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The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

Building capacity in Uganda – Supporting Ugandan students and professionals in Nutrition-Agriculture research for development

**Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Nutrition
Partners Meeting
August 6-7, 2019**

Edgar Agaba & Bernard Bashaasha



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OUTLINE

- **Overview of Capacity Building activities in Uganda**
- **Success stories**
- **Next actions**

- **Discussions, Q&A**



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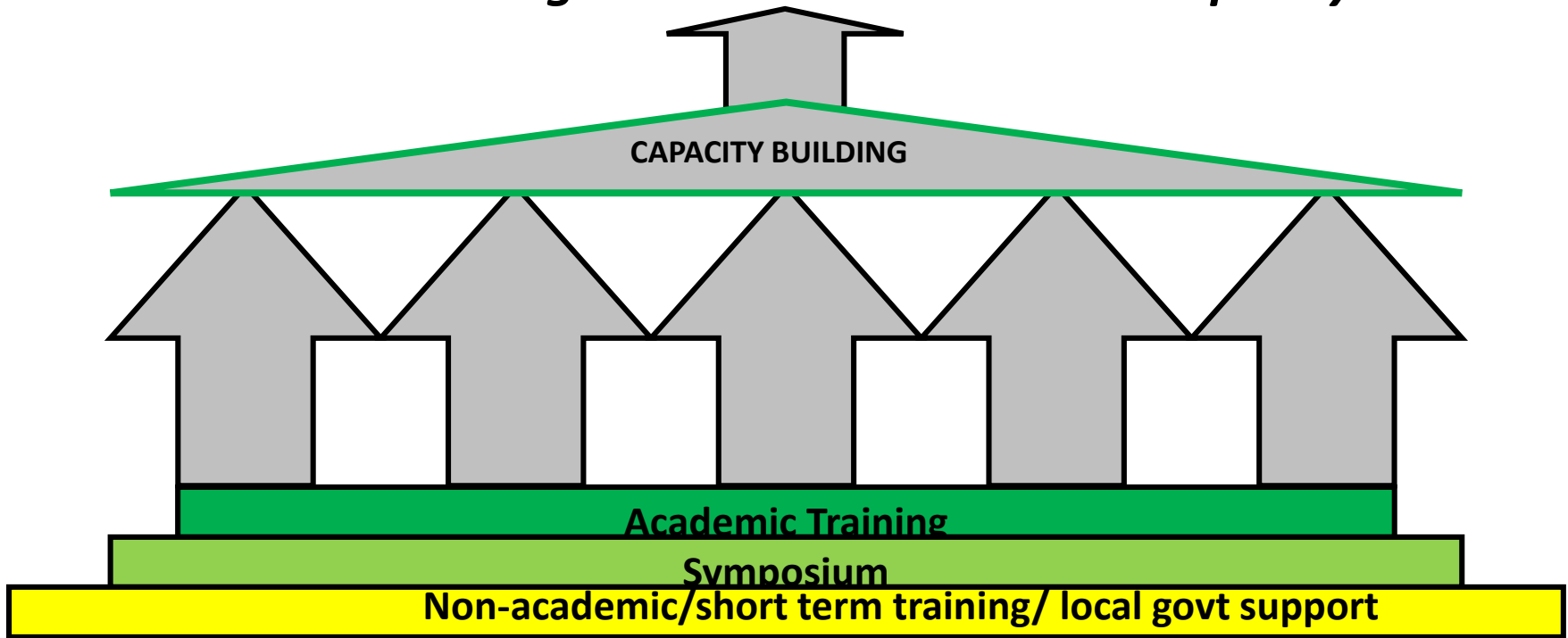


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INNOVATION LAB FOR NUTRITION CAPACITY BUILDING IN UGANDA

Strong research and academic capacity



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CAPACITY BUILDING OVERVIEW

- In Uganda, capacity building has taken place at different levels
- This has been through
- **Academic Training**
 - Providing young host country students with the Post-Doc , PhD and MSC student research grants
 - Providing MS education scholarships
- **Short term training**
 - Support Ugandan professional for short courses in country in BBNC India and US academic Institutions
 - Through research workshops to districts teams implementing Panel, EED and Birth cohort studies.
- **Holding national level Symposium**





