



**A REPORT OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> SOKOINE MEMORIAL WEEK HELD  
FROM 23<sup>RD</sup> TO 26<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2023 AT EDWARD MORINGE  
CAMPUS, MOROGORO TANZANIA**



**Enabling Environment for Youth Participation in Agriculture:  
Policies, Guidelines, and Practice**

**2023**

## **Executive Summary**

The Sokoine Memorial Week 2023 was conducted from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at Edward Moringe Campus in Morogoro municipality. The overall objective was to enable SUA evaluate itself in terms of undertaking its major mandates that include training, research, consultancy and production with special emphasis on practical skills. This has been a tradition of SUA since 1992.

The main theme for the event was “Enabling Environment for Youth Participation in Agriculture: Policies, Guidelines, and Practice”. The theme was carefully chosen because youth constitutes a largest proportion of the population in Tanzania yet, they are the ones who suffer the most with the challenge of unemployment. The Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) launched the event on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023, and the District Commissioner for Mvomero District, Hon. Judith Nguli, representing the Morogoro Regional Commissioner closed the event on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023.

For the first time, SUA included University – Industrial day during commemoration to strengthen linkage with the industry, in this case, the private sector. Other activities were exhibitions of agricultural technologies, high profile panel discussion, SUA scientific conference, mid-year graduation, community services including blood donation, services offered by SUA Animal Teaching Hospital, SUA hospitals, and sports and games.

### **Approach**

The event was coordinated by the organizing committee through a series of planning meetings. Different communication strategies were used to publicize the event like press conference, TV programmes, online TVs, social media, you tube, newspapers, live streaming, live band, Radios, posters and banners, and Sokoine Memorial Newsletter.

### **What did we achieve?**

- (i) SUA visibility and marketing improved. For example, by 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, the event viewers were as follows: 278 Instagram viewers, 144 Facebook viewers, 5731 twitter viewers, 580 SUA media blog and 310 SUA media YouTube viewers making a total of 7,043 viewers. The closing of the event and the high profile panel discussion were live covered through TBC1 for more than four (4) hours.
- (ii) Learning and outreach. The event offered an opportunity for the SUA community members and the general public to learn about innovations, technologies, research findings and other services offered by SUA and the private sector. To that effect, the Sokoine Memorial Week served as an outreach activity.

- (iii) Inspirational to secondary and primary school students. During the high profile panel discussion nearly 750 students from SUA Secondary, Mafiga Secondary and SUA Primary School attended. They learned about SUA and so motivated them to join SUA in future. They also learned about the patriotic leader, the late Edward Moringe Sokoine, and so inculcated a sense of patriotism among the young generation.
- (iv) SUA-Public-Industrial linkage and collaboration strengthened. This was done through the University-Industrial day and also by signing an MoU between SUA and 10 institutions under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries.
- (v) Services offered by the SUA Animal Teaching Hospital. Approximately 200 animals, particularly dogs were treated. Other hospital services offered were deworming and ant rabies vaccination. All services were offered free of charge.
- (vi) Services offered by the SUA Hospital Department. A total of 994 clients received free diagnosis and advisory services on Blood Pressure, cervical cancer, prostate cancer, hepatitis B & C, diabetes and nutrition. In addition, a total of 70 units of blood were collected through voluntary blood donation and were used by the Morogoro Regional Hospital and Mzinga Hospital, implying that the impact of the event was substantially notable to the community.
- (vii) Publish accepted papers in a special issue. All high quality papers presented during the SUA scientific conference will be published by the Tanzania Journal of Agricultural Sciences as a special issue after a blind peer review process is completed, which is now underway.

### **What were the challenges?**

- (i) Disappointingly poor attendance of the SUA community members including students during the SUA scientific conference and during University-Industrial presentation sessions
- (ii) Disappointingly poor attendance of the SUA community members during the high profile panel discussion.
- (iii) Inadequate time by the guest of honour to visit pavilions.
- (iv) Inadequate time for the audience to engage in the discussion during the high profile panel discussion.
- (v) Failure of the SUA scientific conference to attract researchers from local universities in Tanzania even from within the Morogoro municipality. In addition, very few participated from outside Tanzania.

### **What directives did we receive from government officials?**

- (i) SUA should offer advisory services and solutions to the challenges in agriculture, livestock and fisheries for the better future in the country. The advisory services should be extended to the newly developed strategy popularly known as Building a Better Tomorrow for youth participation in agriculture.
- (ii) SUA should translate scientific knowledge into practical, and so involving the youth, for example, in fish and meat production to leverage the readily available market.
- (iii) SUA should provide accurate information for investment opportunities and challenges in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, and market conditions to attract investment and so creating youth employment opportunities.
- (iv) SUA should commercialize some of its technologies and increase production of livestock pasture, particularly *Rhodes* and *Alfalfa* to address the challenge of inadequate pasture, support livestock sector growth, and enhancing livestock industry resilience in the country.
- (v) SUA should engage para-vets and SUA students in the livestock vaccination campaign to expand vaccination coverage while also providing practical experience to the students and graduates, necessary for the job market.
- (vi) SUA should seek government approval to supply fish fingerlings in the national fish production projects to improve internal funds generation. In this case, SUA should have the capacity for mass production of the fingerings.
- (vii) SUA should promote livestock fattening techniques, animal nutrition, and management practices among the youth through incubation centers. This will in turn contributes to addressing youth unemployment.
- (viii) SUA should participate actively and take a leading role in implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the MoU signed between SUA and 10 institutions under the Ministry of Livestock and fisheries. This can be done through tracking progress of the MoU through quarter reports shared to all stakeholders including the Ministry.

