewed by meeting participants.



#### **LESSONS LEARNED / BEST PRACTICES**

## MOVING TOWARDS INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF ONE HEALTH TRAINING DURING COMMUNITY-BASED EDUCATION

A training workshop was held in January 2021 during which 36 faculty and community supervisors for COBERS were introduced to OH concepts and trained on how to evaluate students using a OH lens. The training was followed by revision of the supervisors' tool to integrate OH components. This will promote institutionalization of OH training during community education at MUST.



#### **NEXT STEPS**

AFROHUN Uganda plans to hold meetings with the OHW-NG Global Consortium to work on SOHIC sustainability and promote collaborations between all AFROHUN Uganda institutions. Supporting SOHICs is critical for developing a long lasting national OH workforce and providing innovative and critical opportunities for pre-service training and engagement. SOHICs also help develop students' skills as future professionals in the animal and human health sectors.



## ONE HEALTH COMPETENCIES INCORPORATED INTO THE COBERS FIELD SUPERVISION TOOL AT MBARARA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Mbarara University of Science and Technology (MUST) at its inception in 1989 embraced community-based education as a philosophy for health professionals' education within the Faculty of Medicine. Following the integration of OH concepts in the institutionalized COBERS course in June 2020, AFROHUN Uganda supported a training of community supervisors in One Health for five days in the Bushenyi district. During the training, the COBERS field supervision tool developed a decade ago was revised and OH competencies incorporated.

This collaborative success was driven by the Department of Community Health in the Faculty of Medicine of MUST which sends approximately 420 students annually under the COBERS program to rural health facilities known as rural placement sites. The revised COBERS field supervision tool was completed by a multidisciplinary team, including field and community supervisors from ten out of the 55 rural COBERS sites. The multidisciplinary team included clinicians, community development officers, public health professionals, veterinarians, and agricultural officers.

Previously, the tool was limited to community entry and diagnosis coupled with identification of a health problem. The revised tool captures aspects of identifying OH challenges using a multidisciplinary approach, understanding the complex nature of communities using a OH lens, stakeholder engagement and gender in addressing community challenges.