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CONTRIBUTION OF INNOVATION LAB FOR NUTRITION CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAM



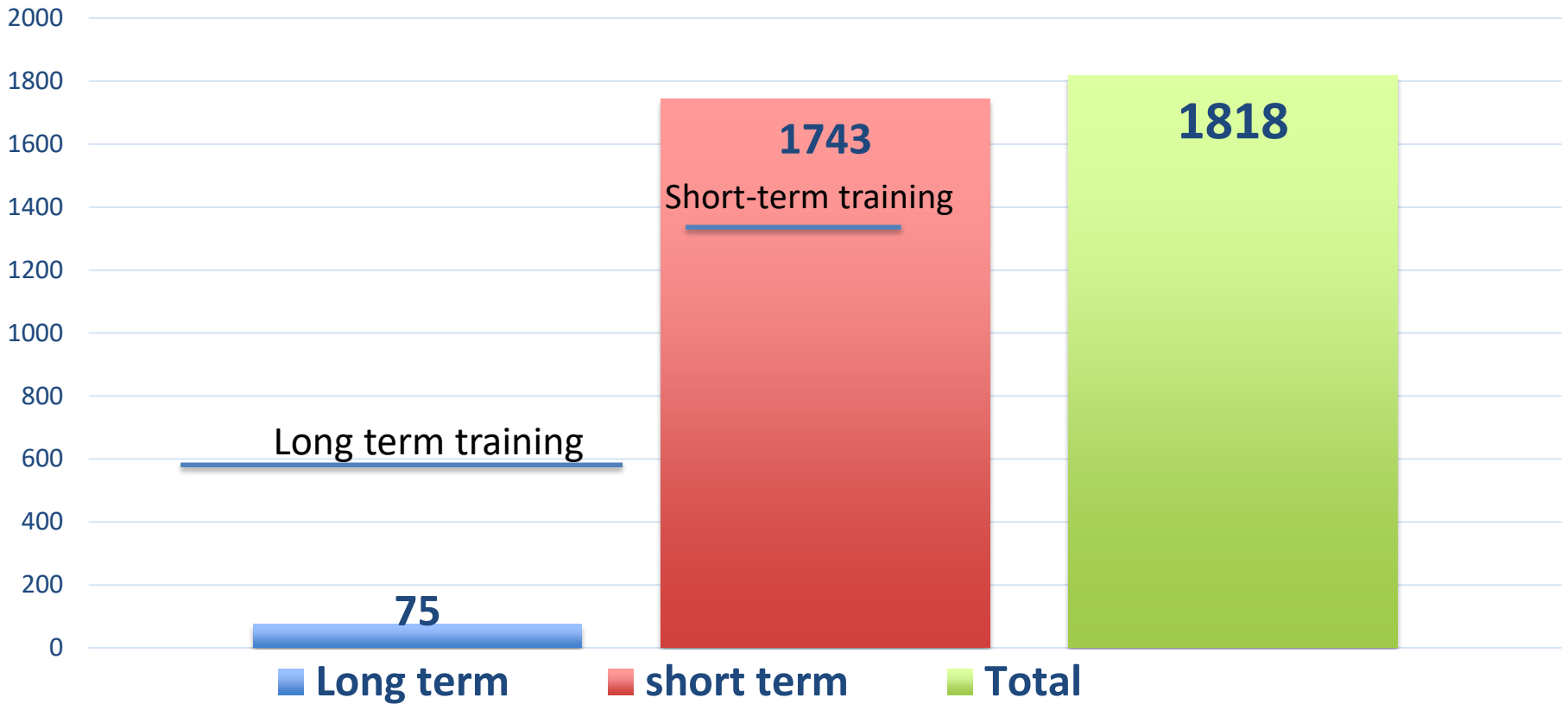
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CONTRIBUTION OF INNOVATION LAB FOR NUTRITION TO UGANDA CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS, 2010-2017

