The Africa Hotel Investment Forum (AHIF) is the continent’s leading hotel investment conference. It brings together over 500 top-level hotel investors, operators, developers and advisors from over 50 countries, including government ministers from African nations. This premier event is THE event to network and discuss the latest developments, trends and opportunities available in this continent’s leading hotel investment conference.

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The African Union Commission is seeking proposals for research in Africa focusing on the thematic area: Food, Nutrition Security and Sustainable Agriculture (FNSSA) with a focus on Sustainable Intensification as articulated within the Africa’s Science Technology and Innovation Strategy-2024 adopted by the AU Executive Council decision EX.CL/639(XV), which addresses aspirations identified under the Agenda 2063 and Priority area 3 on Human development of the EU-Africa partnership under the implementation mechanisms of the EU-Africa HLPD for STI. The programme is financed through financing assistance from the European Commission Pan-African Programme (PanAF).

The full Guidelines for Applicants, Application form and other supporting documents are available for downloading from the Internet Site http://au.int/en/AUG

The deadline for submission of proposals is 17 August 2016 at 1700 hours (+3 GMT) Addis Ababa.

Contact: Programme Management Unit of the African Union Research Grant
Department of HRST
African Union Commission
P. O. Box 3243
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Email: research-info@africa-union.org

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AFRICA HOTEL INVESTMENT FORUM RWANDA
5-6 October 2016 Radisson Blu Hotel & Convention Center, Kigali, Rwanda

The World Resources Institute states that African countries have experienced the world’s most extreme land degradation through deforestation and this is seriously impacting Africa’s economic development and compromising the continent’s resilience to climate change.

There are various reasons for deforestation, all due to human activity. A major factor is a reliance on the biomass energy from burning firewood and charcoal. By some estimates, about 90% of wood that is gathered, including felled timber, is used as fuel.

And yet, trees absorb and store carbon dioxide, pumping out oxygen, filtering the air and purifying water. They provide a refuge for thousands of species of fauna and flora, and are an important resource for both food and medicines. So how can forest loss be halted and reversed?

This was the theme of a major conference held in March in Accra, Ghana, entitled Forests for the Future – New Forests for Africa.

Over two days of debate and a one-day site visit, delegates were able to share their views and discuss the practicalities of restoring Africa’s landscape and reforesting the continent.

The message was that Forest Landscape Restoration (FLR) can deliver significant benefits, and that restoration efforts have already proven successful in several African countries. It is now time to scale up FLR to meet the target of reforesting 100m ha (equivalent to 1m km2) set by AFR100. This plan – the African Forest Landscape Restoration Initiative – was agreed by 10 African countries at the COP21 talks in Paris, December 2015.

A principal sponsor of the conference was the Dutch government company Form International. The company has been working in Ghana since 1999, when it began researching the possibility of developing a forest plantation, establishing a pilot project of

The AFR100 plan aims to restore 100m ha of degraded forest in Africa. A project in Ghana illustrates what can be done and the challenges that lie ahead.

The world’s forests are being lost at an alarming rate. The repercussions of this loss are profoundly serious, and Africa is on the front line.

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If you take something from the earth today, you need to put something back in return.