



University development
cooperation –
Norwegian initiatives

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Outline of the presentation:

- Briefly about SIU
- Programmes for development cooperation
 - The NUFU Programme
 - The NOMA Programme
- The partnership model
- Priorities/opportunities in South – South – North cooperation

The Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU)

- Organised as a public agency with its own Board of Directors under the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research
- Service agency and a partner for public and private institutions of higher education
- National office for international programmes and initiatives within higher education
- Promotes internationalisation, cultural communication and international mobility within higher education



Programmes for Development Cooperation

- **The Norwegian Programme for Development, Research and Education (NUFU)**
- **Norad's Programme for Master Studies (NOMA)**
- Norad's Programme in Arts and Cultural Education (ACE)
- Agreement with the Norwegian Embassy in Tanzania – Higher Education and Research

The programmes are funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs/Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation – Norad



The NUFU Programme

- South-South-North cooperation programme for research and education primarily at PhD level
- Aim: 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.
- Bilateral projects (South-North) and network projects (South-South-North)
- Project content:
 - Joint research
 - PhD education (Master education) for university staff
 - Development of new Master's and PhD courses/programmes
 - Purchase of scientific equipment and training of technical and administrative staff
 - Communication and dissemination



The NOMA Programme

- South-South-North cooperation programme
- Aim: To contribute to the education of staff in all sectors (public and private sectors as well as civil society) in eligible countries, through building capacity at Master level in higher education institutions in the South.
- Supports the establishment of sustainable Master's programmes at institutions in developing countries – in cooperation with Norwegian universities
- Bilateral (South-North) and multilateral (South-South-North) projects
- Support to
 - establishment costs
 - curriculum development
 - scholarships for students
 - salaries for extra work load

Partnership model ("the NUFU model")

- Long-term institutional cooperation (max 10 years)
- The South partners' needs and priorities as basis for the cooperation
 - Institutional assessment and ranking of applications
- Anchoring of the cooperation in the leadership of the participating institutions
- Decentralised model for initiation, implementation, monitoring and reporting
 - Researcher driven initiation and implementation
 - Institutions responsible for monitoring and reporting
- Basic salaries and basic infrastructure covered by the institutions
- Equality and transparency
 - Online application and reporting with double (or more) access



Partnership model: Mutual benefits

South:

- Increased level of education among staff members
- Research/new knowledge relevant for the national/regional context
- Increased competence and capacity for research and research based education
- Exposure to international research networks
- Internationalisation

North:

- Research/new knowledge in developing country contexts
- Opportunities for exchange/access to fields for research
- Internationalisation



Capacity building/institutional development

- Educating staff members at partner universities; primarily PhD level (NUFU)
- Relevant Master's education of the work force in private and public sectors, as well as civil society (NOMA)
- Establishment of new study courses/programmes
- Training of technical and administrative staff
- Staff exchange/mutual visits
- Scientific equipment, library facilities, "light" infrastructure (computers, printers etc)

Regional networks

- South-North cooperation may contribute to/ facilitate increased South-South cooperation (→S-S-N cooperation)
- NOMA: multilateral Master programmes
 - Master programmes established by two or more South institutions in cooperation with a Norwegian partner institution
 - Modules run at all partner institutions (or only in the South)
 - Students enrolled from all partner universities/countries
 - Teachers from all partner universities involved
- NUFU: regional network projects
 - Two or more South partners and one Norwegian partner in the same academic field
 - Joint research activities
 - PhD candidate(s) from all partner institutions
 - Meetings at leadership level



Gender equality

- Affirmative actions to promote gender balance in recruitment of female students
 - NOMA: requirement of employment abandoned for women
 - NUFU: economic reward for projects that recruit at least 40% female PhD candidates
- Priority is given to projects with gender related topics for research and education
 - NUFU: 31 (out of 69) projects address gender issues directly
- Gender mainstreaming in all project activities
 - 2009: Study on gender mainstreaming in the NUFU Programme
 - 2010 – follow up within current programme period (ex.)

Scientific Quality and relevance

- Competitive selection of projects to be supported
- Acknowledged competence in the discipline area at Norwegian institutions is emphasised
- External experts review the applications
- Joint research projects and study programmes
- Joint publications in referred journals (NUFU)
- Participation and presentation at international conferences

Results

Since 1991, more than

- 1000 researchers from more than 20 countries have been involved in the programme
- 275 projects have been supported
- 7200 research publications have been produced
- 1600 candidates from the South have completed their Master's or PhD degrees under the programme

Characteristics of the NUFU programme

- Long-term competence building in South and North.
- A substantial contribution from the institutions regarding infrastructure and personnel.
- Based on individual researchers' enthusiasm and commitment.
- Anchored at a low organizational level, even though the projects must be approved by the institutional leadership

NUFU: Development over time

- Stronger influence from the South.
- Greater responsibility for implementation by the South.
- More NUFU activities are taking place in the South.
- Stronger focus on South-South cooperation

What is the Quota Scheme?

- A scheme for support for students from developing countries, the countries in the Western Balkan and the countries in Eastern Europe/Central Asia.
- The scheme is funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research, administrated by SIU and the students receive funds from the Norwegian State Loan Foundation.
- The scheme include 1100 students, distributed between 47 universities and university colleges in Norway. 800 of the students should be from developing countries while 300 students should be from Western Balkan, Central Asia and Eastern Europe.



Communication and dissemination

- Communication with stakeholders throughout the research process/process of establishing and running study programmes
→Securing relevance to “user groups”
- Disseminate results to whom it may concern: governments, regional and local authorities, private and public sector, civil society, local communities.
→Improved policies and practices
- Presentation of results to users in Norwegian development cooperation administration (thematic seminars)
→Research based decisions in development cooperation
- Communication to the wider audience – in partner countries and in Norway
→Awareness and knowledge about research cooperation and results