### **What do we recommend?**

- (i) Implement all practical government directives to heighten an impact of SUA on the community and support government efforts in creating youth employment opportunities.

- (ii) To address poor attendance by SUA staff during SUA scientific conference, we recommend that academic staff at SUA should change their mind set particularly on academic issues to become proactive. Academic conference is an important event for discussing current academic debates and relevant research issues in a specific discipline that one needs to be aware of in order to effectively engage in the academic debate and research.
- (iii) To address poor attendance of the SUA community members in the high profile panel discussion, we recommend that in future attendance registration on that particular day be conducted at the venue, not only for the Sokoine Memorial but also other institutional events. Disciplinary measures can be taken against anyone who fails to attend without permission from the relevant head of department. This will, over time, possibly inculcate a sense of responsibility among members of the SUA community on institutional events.
- (iv) To address the challenge of the scientific conference not being able to attract researchers from Tanzania's institutions of higher learning we recommend preparations including advertisements be done earlier and widely circulated at least six months before the conference. Potential participants at a global, regional and national levels should timely be effectively reached. This will provide an opportunity for writers to prepare manuscripts and make submission timely for their participation making the conference international.
- (v) For the SUA students' poor attendance, we recommend heads of department to inspire their students to participate in all institutional events including the Sokoine Memorial particularly in a situation when classes have been cancelled. On the same, we also recommend taking on board participation of the students' government in the Sokoine Memorial Organizing Committee to make students feel they are part and parcel of the commemoration. The students' government may in turn stimulate students' attendance in the high profile panel discussion and other activities.
- (vi) It was not possible for everyone to contribute in the high profile panel discussion. Therefore, SUA should organize academic debates on regular basis to enable academic staff engage in the debate on issues affecting our society. This can be organized even at a departmental level.
- (vii) Research should be done in collaboration with the agricultural sector lead ministries to understand how effectively youth can participate in different nodes along the agricultural value chain.

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## **Abbreviations**

ASA	Agricultural Seed Agency
BBT-YIA	Build a Better Tomorrow - Youth Initiative Agribusiness
CFWT	College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism
CSSH	College of Social Sciences and Humanities
CVMBS	College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
DPRTC	Directorate of Postgraduate Studies, Research, Technology Transfer and Consultancy
MP	Member of Parliament
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NMB	National Microfinance Bank
SAT	Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania
SIDO	Small Industries Development Organization
SMW	Sokoine Memorial Week
SNAL	Sokoine National Agricultural Library
SUA	Sokoine University of Agriculture
TAFORI	Tanzania Forest Research Institute
TBC	Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation
TOSCI	Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute

## 1.0 Introduction

Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) organized the Sokoine Memorial Week (SMW) to commemorate the late Edward Moringe Sokoine between 23<sup>rd</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023. This is in line with the University's long-standing tradition of commemorating the late Edward Moringe Sokoine since 1992 because of his significant contribution to the Tanzania development particularly establishment of the Sokoine University of Agriculture. The overall objective of the commemoration is to enable SUA, as an institution, evaluate itself in terms of undertaking its major mandates including practical training, research, consultancy and production.

The event took place at the Edward Moringe Campus, SUA Morogoro municipality with the theme "Enabling Environment for Youth Participation in Agriculture: Policies, Guidelines, and Practice". The theme was carefully chosen because of the fact that youth constitutes a largest labour force proportion in Tanzania. Yet, they are the ones who suffer the most with the challenge of unemployment. Youth unemployment refers to the share of the total labour force aged 15 to 24 that is currently without work, but actively searching for employment. Full-time students are excluded in this definition.

The Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) officiated opening of the event on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023, and the guest of honour, on the closing day, was the District Commissioner for Mvomero District, Hon. Judith Nguli representing the Morogoro Regional Commissioner.

The commemoration attracted a wide range of participants including farmers, livestock keepers, academia, researchers, students at all levels, entrepreneurs, private sector, government and political leaders. The activities conducted to commemorate the late Edward Moringe Sokoine are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1: Activities**

S/N	Activity	Dates
1	Launching and signing of MoUs between SUA and 10 institutions under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries	23 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2023
2	Exhibitions of agricultural technologies	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
3	Third SUA Scientific Conference	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
4	University – Industrial Day	23 <sup>rd</sup> May, 2023
5	Mid-year graduation	25 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
6	Teaching animal hospital and human hospital services	23 <sup>rd</sup> – 26 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
7	Sports and games	23 <sup>rd</sup> to 24 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023
8	High profile panel discussion and closing	26 <sup>th</sup> May, 2023



## **1.1 Approaches**

Activities during SMW were coordinated by the organizing committee appointed by the Vice Chancellor (Appendix 1). The committee organized a series of planning meetings prior the event. In order to capture a wider audience, the committee used different communication strategies for publicity and advertisement prior and post the event including:

- (i) Press conference that was conducted on 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2023 to inform the general public about the overall objective of commemorating the late Edward Moringe Sokoine, and also to inform about the actual dates for the Sokoine Memorial Week 2023.
- (ii) Posters and banners were placed in different parts of Morogoro municipality including the entrance of the SUA administration building.
- (iii) Radio programmes like SUA FM (Ijue SUA ya Leo).
- (iv) TV programmes like TBC1 (Jambo Tanzania), Azam TV (Morning Trumpet), Star TV and Abood TV.
- (v) Global TV, Nipashe Online, Michuzi Blog, SUAMEDIA, and Jambo TV.
- (vi) Broadcasting in the booths.
- (vii) Brochures, booklets, SUA flags and backdrop banners.
- (viii) Social media including Instagram, WhatsApp, Twitter, SUA media blog, SUA media YouTube and Facebook.
- (ix) SUA website was used to share pre and post-Sokoine Memorial Week 2023 news.
- (x) Different newspapers were also used including Mzalendo digital, Mwananchi, the guardian and Habari Leo.
- (xi) Live streaming of the pavilions and high profile panel discussion with TBC1.
- (xii) Mrisho Mpoto live band, for advertisements and entertainment during high profile discussion on the closing day.
- (xiii) Sokoine Memorial Newsletter to share news with stakeholders post the event.