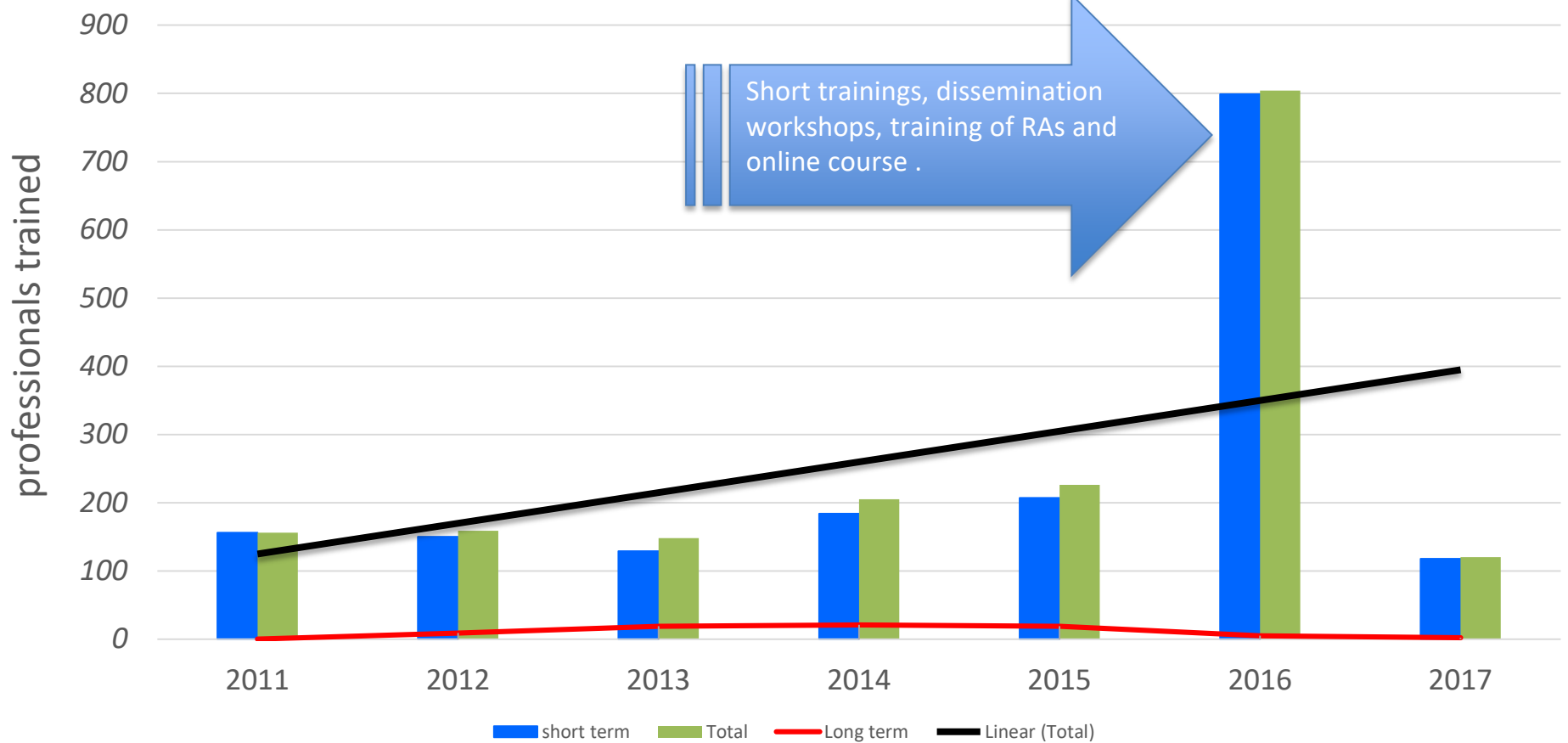




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OVER YEARS WE HAVE SEEN AN INCREASE FOR UGANDAN PROFESSIONALS RECEIVING CAPACITY BUILDING



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BBNC PIC WITH UGANDAN STUDENTS



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WHAT IS THE CAPACITY GAP?

