

In four years, our graduates' postharvest training events and outreach efforts have reached nearly 120,000 small scale farmers, horticultural crops handlers and extension officers in Africa and Asia.

The Postharvest Education Foundation (PEF)



Dr. Lisa Kitinoja
President & Founder
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PEF President's Message

2017 marks the beginning of the 7th year of PEF's work in promoting training of postharvest trainers and providing support for their activities in their home countries.

I want to thank all of our volunteers, resource persons and board members for their time, efforts and financial support for these important activities. To date more than 180 young people have graduated as "Postharvest Specialists" and are currently working as trainers, extension workers or researchers in 28 different developing countries.

Working together to overcome postharvest losses in Africa!

'1st All-Africa Postharvest Congress and Exposition' in Nairobi, Kenya (28-31 March 2017) was a big success and a platform to discuss different issues related to postharvest losses in different African nations.

Dr. Lisa gave a keynote address on postharvest education and capacity building in Africa entitled "Strengthening African Postharvest Extension and Advisory Services". It was exciting to see many of our PEF e-learning graduates in attendance at the congress. Mohmad Arief Zargar (Kader Award winner for 2016) was a PEF delegate from India, while Mekbib Seife (Ethiopia), Antonio Edoh (Togo) and Herve Ineza (Rwanda) attended as delegates for their respective institutions.



Cathy Kitinoja in PEF booth at the All Africa Postharvest Conference and EXPO, Kenya.

Thanks to 'ADM Institute for Postharvest Loss Reduction' for sponsoring two of our PEF board members (Cathy Kitinoja, who presented a poster on "Ramping up Postharvest Training of Trainers in Africa", and Bertha Mjawa, who was on the winning team in the postharvest innovation competition) and also for a travel grant for several of our PEF delegates: Jacinta Naiyika (Malawi), Esa Abiso (Ethiopia), Mohmad Arief Zargar (India) and Dr. Olubukola Odeyemi (Nigeria).



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PEF Closing workshop at Kigali, Rwanda



Participants from Rwanda included representatives from the University of Rwanda, National Agricultural Exports Board, Rwanda Agricultural Board and private sector agribusinesses.

The closing workshop for the 2016 and 2017 E-learning Global Postharvest Program successfully held in Kigali, Rwanda on 22-24 March 2017, with instruction provided by Dr. Lisa Kitinoja and Dr. Hilda Vasanthakalaam (University of Rwanda) and assistance from Dr. Olubukola Odeyemi (Nigeria) and Wilberforce Muyomba (Uganda). Several past PEF e-learning graduates from Rwanda (Noel Valentin Mulinda, Herve Ineza), Tanzania (Mary Mdachi, Roseline Marealle) and Ghana (Paul Assigri Azure) attended the workshop. Ceremonies were conducted to present the 2016 Kader Awards in Postharvest Training, and Certificates of Completion for 2016 program were awarded to e-learners in attendance from Ethiopia (Misale Kuru and Yared Gateneh) and for 2017 Rwanda (Alexis Mugisha).

The **ADM Institute for Postharvest Loss Reduction** generously sponsored seven of our PEF delegates via a travel grant: Dr. Olubukola Odeyemi (Nigeria), Mary Mdachi and Roseline Maraelle (Tanzania), Yared Gateneh and Misale Kuru (Ethiopia), Paul Assigri (Ghana) and Wilberforce Muyomba (Uganda).

ToT with Tuskegee University & WFLO

Lizanne Wheeler and Lisa Kitinoja are working with Tuskegee University (TU) and the World Food Logistics Organization (WFLO) on a USDA funded "Postharvest/Food Processing Capacity Building Project" that includes training of trainers (ToT), design and launch of a postharvest training center at TU in Alabama, and a small scale postharvest short course for growers and extension workers in the Southeastern USA (planned for June 2017). PEF e-learning program graduates (Lucy Asare-Baah, Anne Randle, Raymon Shange) will be participating as short course instructors and future ToT program leaders.

CSA for horticulture crops in USA

Four of PEF's e-learning graduates are working with the World Food Logistics Organization (WFLO) and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) on a series of commodity systems assessment (CSA) for horticultural crops in the USA. During 2017 Courtney Jallo, Leah Puro, Kate Wilkins and Robert Odoi are gathering data on postharvest handling and food losses on the farm and in the packinghouse for salad tomatoes in Florida, fresh market peaches in South Carolina, processing potatoes in Idaho and romaine lettuce in Arizona. Dr Lisa serves as senior technical advisor for the project.



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GLOBAL SAVE FOOD

Ani Widiastuti (Indonesia), one of PEF's 2016 Global E-learning Programs graduates, has launched a new blog with the name "Global Save Food", to share ideas, knowledge, information and experience on reducing food loss and waste, and using improved postharvest handling.

https://globalsavefood.wordpress.com/

Ani Widiastuti Dept. of Plant Protection Faculty of Agriculture, Universitas Gadjah Mada Jl. Flora No. 1. Bulaksumur, Jogjakarta, Indonesia

PEF 'Global Postharvest Elearning program' is now Free!!

The PEF 'Global Postharvest Elearning Program' is a year-long mentorguided training program, where one can learn at their own pace.

The trainees who successfully complete all ten e-learning assignments and submit a completed TNA form and a final exam will receive a Postharvest Training of Trainers Certificate of Completion from PEF.

Check the website for further details: http://postharvest.org/postharvest_elearning-program1.aspx

Postharvest Queries:

Mail us at postharvest@postharvest.org any postharvest related questions you wish to be answered.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

The Postharvest Education Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit public charity with aim to reduce global food losses, which are as high as up to 50%.

Donations to The Postharvest Education Foundation are used for 3 major program activities:

- 1. Postharvest tool kit: For e-learners from developing country who complete their training (US\$400 each).
- 2. Travel Support: To pay for the travel expenses to attend international postharvest training programs (air tickets, hotels, food, local transport costs) (Estimated as \$1500-\$2000 per e-learner).
- 3. Kader Awards: Awarded annually in honour of Dr Adel A. Kader to PEF Alumni, who show greatest impact in providing trainings for clientele at different levels (\$500).

Kindly check our website (http://www.postharvest.org/donate.aspx) for other alternate ways to donate.

Thanks in advance for your tax-deductible donation, which will be used to train young horticultural professionals via low cost internet based programs, with reading assignments, fieldwork on improved practices for postharvest handling, storage, processing and marketing.

Contact Us:

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