

RNPIA-2021 CONFERENCE, 5TH – 7TH JULY 2021, IMPERIAL ROYALE HOTEL, KAMPALA

The 1st International Conference on Reimagining the Natural Products Industry in Africa under the patronage of Carnegie Corporation of New York through Future Africa, University of Pretoria, South Africa was convened by **Dr. Alice Nabatanzi** (5th – 7th July, 2021) at Imperial Royale Hotel. This year's theme is ***“Advancing Africa's Natural Products Industry through Transdisciplinarity and Sustainable Innovations”***.



Dr. Alice Nabatanzi (RNPIA-2021) Conference Convener



Opening Remarks by Dr. Alice Nabatanzi

The conference was officiated by two honourable guests; (1) Hon. Prof. George Mondo Kagonyera (Vice Chancellor Kabale University and Ex. Vice Chancellor Makerere University) and Prof. Cheikh Mbow (Director Future Africa, University of Pretoria).



Hon. Prof. George Mondo Kagonyera (Vice Chancellor Kabale University) officiating RNPIA-2021 Conference

RNPIA-2021 Officiating Ceremony



RNPIA-2021 Conference CAKE



Cake cutting officiating RNPIA-2021 Conference



RNPIA-2021 Group Photo

The conference was graced by Prof. John David Kabasa (Principal COVAB), Professor Paul Waako (Vice Chancellor Busitema University) and Dr. Grace Nambatya (Director Research Natural Chemotherapeutics Research Institute)



Prof. John David Kabasa (Principal COVAB) giving a presentation on Natural Products Value Chains in Africa



Dr. Grace Nambatya (Director Research, Natural Chemotherapeutic Research Institute, Ministry of Health) giving a presentation on Natural Products Drug Discovery and the role of NCRI in Uganda



Prof. Paul Waako (Vice Chancellor Busitema University) making a presentation on Pharmacological Approaches in Natural Products and the contribution of Busitema University to the Natural Products Industry

The 3-day RNPIA-2021 conference was attended by over 400 online participants from all over the world and 50 physical participants. During the 3 days, a total of 50 presentations (MSc, PhD, Early career) were made by participants from different universities throughout Africa. The Keynote speeches were given by:

Professor Namrita Lall, University of Pretoria – Challenges and Coping Strategies faced by Female scientists for STEM Research

Professor John R. S. Tabuti, Makerere University – Conservation of Traditional Medicines, Contribution of REDD+

Professor Lyndy McGaw, University of Pretoria – Ethnoveterinary Medicine and an Overview of recent Surveys conducted in South Africa.

Other Guest Speakers included:

Dr. Marco Nuno De Canha, University of Pretoria – Navigating the sea of intellectual property: Technology transfer and patenting innovative ideas

Mr. Mongezi Mabena, South Africa – The Theoretical Framework, Processes and Challenges of Registering a Pharmaceutical Company

Prof. Fredrick Muyodi, Makerere University – Fisheries and Aquaculture in the Face of Climate Change

Entrepreneurs in Natural Products from South Africa, Uganda and U.S.A. also showcased their products and gave stories of their entrepreneurial journeys. Representatives from NDA, AFS, THETA were present at the conference.



Dr. Brian Sekayombya from National Drug Authority making a presentation on the role of NDA in the promotion of traditional medicines in Uganda.

On the 3rd day of the RNPIA-2021 Conference, the Natural Products Industry Advancement Network Africa (NAPIANA) network was launched. NAPIANA is aimed at bridging the gaps along the Natural Products Value Chain in Africa through transdisciplinarity.



Dr. Alice Nabatanzi giving an overview of the Natural Products Industry in Africa and why the need for NAPIANA

Launching NAPIANA



The conference was officially closed by Dr. Grace Nambatya.