

INTRA- REGIONAL MOBILITY IN AFRICA: CURRENT REALITIES AND THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

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SCOPE OF THE PRESENTATION

- Students/Academic staff and researchers
- Does not include Brain drain/gain and circulation



STUDENT MOBILITY: WHY

- Limited access
- Poor quality
- Relevance
- Promotion of regional cooperation
- Regional and sub-regional integration
- Political unrest



STAFF MOBILITY: WHY

Institutional cooperation;

- The Francophone University Agency

Since early 1970

In 2009-2010: 130 teaching missions
approved for 18 institutions in SSA

- ADEA intra regional exchange
programme



STAFF/STUDENTS MOBILITY: WHY

Implementation of the AU plans

- NEPAD Network of centres of excellence in S&T
- The Pan African University
- The ACP intra-regional programme
- The Mwalimu Nyerere Scholarship Scheme



CONSTRUCTION OF AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

Frameworks at regional level

- The Harmonization Strategy approved by COMEDAF equivalent of Bologna
- The revised Arusha Convention for Mutual recognition of Studies and Degrees equivalent of Lisbon Convention



CONSTRUCTION OF AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

Frameworks at Sub-regional

- The LMD-Reform
- The SADC Protocol on Education
- West African Economic and Monetary union



CHALLENGES FOR STUDENT MOBILITY

- Comparability of degrees- LMD reform
- Implementation of the LMD Reform
- Quality Assurance
- Use of ICTs
- Coordination of the various mobility schemes



PROCESS FOR CONSTRUCTING AFRICAN HIGHER EDUCATION AREA

Unlike the Bologna process, difficult to proceed from Regional perspective

- SADC: from National to sub-regional
- Francophone countries: from sub-regional to national
- East African Community: Putting together 3 different systems



OPPORTUNITIES

- Renewed support to Higher education;
- Availability of ICTs;
- Potential for networking.



WAY FORWARD

- Knowledge economy;
- Focus on Postgraduate and S&T
- Promote use of ICTs in academic mobility programmes: virtual technologies