## **2.0 Launching**

The launching was officiated on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2021 by the Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP). Before delivering his speech, the guest of honour visited the SUA Model Training Farm particularly the blue economy training section and the SUA Animal Teaching Hospital. The guest of honour also witnessed signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SUA and 10 institutions, which are under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to improve efficiency of these institutions (Appendix 3).

In addition, the guest of honour visited pavilions on the exhibition grounds including the mobile laboratory and was pleased by the excellent work done by SUA in responding to disease outbreak such as '*Homa ya Mgunda*' (Leptospirosis) in Lindi, and Marburg virus disease in Kagera in 2023. These outbreaks required swift and coordinated efforts to control and manage the spread of the diseases, ensuring good health is upheld in the affected communities. The guest of honour commended such a successful response to the outbreaks, which vindicates dedication, capacity and SUA effectiveness in handling such public health emergencies.

At the blue economy training section, the guest of honour observed substantial efforts made by SUA with regard to aquaculture. He expressed his satisfaction and noted that the expertise in fish farming is not widely spread across the local councils in Tanzania and often rarely practiced at an individual level. The Minister advised for the dissemination and distribution of the aquaculture technology to foster the growth of the blue economy. He reported that the Chinese embassy has shown an interest of supporting the blue economy in the country. This can be an opportunity for SUA to commercialize aquaculture technology to increase income generation.

About pasture, which is currently becoming one of the national level high priority areas (Plate 1), Hon. Abdallah Ulega emphasized on the high demand for *Alfalfa* pasture production and seeds multiplication in the country. He advised SUA experts to conduct land mapping exercise to determine regions for a high mass *Alfalfa* pasture production in the country. Notably, Rhodes, well thrives in cooler regions like Njombe, Arusha, and Mbeya. To that effect, SUA can venture into high mass production of the high demand pasture for internal income generation while also upholding government's effort and helping livestock keepers address the challenge of pasture in the country.



Photo 1: Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) visiting the modal farm pavilion and looking at the *Rhodes* seeds on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, Morogoro

During the launching speech (Photo 2), the guest of honour commended the SUA Management for the successful Commemoration.



Photo 2: Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) delivering a launching speech of the Sokoine Memorial Week on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro

He described the late Edward Moringe Sokoine as the heroic leader and a politician who left an ever-lasting legacy in the history of our nation. He further pointed out that the Late Edward Moringe Sokoine was a person with high moral integrity, patriotic, honest, hardworking and prioritized the interests of the ordinary Tanzanians. Sokoine dedicated himself to developing agriculture, livestock, and fisheries sectors, believing that these sectors are appropriate to improving livelihood of the majority and the national economy in agrarian countries like Tanzania where the living mainly depends on agriculture. The guest of honour further commended signing of the MoU between SUA and ten institutions that are under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries as a right direction towards improving efficiency of the institutions (Appendix 3).

In line with this year's theme of the Sokoine Memorial Week, the guest of honour highlighted few programs that the government of Tanzania is currently implementing to build capacity of the young people and enhance youth participation in agriculture. These includes:

- (i) Youth incubation centers to enhance youth skills and knowledge.
- (ii) Internship programs to enhance practical skills of agricultural technologies that is done, among other strategies, through sending youth to countries like Israel, the USA, and Canada.
- (iii) The government has directed all local authorities to allocate a budget of at least 10% for youth, women, and persons with disabilities in their respective jurisdictions.
- (iv) The government registers youth through various groups in the National Economic Empowerment Council for funding.
- (v) The government has built screen houses in over 80 local authorities to provide training in modern agriculture, and approximately 8,700 youth have received the appropriate training.
- (vi) The government is implementing "Building a Better Tomorrow: Youth Initiative for Agribusiness" (BBT-YIA) program through the Ministry of Agriculture.
- (vii) The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries is managing youth incubation centers for livestock fattening.

When uncovering opportunities for the youth participation in the agriculture sector in Africa and Tanzania in particular, Hon. Abdallah Ulega, narrated the following:

- (i) Africa spends over \$2 billion on importing maize from outside the continent. As the population in Africa increases, the demand for food grains also increases. This is an opportunity for the youth in Tanzania to abundantly produce and engage in

trading agricultural products, especially those in high demand within and outside the country.

- (ii) The abundance of livestock in Tanzania offers an opportunity for youth employment and entrepreneurship throughout the value chain in the livestock sector.
- (iii) While the fisheries industry is rapidly growing and despite a good start made by SUA, there is a shortage of quality fish fingerlings and fish feeds in Tanzania. For instance, fish fingerling production in the country is approximately 40 million per year, which falls short of the actual demand for fingerlings. This is an opportunity for the youth to establish fish fingerling production and small-scale fish feed manufacturing industries, to meet the high demand for fingerlings and feed in the country.
- (iv) The government is implementing a special fisheries and aquaculture program for 500 young people, which is being conducted in 14 centers, with three (3) being public centers and 11 private centers.
- (v) The Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries is in the process of identifying suitable areas for cage fish farming in the Lake Victoria. So far, 28 areas have been identified in the regions of Mwanza and Kagera, which have the capacity to accommodate 14,000 cages, creating approximately 4,000 jobs, most of which will be for the young people.

