

With the support of the Erasmus Mundus programme of the European Commission

Access to Success: Fostering Trust and Exchange between Europe and Africa

Workshop 2: Towards a coordinated vision of Europe-Africa higher education partnerships: Supporting institutional capacity building in Africa

24 – 26 February 2010

Oslo, Norway

Organising parties: Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR), European University Association (EUA), with consortium partners: Association of African Universities (AAU), European Access Network (EAN), Flemish Interuniversity Council for Development Cooperation (VLIR-OUS), European Students' Union (ESU)

Background: The second workshop of the *Access to Success* project will evolve from the topic of comparative practice in institutional access and retention policies, as explored in the first phase of this project, to address the policies and programmes that structure institutional cooperation and capacity building between Europe and Africa. It is also intended to set a frame for the 3rd workshop on mobility, to take place in May 2010 in Ghana.

Objective: To what extent has a European level approach to higher education in development cooperation been advanced? How can national governments, agencies and the European Union work towards common objectives and complimentary practice in North-South university cooperation and capacity building? This event will be a chance to discuss how national agencies and universities in Europe structure and fund cooperation, and how this activity could be more European level oriented. The objective will be to make recommendations on concrete steps that such agencies and governments, with the support of universities, can make to be better coordinated. Further, proposals will be made on how the European Union can be a more effective actor in higher education for development, both on a programme and policy level, with special attention toward the upcoming EU-Africa Summit (December 2010).

Proposed themes:

Higher education capacity building in development policy: A crucial element

- National and multi-lateral development cooperation targeting universities: different models, programmes and priorities
- Designing capacity building programmes: models, mutual benefits, management and sustainability
- Funding university cooperation for development: the interplay and role of international donors, national and European agencies and higher education institutions
- Coordinating national strategies and programmes, designing effective European Union level policies and programmes to support this field
- The research cooperation agenda - A vital element of EU development strategy and higher education partnership

24 February 2010: Arrival participants and Cultural pre-programme in Oslo

- Visit of new Opera House (first pick-up from hotel 15:30, second pick-up 16:30)
- Dinner at Opera House (18:00)
- Speaker briefing and drink (21:00 - Rica Holberg Hotel)

25 February 2010: University partnership building for development: European priorities and structural approaches

9:00 Welcome

- Jan I. Haaland, Chairman of the Board, UHR
- Ola Stave, Secretary General, UHR
- Deirdre Lennan, International policies – Africa, Caribbean and Pacific, Directorate General Education and Culture, European Commission

9:15 Introduction to the project, the rationale of the event and outcomes of the first workshop (Michael Gaebel, EUA and Goolam Mohamedbhai, AAU)

9:30-11:00 Opening plenary: Priorities, needs and progression in development cooperation: the role of higher education

Current concepts and international agreements in development policy and the relation to university cooperation - Regional and institutional perspectives in universities' contribution to development: What role do African governments and universities have in shaping capacity building programmes?

- Damtew Teferra, International Network for Higher Education in Africa/ Center for International Higher Education Lynch School of Education, Boston College

Why capacity building for universities? Are we striving to meet MDGs or for other societal and economic needs in Africa? Do programmes and policies in Europe reflect the real needs of universities as development actors in the South?

- Ad Boeren, Netherlands Organisation for International Cooperation in Higher Education (Nuffic), the Netherlands
- Chair: Lesley Wilson, European University Association

11:00-11:30 Coffee break

11:30-13:00 Plenary session 2: University development cooperation: sharing current Europe - Africa models and approaches

This plenary will be an introduction to European national approaches and programmes in university cooperation for development. Three European country case examples of programmes and approaches to supporting university cooperation with Africa will be presented. This will be followed by the commentary of an African institutional speaker whose institution partners with various organisations and universities from Europe and beyond.

