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Programme | Edulink II Thematic | Agriculture and food security Duration | 36 months Total Budget | € 559,963.44

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PAOLOEMILIOGRECO

MAINSTREAMING THE BIOFARMING SYSTEM IN ETHIOPIAN AND UGANDAN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

 Project Coordination
 Partners

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Associates

### **PROJECT OBJECTIVES**

• To contribute to foster capacity building and regional integration of Higher Education Institutions of Ethiopia and Uganda in the Biofarming System.

• To contribute to support higher education of quality, that is efficient

and relevant to the needs of the labour market and consistent with the African countries' socio-economic development priorities.

#### **TARGET GROUPS**

Professors, researchers and post-graduate students of the African Universities involved in the project, staff from associates.

#### **KEY WORDS**

Biofarm: teaching farm where nature conservation, renewable energies and organic agriculture are applied. Farmer's Academy: Farmers Training Center with backstopping, monitoring and evaluation.

Integrated Bioeconomy System (IBS): a science and evidencebased approach to sustainable livelihood, founded on the re-cycle of as much energy as possible, in ecologically friendly ways, whilst minimizing external inputs in the form of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. The IBS system is based upon 3 major pillars: Social, Economic and Ecological capital building.

#### **MAIN ACTIVITIES**

• To enhance the HEI capacity to train competent and professional experts in sustainable agriculture throughout the organization and delivery of training activities for academic staff, researchers, PhD students, post-doc students on selected topics (Biofarming Training School- BTS)

• To transfer knowledge and the research methodology throughout the development of joint demonstration actions in field (ad hoc training activities).

O Training programmes/activities for ACP post-graduate students and researchers in Italy.

O To establish a research network among ACP HEIs and EU HEIs.

## **EXPECTED RESULTS**

Strengthen human resources capacity in developing collaborative research, technology transfer and knowledge exchanges on best practices and procedures in sustainable agriculture sector.

Increased inter-institutional networking cooperation and collaboration between the participating ACP and EU HEIs and between ACP HEIs and local stakeholders (rural communities, policy makers and agricultural extension services, biofarming actors etc).

• Increased mobility of postgraduate students and teaching staff.

In the long run, higher quality education that is relevant to the needs of labour market and consistent with the socio-economic priorities of the ACP Countries.