### **3.0 Exhibition of Technologies, Innovations, Products and Services**

Exhibitions covered technologies, innovations, research, products and services for four days consecutively from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023. All SUA colleges, schools, directorates, departments and centers participated in the exhibitions. Participants from outside the University were CRDB, NMB, Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI), Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT), Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) and Zana Bora Ltd. Others include Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA), Tanzania Forest Research Institute (TAFORI), women entrepreneurs, Neolife, Moro Batiki, and Kilimajaro International Leather Co. Ltd. The guest of honour encouraged exhibitors to work hard in order to achieve the University's vision and the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 in general through agriculture, livestock, fisheries and entrepreneurship.





Photo 3: Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) visiting the University training farm on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro



Photo 4: Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) visiting the blue economy training section on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro





Photo 5: Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) visiting one of the private sector booths on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro



Photo 6: Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) commenting about the University training farm on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro





Photo 7: Hon. Judith Nguli (Mvomero DC) with the SUA Vice Chancellor Prof. Raphael Chibunda touring the SUA exhibition grounds on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro



Photo 8: Hon. Judith Nguli (Mvomero DC) touring the booth of the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro





Photo 9: Hon. Judith Nguli (Mvomero DC) touring one of the private sector booths on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro



Photo 10: Hon. Judge Joseph Sinde Warioba (Retired), the Chancellor of SUA, observing use of rat technology at the Pest Management booth on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro



Photo 11: Hon. Judge Joseph Sindé Warioba (Retired), the Chancellor of SUA, touring at the booth of the College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism on 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro

#### 4.0 Third SUA Scientific Conference

The theme for the scientific conference was “Enabling Environment for Agriculture Transformation”. The following sub-themes were discussed:

- (i) Transformation Technologies and Innovations.
- (ii) Vector and Pest Management, Animal and Public Health Management.
- (iii) Policy and Good Governance for Agriculture Transformation.
- (iv) Climate change, Natural Resource and Environment.

**Table 2: Keynote speakers and topics**

Speakers	Institution	Topic
Dr. Anna A. Temu	Senior Lecturer, researcher, Advisor/Consultant at SUA	Translating Science into Business
Prof. Henry F. Mahoo	Associate Professor & Teaching Consultant at SUA	Irrigation as an Opportunity for Agricultural Transformation in Tanzania
Prof. Richard Taylor	Professor of Hydrogeology at University College London in the United Kingdom and an Adjunct Professor of Hydrogeology at Makerere University, Uganda	Resilience of groundwater resources in drylands to climate change: evidence from Tanzania and globally





Photo 11: Prof. Richard Taylor from University College London giving keynote speech via Zoom during the 3rd SUA Scientific Conference held on 23<sup>rd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at the Edward Moringe Campus, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro

**Table 3: Number of received and reviewed abstracts**

SN	Description	Number
1	Number of received and reviewed abstracts	133
2	Number of rejected abstracts	8
3	Number of accepted abstracts for Oral and Poster presentations	125

**Table 4: Number of accepted abstracts for oral and poster presentation**

SN	Description	Quantity
1	Number of accepted abstracts for Oral presentations	61
2	Number of accepted abstracts for Poster presentations	64
<b>Total</b>		<b>125</b>

**Table 5: Number of oral and poster abstracts presented at the conference**

SN	Description	Quantity
1	Number of Oral presentations (2 virtually, 44 physically)	46
2	Number of Poster presentations	42
<b>Total</b>		<b>88</b>

Although the conference attracted researchers from Ethiopia, Zambia and the United Kingdom, there was no participation of researchers from local universities in Tanzania. This is attributed to either poor advertisement of the scientific conference or late advertisement of the event, specifically the scientific conference.

## 5.0 SUA Animal Teaching Hospital and Hospital Department Services

### 5.1 SUA Animal Teaching Hospital

The SUA Animal Teaching Hospital offered different services including deworming and ant rabies vaccination free of charge. Approximately 200 animals, particularly dogs were treated. In addition, the hospital prepared and displayed leaflets and projected on screen still pictures and video clips describing different activities performed by the animal hospital. Other services include management of important diseases such as rabies and Newcastle disease, diagnosis of diseases such as mastitis in cattle and diagnosis using ultra sound facility. Minor surgery, castration and spaying were demonstrated. This was an opportunity to market the hospital and SUA at large.



Photo 12: Hon. Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) visiting SUA Animal Teaching Hospital on the launching day on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023, at SUA Morogoro

### 5.2 Hospital Services Department

The department offered a number of services during the Sokoine Memorial Week like blood donation, where 70 units of blood were collected. Other services offered are shown in Table 6. Those who had health challenges received free advisory services accordingly. SUA hospital is registered as a district hospital that plays key role in terms of offering health services in Morogoro municipality. It is also one of the major internal funds generation at SUA. Therefore, its participation during Sokoine Memorial Week is not only important in accomplishing the SUA Corporate Strategic Plan but also marketing the hospital and the University in general.

**Table 6: Hospital services**

Service	Male	Female	Total
Blood Pressure	267	169	436
Cervical Cancer	NA	15	15
Hepatitis B & C	Not segregated	Not segregated	257
Diabetes	Not segregated	Not segregated	173
Prostate Cancer	Not segregated	Not segregated	48
Poor Nutrition	Not segregated	Not segregated	65
<b>Total</b>			<b>994</b>



Photo 13: Hon Abdallah Hamis Ulega (MP) touring at the Hospital Services Department on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro

## **6.0 High Profile Panel Discussion and Closure of the Sokoine Memorial Week**

This was conducted on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023. The overall theme was “Enabling environment for youth participation in the agricultural sector in Tanzania: policies, guidelines and practices”. The discussion focused on different ways of integrating youth in the agricultural value chain based on their preferences and capabilities. The high profile panel discussion was attended by scholars, scientists, academicians, distinguished scientists, development partners, policy makers, politicians, students at different levels,



and other stakeholders. There were four keynote speakers shown in Table 7 selected based on their experience and expertise, whose role was to stimulate the discussion.



