



LILONGWE UNIVERSITY
OF AGRICULTURE & NATURAL
RESOURCES (LUANAR)
Knowledge, Innovation, Excellence



CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN TRANSFORMATIVE AGRICULTURE COMMERCIALISATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP (TACE) MALAWI

Exploring Partnership Opportunities with Universities in Japan

Dr. Sera Gondwe, Centre Director

How we are contributing.....

Challenge “**Low commercialization and lack of agri-entrepreneurship capacity to transform and industrialize the agriculture sector in Malawi and region**”

To develop experts at postgraduate level in Engineering for Food Processing, Agribusiness Management and Entrepreneurship.

1

To Build critical thinking skills in entrepreneurship and commercialization

2

To build and strengthen collaborations among HEI and private sector at national, regional, and international levels.

3

To improve productivity and quality of agricultural produce and value-added products that meet domestic and export market standards.

4



Research Areas of interest for collaboration



1. Smart & Digital Agriculture

- **Smart Farming with Drones for Precision Agriculture** – Real-time crop monitoring, input optimisation, irrigation and yield forecasting using drone-based models.
- **Intelligent Livestock Management Systems** – Automated livestock counting sensors integrated with disease-detection apps for improved herd health.
- **Digital Cattle Insurance for Dairy Farmers** – ICT-driven insurance solutions to reduce production risks and expand market participation.

2. Soil, Crop & Climate-Smart Innovations

- **Integrated Fertilizer Innovation for Maize Productivity** – Combining organic and inorganic fertilizers to enhance soil fertility and crop yields.
- **Commercialisation of Climate-Smart Biopesticides** – Development and market deployment of eco-friendly pest and disease control solutions.



Research Areas of interest for collaboration



3. Animal Science & Biotechnology

- **Advanced Reproductive Biotechnologies in Dairy** – Embryo transfer and genetic innovations to improve dairy breeds and milk production.

4. Sustainable Agro-Processing & Value Addition

- **Ecofriendly Agro-Processing Technologies** – Feasibility studies for sustainable processing of leather and dairy products using green technologies.

5. Agri-finance & Youth Entrepreneurship

- **Innovative Financing Models for Youth Agripreneurs** – Tailored financial products for youth-led startups graduating from incubation programmes.
- **Entrepreneurship Skills Acceleration for Youth Agripreneurs**
Designing and testing experiential learning models, mentorship frameworks, and innovation bootcamps that equip young people with entrepreneurial, digital, and business management skills to successfully establish and scale agribusiness startups



Seeking partners to collaboration with through.....



Area of expertise and experience within Japan Institutions

- **Smart & Digital Agriculture** – Robotics, drones, and AI to support precision farming and smart livestock systems.
- **Soil & Crop Innovations** – Research in sustainable fertilizers and eco-friendly biopesticides
- **Animal Science & Biotechnology** – Expertise in reproductive biotechnology and dairy genetics
- **Sustainable Agro-Processing** – Green processing, renewable materials, and food science research
- **Youth Entrepreneurship & Agrifinance** – Innovation ecosystems, entrepreneurship training, and fintech research

Suggested ways of how to collaborate

- **Jointly Establish Laboratories**- Set up tailor-made laboratories and provide advanced equipment for experimentation, prototyping, and technology testing in agriculture and agribusiness.
- **Collaborative Research & Knowledge Sharing** - Co-develop and implement research projects, publish jointly, and disseminate findings through international conferences and journals.
- **Student & Faculty Exchange Programs** - Facilitate mobility schemes with credit transfer options, joint postgraduate supervision, and sabbatical opportunities for faculty.
- **University–Industry Linkages** - Partner with Japanese industries to conduct feasibility studies, develop business models, and provide structured internships for students.
- **Hosting Visiting Scholars & Learning Groups**- Send or host students for experiential learning, field exposure, and collaborative training activities.



Available facilities.....

- Department based facilities and expertise – Agriculture Engineering, Agribusiness Management, Horticulture, Animal Science, Education and Development communication
- Technology Transfer Office
- 60 ha land in collaboration with Private sector
- Drones, Tractor and farm implements etc
- Co working space
- Biotech laboratory





Previous partnerships.....

- Capacity Building for Small scale Irrigation farmers in Malawi-funded by JICA. Collaboration with Miyagi Prefecture, Government and Miyagi University
- Seeking to establish new partnerships in this new areas.....





Invitation to solve societal challenges together with the LUANAR-TACE Team



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Admin support

Finance – (4)

Admin assistant (1)

Messenger (1)

Social safeguards (1)

Communication (1)



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**Thank You
for your attention**