- Chair: Goolam Mohamedbhai, Association of African Universities
- Anette Pieper de Avila, German-Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Germany
- Darriann Riber, Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DANIDA, Denmark
- Arne Liljedahl Lynngård, Norwegian Center for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU), Norway
- Respondent: Tolly. S.A. Mbwette, Open University of Tanzania

13:00-14:00 Lunch

14:00-16:00 Break out sessions (case study presentations and small round table discussion with a discussant/chair)

- **WG 1: Strengthening research capacity and priorities**
 - *Fanny Duckert, Chairman of the NUFU-Board and Basil Pillay, University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa*
 - *Ronnie Munck, Irish-African Higher Education Partnership and Joe Tesha, University of Daar es Salaam, Tanzania*
 - *Chair: Josep Vilalta, Associació Catalana d'Universitats Públiques (ACUP), Spain*
 - *Rapporteur: Michael Hörig, EUA*
- **WG 2: Universities as a catalyst for change: Do programmes really create capacity for change and development?**
 - *Mario Santamaria and Emanuela Stefani, Italian Rectors' Conference (CRUI)*
 - *Guido Zolezzi, Network on Universities for Development Cooperation, Italy*
 - *Richard K. Mibey, Moi University, Kenya*
 - *Chair: Kees Kouwenaar, VU University Amsterdam, the Netherlands*
 - *Rapporteur: Mee Foong Lee, European Access Network*
- **WG 3: Building and sustaining staff capacity**
 - *Kora Tushune, Jimma University, Ethiopia and Kristien Verbrugghen, Flemish Interuniversity Council for Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS), Belgium*
 - *Raphaël Darboux and Souaïbou Farougou, Université d'Abomey Calavi, Benin*
 - *Chair: Vincent Titanji, University of Buea, Cameroon*
 - *Rapporteur: Elizabeth Colucci, EUA*

16:00-16:30 Coffee break and group picture

16:30-18:00 Plenary 3: New international donor priorities and initiatives: case presentations

- *Sibry Tapsoba, African Development Bank*
- *Claudia Frittelli, Carnegie Corporation of New York (tbc)*
- *Mary Kavanagh, European Commission, DG Research, International S&T Cooperation*
- *Chair: Lesley Wilson, European University Association*

19:00 Dinner

26 February 2010: Towards more efficient European strategies, programming and cooperation

9:00-9:15 Presentation of working group outcomes**9:15-10:45 Plenary 4: Future strategies and coordinated policies for university development cooperation partnership**

This plenary session will examine the efforts made to improve the coordination of national policies for university development cooperation and the obstacles that exist. Furthermore it will look at current initiatives to map the donor landscape and increase communication and sharing of practice. Is there competition or cooperation in the North when it comes to working with African higher education? How does this relate to the Paris Declaration? Does university development cooperation need its own declaration?

- Ad Boeren, Nuffic, The Netherlands
- Kristien Verbruggen, VLIR-UOS, Belgium
- Narciso Matos, Foundation for Community Development (FDC), Mozambique
- Brian O'Connell, University of the Western Cape, South Africa
- Chair: Piyushi Kotecha, Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA)

10.45-11:15 Coffee

11:15-12:30 Final plenary: Enhancing the European dimension in HE development cooperation

Are the current European policies regarding higher education in its external relations and development cooperation adequate? Do the current programmes and initiatives really meet the needs of capacity building in African higher education? How can the EU work with national agencies, institutions and government to harmonise its policy and create effective European level programmes?

- José Valente, European Commission, EuropeAid Cooperation Office
- M. Thameur Chaibi, African Union Commission
- Kay Svensson, Uppsala University, Sweden
- Anne Wetlesen, NORAD, Norway
- Chair: Goolam Mohamedbhai, Association of African Universities

12.30-13.00 Workshop conclusions and road ahead

- *General Rapporteur:* Piyushi Kotecha, SARUA

13:00-14:00 Lunch

Post-programme**14:00 Afternoon showcase session on Norwegian partnership programmes and strategies**

The post-programme workshop will be an opportunity to explore three Norwegian Governmental Actions that assist in developing higher education and research within less developed countries.

14.00-14.40 Introduction to the actions

- Benedicte Solheim, SIU
- Gry Synnevåg, UMB
- Fanny Duckert, UiO

14.45-15.30 Parallel sessions: Presentation of each action through case examples

NOMA	NUFU	Quota Programme
Chair: Ass. Professor Gry Synnevåg, Board member for the Noma Programme	Chair: Professor Fanny Duckert, Head of the Board for the NUFU Programme	Chair: Benedicte Solheim, Head of Unit, SIU

15.30 Discussion

16:00 Close