

Sentinel

June 2019 Newsletter

**Social and Environmental Trade-Offs
in African Agriculture**

Dear Colleague,

We are delighted to share our new two-monthly newsletter for Sentinel, a four-year interdisciplinary project funded by the UK's Global Challenges Research Fund seeking to address the trade-offs between food production, environmental conservation and equality in sub-Saharan Africa.

The newsletter is designed to be a snapshot of what we have been working on and to point you to our newly revamped website.

We have sent this first issue to you because we think you might be interested in the project. If you do not wish to receive future issues, please unsubscribe using the link at the bottom.

The top news story is the opportunity to take part in our [horizon scanning survey](#) which will inform future research. Please share this with anyone you know who may be interested in this timely project.



Blog

[Horizon scanning survey](#)

Adam Devenish

Whether you are a consumer or producer of research, we are interested in hearing your views.

We are currently recruiting participants and/or organisations that are involved and/or work in sub-Saharan Africa to contribute their questions to our horizon scanning activity. This blog describes the horizon scanning activity and outlines its aims, before providing more information on how to submit your questions.

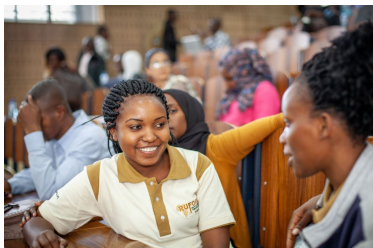


Blog [15th RUFORUM Annual General Meeting](#)

David Ekepu

The 15th Annual General [RUFORUM](#) Meeting is approaching and the Sentinel project will participate!

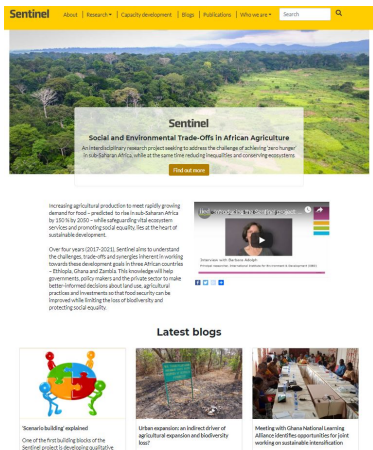
The meeting will take place in Cape Coast, Ghana from 4-6 December 2019. This blog introduces the theme for this year's meeting, as well as detailing the Sentinel project team activities, which include a half-day training workshop.



Blog [Twenty African PhD research scholarships awarded under the Sentinel project](#)

Beth Downe

Sentinel partner [RUFORUM](#) has awarded [20 research scholarships](#) to PhD candidates in sub-Saharan Africa through its second call for PhD proposals under Sentinel.



News [New Sentinel website content](#)

The second phase of the Sentinel project website has now launched. The site features new detailed content on each of the three research themes: agricultural expansion; impacts of agricultural expansion; and trade-offs - as well as information on how the project aims to improve the capacity of both UK- and Africa-based researchers.



Blog ['Scenario building' explained](#)

Aniek Hebinck, Monika Zurek

What exactly does it mean to build a scenario? And what does that have to do with the Sentinel project?

Scenarios are descriptions of plausible futures which explore how some of the key uncertain developments in process today may play out in the future. This blog post highlights the importance of scenario building for the project, and showcases one example of the scenarios built in the context of Ghana.



Blog

[Urban expansion an indirect driver of agricultural expansion and biodiversity loss?](#)

Barbara Adolph

Focusing on Wa, the capital of Ghana's Upper West Region, this blog post summarises how urban development continues to expand into natural habitats and agricultural lands. As well as how this in turn triggers expansion of agriculture into savannah and forest further away from the town.

Sentinel is an interdisciplinary research project seeking to address the challenge of achieving 'zero hunger' in sub-Saharan Africa, while at the same time reducing inequalities and conserving ecosystems.



This email is from International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), 80-86 Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8NH