Photo 14: Participants attentively listening to the keynote speakers of the high profile panel discussion on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro

**Table 7: Keynote speakers**

S/N	Name	Designation	Sub-theme
1	Hon. Paul Kimiti	The former Minister for Agriculture who worked with the Late Edward Moringe Sokoine	Agricultural Opportunities for Youth Engagement in Agriculture: Tanzania's Historical Perspectives
2	Dr. Zena Mpenda	Senior lecturer Sokoine University of Agriculture	Opportunities and Challenges of Agribusiness in Tanzania: Regulations and Guidelines
3	Dr. Hussein M. Omary	Deputy Permanent Secretary Ministry of Agriculture	Youth and Agricultural Opportunities: Policies, Guidelines and Practice
4	Mr. Philemon Kiemi	Executive Director of the Bee Village and President of beekeeping stakeholders in Tanzania	Opportunities and Challenges of Bee Keeping in Tanzania

The high profile panel discussion was also attended by Hon. Judge Joseph Sinde Warioba (Retired), the Chancellor of Sokoine University of Agriculture, and Prof. James Mdoe, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.



Photo 15: Hon. Judge Joseph Sinde Warioba (Retired), the Chancellor of Sokoine University of Agriculture and Hon. Paul Kimiti reading a booklet of the high profile panel discussion on 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023 at SUA, Morogoro

## 6.1 What Transpired in the Discussion?

### 6.1.1 Agricultural opportunities for youth participation in agriculture: historical perspectives in Tanzania

Hon. Paul Kimiti worked with the late Edward Moringe Sokoine and so described Sokoine as the true patriotic leader who sacrificed a lot for the development of Tanzania. The late Edward Moringe Sokoine insisted on the importance of involving youth specifically in agriculture. In 1983 for example, Sokoine cautioned youths' behavior of neglecting agriculture, and that youth should stop migrating from rural to urban areas. However, stopping youth migration to urban areas needs creating an enabling environment for youth engagement in agriculture, which is the main occupation in agrarian countries like Tanzania. Sokoine demonstrated a higher level of patriotism by contributing half of his salary to an agricultural fund to motivate youth engagement in agriculture. Notably, youth participation in agriculture begin by learning about agriculture that later on raise an interest of loving it and finally engagement in the sector. During J.K Nyerere's administration, agricultural training began from secondary schools. This inculcated a sense of loving agriculture and therefore stimulated youth engagement in agriculture. Hon. Kimiti said: "youth should not be forced to engage in agriculture...they can automatically be attracted in the sector if an enabling environment is created".

### 6.1.2 Opportunities and challenges of bee keeping in Tanzania

On this sub-theme, the discussion hinged on the importance of self-employment for the youth knowing that the public sector cannot absorb all labour force in Tanzania. The keynote speaker informed that bee keeping is one of the potential employment opportunities for the youth in Tanzania. He said “...When I was in school, I never thought of being employed rather I was looking for the available opportunities for investment...”. He went on saying “...youth are dynamic, and so their minds are directed where opportunities are available...”. This advice centered on researching on what exists in youths’ mind so as to be able to provide the necessary assistance accordingly in creating an enabling environment for them.

Doing research before starting any kind of entrepreneurial business is central to understanding the market demand of a commodity one wants to produce. This implies that business education is critical to the youth entrepreneurs for selecting and managing a business in any value chain including bee products value chain. In addition, it is high time to use technology in entrepreneurship in order to remain relevant in the information technology epoch. Importantly, it is now high time to harmonize different policies and guidelines, which in one way or the other act as barriers for the youth engagement in establishing and managing entrepreneurial business.

### 6.1.3 Opportunities and challenges of agri-business in Tanzania: expert perspectives on policies, regulations and guidelines

This sub-them concentrated on different policies, regulations and guidelines relevant for youth participation in entrepreneurial activities along the agricultural value chain. Despite the government, Non-Governmental Organizations and other institutions effort, the situation is unimpressive in terms of improving an environment for youth engagement in the agricultural value chain. As such, agriculture is ‘discriminated as an occupation for the poor’. The expert Dr. Zena Mpenda argued that:

“...despite having different agricultural policies, regulations and guidelines in Tanzania, unemployment is high among the youth ... and their participation in agriculture is also poor. One of the pertinent intervention is to research about value chains and youths’ mind because most of them are concentrated at the end of the agricultural value chain ... few are found at other nodes of the agricultural value chain...policies and guidelines are needed to promote youth participation in the agricultural value chain...”



Youth unemployment is highest among university graduates in Sub-Saharan Africa including Tanzania. There is also an indication of increasing unemployment rate in Tanzania in since 2020. Increasing youth participation in the agricultural value chain is critical in reducing youth unemployment in country. Among other things, agri-business education among the youth featured out very clearly in the discussion. This is fundamental in understanding what the market needs throughout the value chain. It also justifies the importance of human capital development.

#### 6.1.4 Government views on youth and agricultural employment opportunities: policies, guidelines and practice

The Deputy Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Agriculture, Dr. Hussein Omar explained that the youth are the biggest labour force proportion of the population in Tanzania and therefore it is important to invest on them for the national development. In so doing, Dr. Hussein discussed some of the established government strategies to ensure that youth are integrated in the agricultural sector mainly throughout the agricultural value chain.

