

RECIRCULATE Update

February Newsletter

Welcome to the February update from RECIRCULATE.

This month we've been reflecting on the importance of communication in all we do. This can be challenging at times but also highly rewarding when we get it right. If RECIRCULATE researchers are going to achieve the project's aim to grow transformational impact through working with, in and for their communities then good communication is key.

In these days when meeting is not always possible, it's more important than ever to keep communicating. We'd like to highlight some RECIRCULATE examples of communication between people who work in different disciplines, different sectors and even different languages, each of which are touched upon by the impressive winner of our blog writing competition.

So, please, enjoy reading the newsletter and if you have any feedback, contact our Project Officer [Dian Velkov](#).

And the winner is...

Our PARTICIPATE theme in February was [Communications](#) and to mark this we challenged the RECIRCULATE community of researchers and research users to write a short blog (150-250 words) on the subject of "**Communication between research and business, or the wider community**".

Ugochi Oluigbo, founder of Green Angle TV, won the competition with her article on the topic "**Can science speak our language?**". In her blog, Ugochi writes about the difficulty of getting the academia, policy

makers, industry and communities in one room to just talk. She believes the language of communication is the problem as scientific findings are usually hard for the non scientific community to make sense of.

[Read more](#)

Research Highlights



When Science Meets Entrepreneurship

Researchers from the RECIRCULATE`s Entrepreneurship and Innovation team addressed how we can encourage scientists, researchers and academics to be entrepreneurial and innovative in tackling complex societal challenges in their recent blog.

[Read the blog](#)

Engaging with Farmers in Ghana

RECIRCULATE research teams have been holding workshops with farmers, agricultural officers and media organizations to communicate the benefits of novel irrigation technology and bio-based fertilizer.



[Read more](#)

Not everybody speaks English

In recognition of International Mother Language Day on 21st February, the RECIRCULATE team members shared their experience and insight on the challenge of science communication to stakeholders in their own language. Read our article to discover who or what a “crop husband” is.

[Read the blog](#)



Capacity Building



International Policy Webinar

The 2021 [PARTICIPATE](#) programme kicked off on 25th January with an [International Policy Webinar](#) exploring some of the challenges and opportunities for environmental researchers interfacing with policy in Africa.

[Watch the webinar](#)

Facebook Live Session with Dr Nicholas Ozor

On 29th January Dr Akan Odon was joined by the CEO of the African Technology Policy Studies Network, Dr Nicholas Ozor for a Facebook Live Session to ask "Why is policy necessary in African countries if they are rarely implemented?"

[Watch the session](#)

International Research Communications Webinar

On 24th February we conducted our [International Research Communications Webinar](#) discussing challenges and best practices for communicating research work across the communities and the wider audience.

[Watch the webinar](#)

Instagram Live Session with Ugochi Oluigbo

On 16th February, Dr Akan Odon interviewed the award-winning journalist Ugochi Oluigbo to discuss how scientists and researchers can effectively communicate their results for the benefit of society

[Watch the session](#)

ACTUATE progress

As the digester at Umar Bun Hatab Islamic School nears completion, HATOF Foundation in Ghana hosted an engagement event for the media on 28 January to promote ACTUATE. The event has generated interest in the technology and the work with the community around the benefits to health and energy provision. More details of the event and related media outputs can be found on the [ACTUATE website](#).

[Watch the event](#)



International Funding Month March - upcoming events

- Monday 22nd 4:00pm - [Instagram](#) live discussion on "The United Nations World Water Day"
- Monday 29th 10:00am - 12:00pm - "International Funding Webinar" hosted on Microsoft Teams, to register your interest click [HERE](#)

To interact with us:

Twitter: [RECIRCULATORS](#), [ACTUATE](#)

Instagram: [RECIRCULATORS](#)

Facebook: [RECIRCULATE GCRF](#)

Useful resources

[AgriFood Africa Connect](#) has produced the [AgriFood Africa Connect Map](#) as a tool to make it easier for UK and African organisations to collaborate on projects. The map provides information on the Agriculture and Food (AgriFood) sector across Africa, and helps connect innovators to enable collaboration and address key global challenges.

Organisations on the map include research bodies, industry, government and NGOs that are involved in the AgriFood sector in the UK and Africa.

The last drop...

We say farewell to ACTUATE project administrator Helen Hampson, who is leaving Lancaster this month for pastures new at Newcastle University. Helen has been project administrator on the ACTUATE project since March 2020 where she has been an invaluable member of the team in the most difficult of circumstances. We'd like to thank her for all her hard work in helping the project get off the ground and wish her all the very best in her new role!



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We send information about funding opportunities, news, and events to our contacts to foster collaboration. We hope this has been of interest to you, if so please add us to your contact list. However, if you do not want to receive our monthly RECIRCULATE Newsletter, just click "unsubscribe" below and we will remove you from our newsletter subscription list, or if there is someone else within your organisation you can recommend that we liaise with, just let us know and we will update our database, thank you.

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