



SENTER FOR INTERNASJONALISERING  
AV HØYERE UTDANNING

NORWEGIAN CENTRE FOR  
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION  
IN HIGHER EDUCATION



## The NUFU Programme

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# The NUFU Programme

- NUFU: The Norwegian Cooperation Programme for Development, Research and Higher Education
- Established in 1991
- Funded by Norad (Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation)
- Administered by Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU)
- Governed by an eight member Programme Board
- The fourth NUFU agreement, for the period 2007 – 2011, entered between SIU and Norad 12 January 2006



# The NUFU programme



## Goal

- The goal of the NUFU programme is to support the development of sustainable capacity for research and research-based higher education in developing countries, relevant to national development and poverty reduction; and to contribute to enhanced academic collaboration in the South and between South and North.

# Objectives

- to contribute to the development of institutions in the South
- to produce knowledge in areas deemed relevant to goals and objectives at institutional and national level
- to educate new researchers
- to develop Master's and PhD programmes in the South
- to promote gender equity in research and academic cooperation
- to establish sustainable environments for research and research-based teaching
- to contribute to the enhancement of quality and relevance in research
- to establish regional academic networks within relevant discipline areas
- to present academic publications and research results
- to contribute to internationalisation of institutions in the South and in Norway

## Types of cooperation projects:

- Bilateral projects
  - One partner institution in the South
  - One partner institution in Norway
- Network projects
  - One or more partner institution in two different countries in the South
  - One or more partner institution in Norway
- Supplementing Activities (max NOK 150 000)
  - supplements to cooperation projects supported by NUFU in the fourth period, 2007-2011



## Basic principles for the NUFU programme

- Long term institutional co-operation (max 10 years)
- The South partner's needs and priorities as basis for the co-operation
- Basic salaries and basic infrastructure are covered by the institutions
- Anchoring of the co-operation in the leadership of the participating institutions (but in practice low level anchoring)
- Decentralised model for initiation, implementation, monitoring and reporting
- Equality and transparency at all levels

## The NUFU portfolio 2007 - 2011

- 55 cooperation projects
  - 31 bilateral projects
  - 24 network projects
- 18 countries in the South
  - 32 institutions in the South
- 10 institutions in Norway

# Historical premises

- Double purposes: Academic capacity building in south – and stimulation of interest and involvement in developmental research at HE institutions in Norway
- High involvement and investments by participating institutions
- Shared research interests by parties in north and south
- Many activities and graduations in Norway

# Developments

- Stronger priorities from south
- More responsibility for administration of projects in south
- More activities and graduations in south
- More focus on south-south-north networks
- Increasing number of female PhD candidates
- Changed financial models for Norwegian HEs have had implications for the involvement of Norwegian researchers

# Inputs for next programme periode

- Increase the PhD period from 3 to 4 years
- Gender mainstreaming (especially within natural sciences)
- Increase opportunities for female candidates to combine PhD with family responsibilities (maternity leave, child care opportunities, laptops)
- Increase opportunities for post.doc. activities
- Explore the possibility of joint degrees
- Improve the financial framework for NUFU involvement in Norwegian Hes
- Merge NUFU and NOMA Programmes
- Make research cooperation with developmental countries an integrated part of academic internationalization in Norway
- Message to the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: Please start to communicate!