- Despite the interventions by Innovation lab, Key capacity gaps exist
 - At national level
 - Local levels





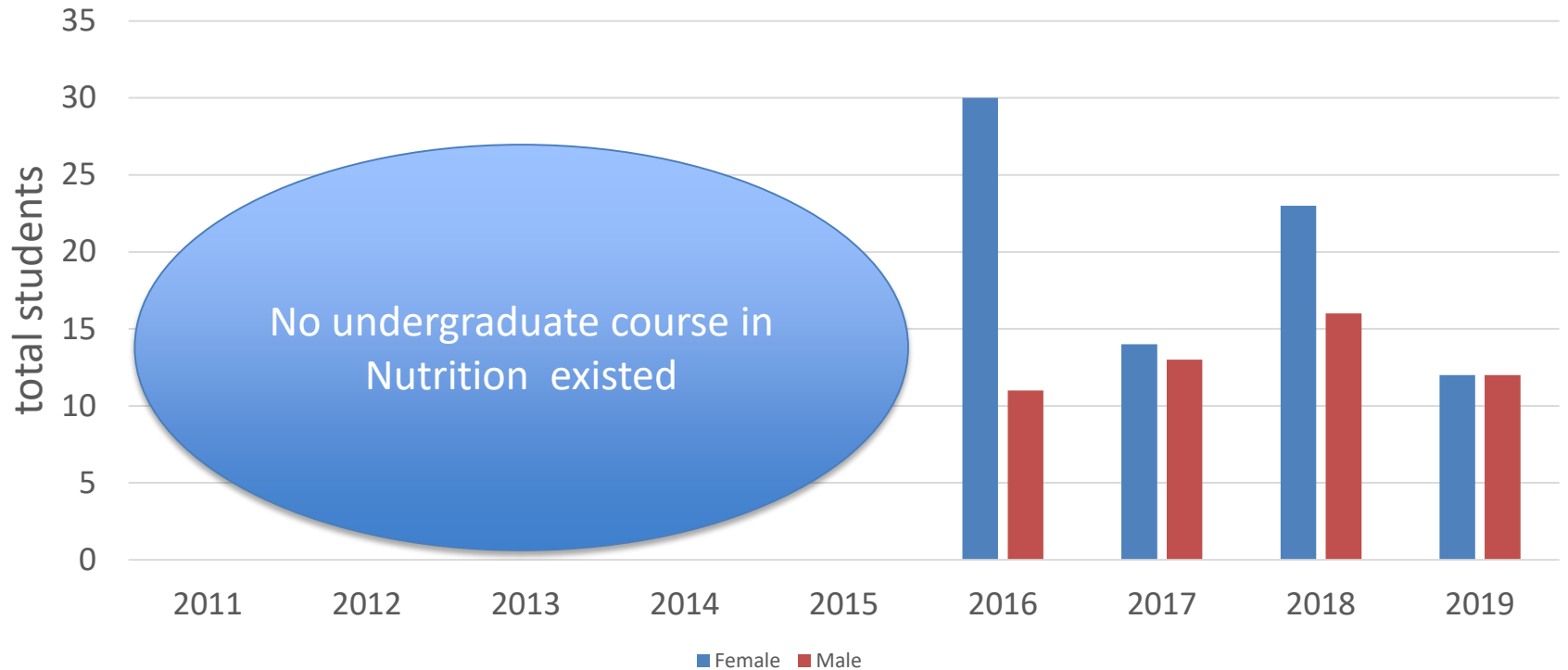
KEY STATISTICS IN UGANDA ON NUTRITION RELATED SKILLS

- Out of a total of 9 public university, two (Makerere University and Kyambogo University) offer Nutrition related training
- At Makerere University Nutrition training is offered by 2 out of 10 Colleges namely;- College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES) and College of Health Sciences (CHS). CAES has two programs one graduate and one undergraduate whereas CHS has only one graduate program