Youth can participate at different nodes of the agricultural value chain like selling agricultural inputs and produce, farming, processing of agricultural produce etc. Some of the government strategies to improve youth participation in agriculture include Building a Better Tomorrow, commercialization of crops, marketing, set aside funds for compensating land which is taken for youth projects, emphasis on digital farming, promote short term crops and solving disputes resulting from land.

In the process of establishing block farming in the country, through among other things, the government strategy of offering land to the youth, concern was raised on the possibility of emerging classes of those who have land and those who have not particularly among the rural dwellers; educated and none educated young people. Emphasis was given on changing the youth mind set so that can see opportunities instead of challenges in the agricultural sector.

Other issues re-emphasized include making agriculture subject compulsory in primary and ordinary secondary education; creating an enabling environment for large and small-scale agricultural investment covering farming, livestock and fishing in the country; using information technology in agriculture; identifying and investing in critical areas for youth engagement in agriculture; institutional coordination, monitoring and evaluation; youth participation and integration of youths' voice in decision making; seed production; improving extension services including means of transport; agricultural insurance and youth access to credits from financial services without restrictions. These should be considered in the government strategies to improve the policy environment for youth participation in agriculture.

Generally, agriculture is considered one of the major livelihood sources in agrarian countries like Tanzania. Therefore, there should be policies that aims at making agriculture the basis of the living, and youth should be prepared to encounter challenges for them to be successful. In this regard, research financing by the government should be considered critical to improving the enabling environment for youth participation in agriculture.

During closing remarks Hon. Judith Nguli, the District Commissioner, Mvomero District representing the Regional Commissioner of Morogoro Region insisted on importance of implementing the vision of the late Edward Moring Sokoine specifically the major purpose of establishing SUA. The argument was that the youth should follow footsteps of the former patriotic leaders including the late Edward Moringe Sokoine. With that SUA should continue commemorating the late Edward Moringe Sokoine through training, research, and provision of advisory services in agriculture and allied sciences.

## 7.0 University – Industrial Linkage

Given the Tanzanian government's agenda on industrialization, Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) has a great potential of contributing towards the achievement of this agenda by working with the industry to develop new innovative (indigenous) technologies that are better-suited to our country's conditions, and which may reduce the need for importing ill-suited and technologies. In addition, the linkage with industry is likely to make the training offered at SUA more practical-oriented and demand driven by providing students and junior staff the opportunity to conduct practical hands-on learning, research and outreach with the industry.



Photo 16: Institutions under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries that signed the MoU with SUA on 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 2023

The University-Industry day was five days' event where industries, researchers, students/ innovators and policy makers met to share their common interests in

innovation and technology development. This event will be conducted annually with the purpose of forging and engaging university–industry partnership for mutual benefit. A total number of 147 individuals participated in this event including 73 students, 22 Staff, and 52 Stakeholders from industries.

The main objective of the university – industry day was to connect academia and industries to share and explore areas of common interest in research, technology and innovation development. During the event, researchers, students and industrial experts' network, shared experiences for the purpose of strengthening professionalism. Activities involved presentations focusing on strategies to bridge innovation gaps for sustainable development, exhibitions, and students' pitching.



Photo 17: Student's pitching winners

## 8.0 Sokoine Memorial Sports Bonanza

Sokoine Memorial Sports Bonanza involved SUA staff members, students, SUA alumni, SUA community members and other stakeholders. The games were officially opened on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2023 by the guest of honor the Head of the SUA Police station, Inspector Zaituni, at Edward Moringe Campus at the SUA football grounds.



Photo 18: The guest of honor Inspector Zaituni - Head of the Police SUA Police station officiating the Sokoine memorial sports bonanza on 24th May 2023 at Edward Moringe at the SUA football grounds.

Among other things, the guest of honor extended congratulations to the administration of Sokoine University of Agriculture, the Sokoine Memorial Coordination Committee, and the Sports and Games Department for recognizing the advantages of sports within the Sokoine University of Agriculture community. Inspector Zaituni emphasized the significance of prioritizing sports, as it is the finest way to honour the legacy of the late Edward Moringe Sokoine. Inspector Zaituni also stressed the importance of continued participation in sports due to their health, social, and mental benefits.

The 2023 Sokoine Memorial Sports Bonanza games involved four (4) Football teams namely CONAS and SOED, CVMBS and Forestry, College of agriculture and SUA staff, and Postgraduate students and SUA alumni. From the Alumni groups, different teams were organized including Netball teams, Three Volleyball teams, four basketball teams, and individual games.

Sokoine Memorial Sports Bonanza 2023 members committee succeeded to get championship in variuos sports codes as follow:

- (i) Football Competition was in the form of knockout and the championship football team was CVMBS and Forestry and were awarded a trophy.
- (ii) Netball games competed in form of league, where the championships were SUA staff and SUA alumni and Postgraduate team. They were also awarded a trophy.



- (iii) In basketball game, SUA staff and SUA veteran and SUA alumni, were awarded a trophy.
- (iv) In Volleyball, winners were EMC team for male and EMC team for female, and were awarded a trophy.
- (v) Cards, drought, Bao and Cock chasing were played by many people and the winners got medals.

The 2023 Sokoine Memorial Sports Bonanza games were officially closed on May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 by the Guest of honor Dr. G.K Karugila at Edward Moringe campus football grounds.

## **9.0 Achievements, Challenges, Conclusions, Directives and Recommendations**

### **9.1 Achievements**

#### **9.1.1 Services offered by the SUA Animal Teaching Hospital**

Approximately 200 animals, particularly dogs were treated. Other hospital services offered were deworming and ant rabies vaccination. All services were offered free of charge.

