

# IRIC-ECRU Co-Creation Workshop 1 Toolkit



## Background to the idea of co-creation workshops

IRIC-ECRU is intended to bring together and build a generation of researchers advancing new and relevant approaches in researcher development processes, research, dissemination, engagement and impact to accelerate the Uganda's R&I agenda. As such, PhD students and ECRs are mobilised from across universities, **empowered** through the capacity building activities, **engaged** in joint research endeavors and **facilitated** to disseminate their research outputs for impact.

The co-creation workshops are part of the process of empowering the IRICommunity members to gain skills for productive involvement in advancing the community's agenda. The objectives of the workshops are therefore to:

1. Enhance the community members' intellectual and personal abilities to do research and make research products usable.
2. They run for a week to provide sufficient time to the community members to network, bond and build ties for continual mutual support.
3. Nurture teams for engagement in the development of empirical research projects as proposed in the sustainability plans for subsequent years of the IRICommunity.

## Co-creation workshop 1

The first co-creation workshop will focus on *professional development in academic writing* and will be conducted on 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> February 2021. The aim of the workshop is to empower PhD students and ECRs to leap forward on their writing assignments and in the process, accelerate the course of building the IRICommunity. The workshop has the following specific objectives.

1. To review academic writing approach, acquire new skills or ideas to enhance aspects of academic writing
2. To reflect on habits and effectiveness in academic writing and identified an action plan to build effective writing habits.
3. To make substantial progress on a pending writing assignment.
4. To discuss with other researchers from across institutions and disciplines about academic writing through a facilitated process aiming to initiate interactions and continued collaborations.

## The workshop content

The workshop will be conducted in three sessions; morning, mid-morning and afternoon. The morning sessions cover topics towards achieving objectives 1&2 above while the afternoon sessions focus on objectives 4&3.

The summary of the themes and other sessions is provided in the table below

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>
Creativity in Research, Identifying and articulating research topics	In this topic, Kevin will cover strategies for making the right decisions on what to do research about.	Kevin
Developing effective writing habits	In this topic, Sandrine will cover..	Sandrine
Writing a literature review	In this topic, Kevin will cover how to critically read, analyse and write a literature review	Kevin
Creating writing Communities	In this topic, Sandrine will cover the basics of writing with others and team work while at it.	Sandrine
Critical writing, Analysis, Synthesis, Argument Construction	In this topic, Kevin will cover how to make plausible arguments in scholarly writing in a way that convinces the reader of one's work	Kevin
Building resilience for writing projects	In this topic, Sandrine will cover the strategies for standing up the challenges that are often met on the writing journey.	Sandrine
Choosing the right journal, Academic writing skills, Peer review	In this topic, Kevin will cover the process of developing and publishing journal articles.	Kevin
Style consideration in academic writing	In this topic, Sandrine will cover the various styles in academic writing	Sandrine
Personal development in writing, Writing tools and techniques	In this topic, Kevin will cover strategies for taking on a personal initiative to develop as an academic writer and the tools one may apply for that	Kevin
Academic voice and going beyond Academic writing to make your research contribute to society	In this topic, Sandrine will cover how to engage and impact society beyond the university walls	Sandrine
Inspirational talk	In this session, Fred will draw from his personal experience to give an inspirational talk about being a successful academic through writing	Fred
Form accountability groups and guidelines for their operation. Catch up with writing assignment	In this session, Christine and Loice will facilitate a reflection on writing communities and engage participants into forming writing groups. The participants will then spend time catching up on their individual writing assignments.	Christine/Loice
Participants' experiences sharing on resilience and drawing practical strategies for the same	Elizabeth and Rwengabo will facilitate sharing of personal experiences from participants. They will then share their personal experiences and guide the participants on how to build resilience for projects.	Elizabeth/Rwengabo
Practical on style in academic writing and catch up with writing assignment	In this session, Edgar will share his personal experience. The participants will spend the rest of the time catching up on their pending writing assignments	Edgar
The IRIC vision sharing and media afternoon & Closing ceremony	This session will be informal. It is for networking, engagement with the IRIC and Mak RIF teams, issuing certificates and....	Medard/Norman

## **Engagement Methodology**

The workshop will be structured through a tapestry of:

1. Access to pre-recorded training content delivered each morning during the training week and available 1 week before the workshop
2. Live Virtual discussions facilitated by Dr Sandrine Soubes
3. Writing sessions in 2 afternoon sessions
4. Personal reflections and action plans

The sessions will be held at IRIC-ECRU centre at Mutesa 1 Royal University Mengo campus in Kampala and streamlined live for participants outside Kampala.

## **The facilitators.**

The workshop is facilitated by international and local facilitators within the Network for Education and Multidisciplinary Research Africa (NEMRA) network. Their brief profiles and contacts are provided below:

<b>Names</b>	<b>Profile</b>	<b>Contact</b>
Dr. Kevin Byron	Kevin is an independent research skills developer for a number of higher education institutions and industries in the UK and Europe, and is a guest lecturer at Leeds University and City University, London.	kcbyron2@gmail.com
Dr. Sandrine Soubes	Sandrine is a coach and facilitator for research environments- helping research leaders thrive, keep joy in research and create empowering research culture. She previously worked as the Researcher Development Manager in the Faculty of Science at the University of Sheffield, UK	sandrine@tesselleddevelopment.com
Dr. Fredrick Lugya	Fredrick is the University Librarian at Busitema University. He is an expert in library and information science	
Dr. Loice Natukunda	Loice is a lecturer of HRM and Organisational Behaviour at Makerere University. She is also a Co-PI on the IRIC-ECRU project.	loice.natukunda@chuss.mak.ac.ug
Dr. Christine Mwebesa	Christine is a lecturer of Management at Ndejje University. She is also a NEMRA Board member	tinamwebesa@gmail.com
Dr. Norman Mukasa	Norman is the director of research and postgraduate studies at Mutesa I Royal University. He is a Co-PI of IRIC-ECRU	normanmukasa@gmail.com
Assoc. Prof. Kukunda E. Bacwayo	Elizabeth is an Associate Professor of Governance and Development. She also heads the Directorate of Research and Postgraduate Studies at Uganda Christian University. She is a Co-PI of IRIC-ECRU	kukunda.bacwayo@fulbrightmail.org
Assoc. Prof. Godfrey Asiimwe	Godfrey is a senior an Assoc prof of development studies at College of Humanities and Social Sciences, Makerere University. He is the PI of IRIC-ECRU	God.asiimwe@gmail.com
Dr. Sabastian Rwengabo	Sabastian is a researcher at the Centre for Basic Research, Uganda	rweruta00@gmail.com
Dr. Medard Twinamatsiko	Medard is a Development Conservationist and Ag. Deputy Director for the Centre for Innovations and Technology Transfer (CITT) at Mbarara University of Science and Technology. He is a Co-PI of IRIC-ECRU	mtwinamatsiko@must.ac.ug
Dr. Edgar Nabutanyi	Edgar is a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Literature at Makerere University	nabutanyiedgar@gmail.com