BSC. HUMAN NUTRITION GRADUATES, MAKERERE UNIVERSITY SINCE 2011-CURRENT

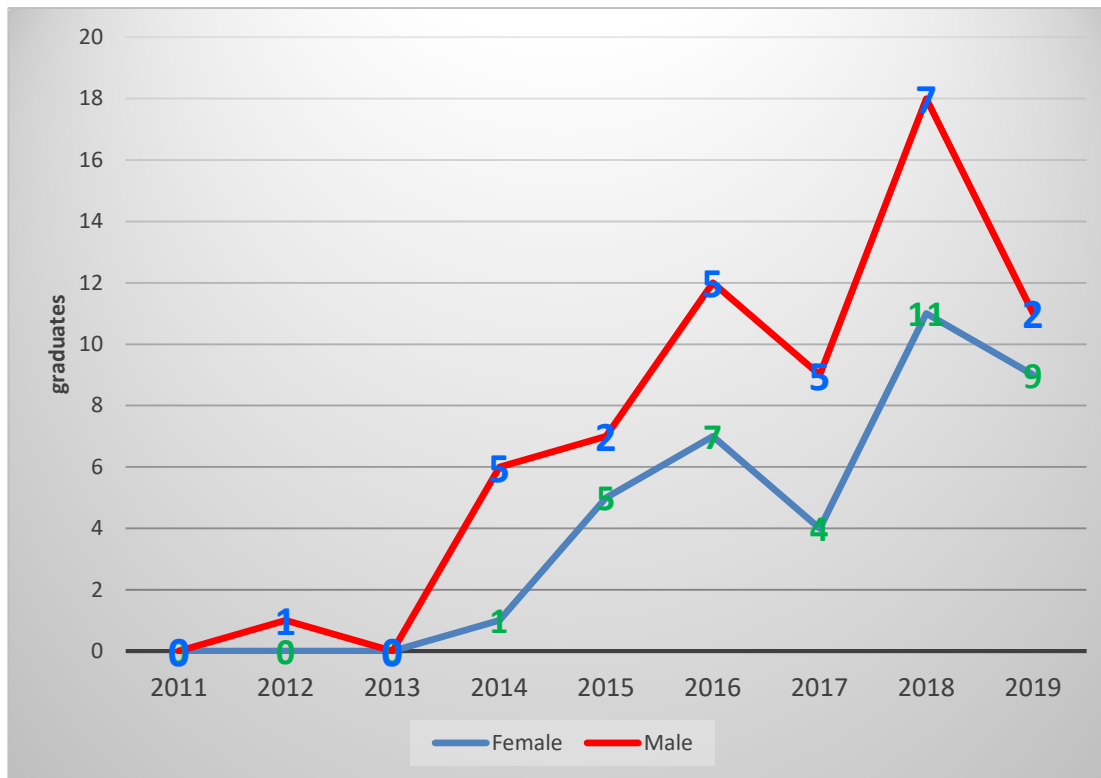




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M.SC. PUBLIC HEALTH AND NUTRITION GRADUATION YRS

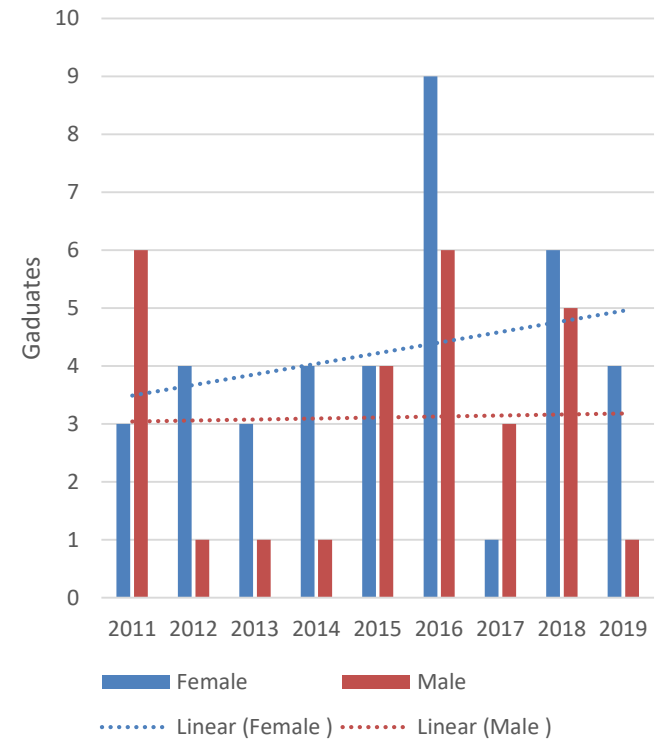
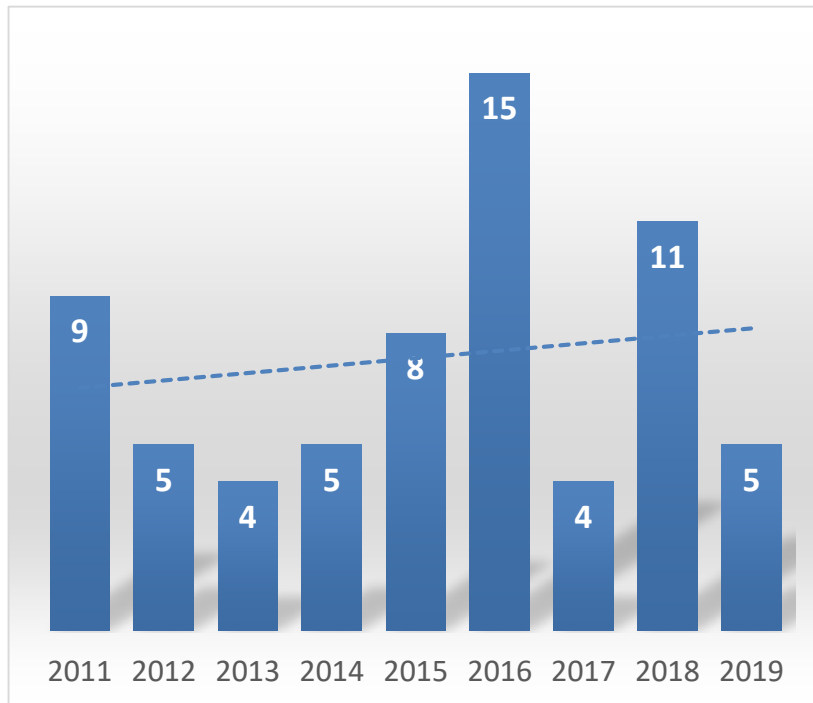




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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN APPLIED HUMAN GRADUATION OVER YRS



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UGANDA'S ANNUAL SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

- Goal is to pick relevant scientific evidence to help understand the causal relationships/linkages of agriculture to nutrition & health using national regional and local research



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SUCCESS STORIES

- Key extracts from each of the 3 is reported below;

“...The course was an eye opener and gave me a thorough insight into the various aspects to nutritional science. The topics pertaining to biostatistics, data analysis, conducting systematic reviews and proposal writing for funding was new and eventually helped me in my research work, as I was at the stage of writing my proposal for my Master’s degree” Ms. *Pamelah Kihembo MPH-Nutrition Student, Makerere University, School of Public Health and former Nutrition Innovation Research Assistant.*

“...It also helped me to understand several methods of nutritional assessment for example the DEXA method for body composition and methods to measure energy expenditure among others... even though the machines are not available in Uganda, the exposure was worth it since I had theoretical knowledge about the different methods ...” Ms. *Dorcus Alowo, Graduate trainee Gulu university, Uganda*

“I have been working in public health and the gained knowledge in the development and the implementation of projects was worth it as I advance my career. I hope to process grant appeals related to nutrition with better clarity and confidence... The BBNC course was something like an appreciation course on nutrition for me...” Mr. *Muzafaru Senyondo, Nutrition officer, kalamoja region Uganda*



INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY BUILDING

- Building institutions that support nutrition
 - Dissemination of results with the Local govt, DNCCs
 - Attending quarterly Nutrition meetings at national level (OPM, MoH, MAIF)
 - Supporting academia (Government, nongovernment) institutions
 - Continued use of hybrid online course on public health developed at Makerere University





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NEXT STEPS

- More capacity building efforts including

Holding research writing workshops to coincide with other events such as the dissemination and symposiums activities

Holding short courses at national and local government level

Advanced training at graduate level



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