#### **9.1.2 Services offered by the SUA Hospital Department**

A total of 994 clients received free diagnosis and advisory services on Blood Pressure, cervical cancer, prostate cancer, hepatitis B & C, diabetes and nutrition. In addition, a total of 70 units of blood were collected through voluntary blood donation and were used by the Morogoro Regional Hospital and Mzingu Hospital, implying that the impact of the event was substantially notable to the community.

#### **9.1.3 SUA visibility and marketing**

The event was an avenue to market SUA and its innovations, technologies, products and services. By 21<sup>st</sup> July, 2023, the Instagram registered 278 viewers, Facebook 144, twitter 5731, SUA media blog 580 and SUA media Youtube 310 making a total of 7,043 viewers. The closing of the event and the high profile panel discussion were live covered through TBC1 for more than four (4) hours. Live coverage also included booths visited by the guest of honour. This marketed and increased visibility of SUA in the country. In addition, the Sokoine Memorial Newsletter consolidated various events that took place during the commemoration, and it was written in Kiswahili and English Languages to capture a wider audience. This was published on the SUA website.

#### 9.1.4 Learning and outreach

The week offered an opportunity for the SUA community members and the general public to learn from innovations, technologies, research findings and other services offered by SUA and the private sector. Exhibitors were available to offer advisory services to the visitors. Video clips, brochures, banners and policy briefs were used to demonstrate SUA research, innovations, technologies, products and services. The recorded number of people visited each booth and learning through the exhibitions was higher than the previous exhibitions. Therefore, in addition to being a learning opportunity, the event served as an outreach activity thereby contributing to the achievement of SUA Corporate Strategic Plan (SUA-CSP).

#### 9.1.5 Inspiration to secondary and primary school students

Students from different secondary and primary schools toured the pavilions and attended the high profile panel discussion. During the high profile panel discussion 750 students from SUA Secondary, Mafiga Secondary and SUA Primary School attended and participated. This was an opportunity for them to learn about SUA but also about the patriotic leader, the late Edward Moringe Sokoine. It was also an opportunity to motivate the students to join SUA in future.

#### 9.1.6 Strengthening SUA-public-private linkage and collaboration

The University strengthened its linkage with other public and private sector institutions. It also signed an MoU with 10 institutions under the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to improve efficiency among the institutions in transforming livestock and fisheries sectors.

#### 9.1.7 Publishing accepted papers in a special issue

All high quality papers presented during SUA scientific conference will be published by the Tanzania Journal of Agricultural Sciences, as a special issue, after a blind peer review process that is underway.

### 9.2 Challenges

- (i) The attendance of the SUA community members including students during the SUA scientific conference and during University-Industrial presentation sessions was disappointingly poor. This is possibly because of multiple events that took place at the same time including exhibitions.
- (ii) The attendance of the SUA community during the high profile panel discussion on the closing day was also disappointingly poor. Many chairs could remain empty if it was not higher secondary and primary school students' attendance that was about 750. This could be a loss because we hired 3000 chairs for the event.

- (iii) The time for the guest of honour to visit each of the pavilion on the opening day was inadequate, and therefore the guest of honour visited few of them. This was expected because the Minister had to go back to Dodoma to attend parliamentary sessions that were in progress.
- (iv) The high profile panel discussion spent about 90 minutes. This was inadequate such that participants who were ready to contribute to the discussion did not get the opportunity to do so.
- (v) The scientific conference attracted researchers from Zambia, Ethiopia and from the UK but did not attract any from local universities in Tanzania even from institutions of higher learning from Morogoro municipality.

### **9.3 Conclusions**

Based on the information presented in this report, we conclude the following: first, the Sokoine Memorial Week 2023 was successful contributing to the achievement of SUA-CSP. The commemoration is increasingly becoming a national event attended by a wide range of stakeholders from different levels of the government. For example, in addition to the guest of honour, the high profile panel discussion was attended by higher level government leaders including the University Chancellor, the Deputy Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology; and the Deputy Permanent Secretary from the Ministry of Agriculture.

Second, the event is becoming fundamental for the University in terms of improving visibility and marketing of SUA services principally training and advisory services while also commemorating the late Edward Moringe Sokoine. Third, the Sokoine Memorial Week has become a learning event that is significantly motivating prospective SUA students while also strengthening the linkage and collaboration between SUA, public and private institutions. The event was beneficial to a wide range of stakeholders including prospective students, farmers, livestock keepers, researchers and many others. The general public benefited through discussion about developmental contribution of the patriotic leader, the late Edward Moringe Sokoine, and therefore inculcated a sense of patriotism among the public particularly the youth.

Fourth, different SUA units responded and effectively participated in the exhibitions. The exhibitors vindicated highest level of passion and were throughout available to serve their clients. Fifth, the merging of the Sokoine Memorial Week with the mid-year graduation and the University-Industrial Day made the week even more colorful and also cut down some cost. Importantly, multi-activities that took place in the week were essential for colorfulness of the commemoration.

Six, the diversity of the keynote speakers in the high profile panel discussion that included a scholar from SUA; someone who worked with the late Edward Moringe Sokoine; young graduate from SUA who is an entrepreneur, and a high level government leader made the event more successful and more relevant to the theme for this year. Additionally, the Mrisho Mpoto live Band stimulated the audience through musical messages they gave out and the performing art.

#### **9.4 Directives from Government Leaders**

- (i) Because of the available manpower, SUA should actively participate as a think tank in offering advisory services and solutions to the challenges in agriculture, livestock and fisheries industry for the better future. The advisory services should be extended to the newly developed strategy popularly known as BBT.
- (ii) SUA should strive to translate scientific knowledge into practical, involving the youth for example in fish and meat production to leverage the readily available market.
- (iii) The future investment in agriculture, livestock and fisheries requires SUA to provide accurate information in the areas of interest including investment opportunities, market conditions, regulatory frameworks, and risks in order to attract investments.
- (iv) SUA should commercialize some of its technologies. It should also increase production of livestock pasture, particularly production of *Rhodes* and *Alfalfa* to address the challenge of inadequate pasture, support livestock sector growth, and enhance livestock industry resilience in the country.
- (v) SUA should engage unemployed para-vets and SUA students in the livestock vaccination campaign to address unemployment and so expand vaccination coverage while providing practical experience to the students.
- (vi) SUA should seek government approval to become supplier of fish fingerlings in the fish production projects nationwide to generate internal funds through fish-related projects.
- (vii) Promote livestock fattening techniques, animal nutrition, and management practices among youth through incubation centers and resource support.
- (viii) SUA should participate actively and take a leading role in implementation and monitoring and evaluation of the MoU signed between SUA and 10 institutions under the Ministry of Livestock and fisheries.



## 9.5 Recommendations

- (i) SUA should implement all practical government directives to heighten impact of SUA on the community and support government efforts in creating youth employment opportunities.
- (ii) On the issue of poor attendance by SUA staff during SUA scientific conference, we recommend that academic staff at SUA change their mind set particularly on academic issues to become proactive. Academic conference is an important event for discussing current academic debates and research relevant issues in a specific discipline that one needs to be aware of in order to effectively engage in the academic debate and research.
- (iii) Because the attendance of the SUA community in the high profile panel discussion was also disappointingly poor, we recommend that in future attendance registration on that particular day be conducted at the venue not only for Sokoine Memorial but also other institutional events. Disciplinary measures can be taken against anyone who fail to attend without permission from the relevant head of department. This will, over time, possibly inculcate a sense of responsibility among members of the SUA community.
- (iv) To address the challenge of the scientific conference not being able to attract researchers from Tanzania's institutions of higher learning we recommend preparations including advertisements be done earlier at least six months before the conference. This will provide an opportunity for writers to prepare manuscripts and make submission timely for their participation.
- (v) For the SUA students' poor attendance, we recommend heads of department to inspire their students to participate in all SUA community events including the Sokoine Memorial particularly in a situation when classes have been cancelled. On the same, we also recommend taking on board participation of the students' government in the Sokoine Memorial Organizing Committee to make students feel they are part and parcel of the commemoration. The students' government may in turn stimulate students' attendance in the high profile panel discussion.
- (vi) It was not possible for everyone to contribute in the high profile panel discussion. Therefore, SUA should organize academic debates on regular basis to enable academic staff, who are ready, engage in the debate on issues affecting our society. This can be organized even at a departmental level.

## Appendix 1: Sokoine Memorial Week 2023 organizing committee

SN	Name	Position	College/Department
1.	Prof. J.S. Kabote	Chairperson	College of Social Sciences & Humanities
2.	Prof. David G. Mhando	Vice Chairperson	College of Social Sciences & Humanities
3.	Dr. E. E. Ngowi	Member	College of Social Sciences & Humanities
4.	Dr. Raymond J. Salanga	Secretariat	College of Social Sciences & Humanities
5.	Dr. E.T. Malisa	Secretariat	Institute of Continuing Education
6.	Ms. Sauda Kanjanja	Member	Institute of Continuing Education
7.	Prof. A. Z. Sangeda	Member	Department of Animal, Aquaculture & Range Sciences
8.	Ms. Suzana Magobeko	Member	Communication and Marketing
9.	Prof. Claudius D. Luziga	Member	College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
10.	Mr. Steven Kingazi	Member	College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism
11.	Dr. Silvia Materu	Member	College of Natural and Applied Sciences
12.	CPA. Clement W. Siwiti	Member	Finance Department
13.	Mr. R. K. Ntengo	Member	College of Economics and Business Studies
14.	Mr. Masoud J. Gumbwa	Member	Department of Sports and Games
15.	Mr. Jabir Jabir	Member	Sokoine National Agricultural Library
16.	Dr. Martin John	Member	Institute of Pest management
17.	Mr. Calvin E. Gwabara	Member	SUA media
18.	Prof. J. J. Kashaighili	Member	DPRTC
19.	Dr. Halfan H. Hamidu	Member	School of Education
20.	Dr. Proches H. Msigula	Member	School of Engineering and Technology
21.	Mr. Bahati Mmari	Member	Vice Chancellors' Office

## **Appendix 2: Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference for the organizing committee were:

- (i) To propose activities to be held during the Sokoine Memorial Week 2023.
- (ii) To identify the area appropriate for exhibitions.
- (iii) To develop plan of the programme.
- (iv) To execute all protocol arrangements within and outside the University in consultation with the SUA management.
- (v) To prepare budget for the event.
- (vi) To prepare a cocktail party for guests and selected members who will participate in the high profile panel discussion.
- (vii) To attend any other matters necessary for making the Sokoine Memorial week successful as may be directed by the SUA management.

## **Appendix 3: List of institutions that signed an MoU with SUA**

- (i) Tanzania Livestock Research Institute
- (ii) Livestock Training Agency
- (iii) Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency
- (iv) Tanzania Dairy Board
- (v) Tanzania Meat Board
- (vi) National Ranching Company Limited
- (vii) National Artificial Insemination Centre
- (viii) Tanzania Fishing Corporation
- (ix) Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute
- (x) Fisheries Education and Training Agency