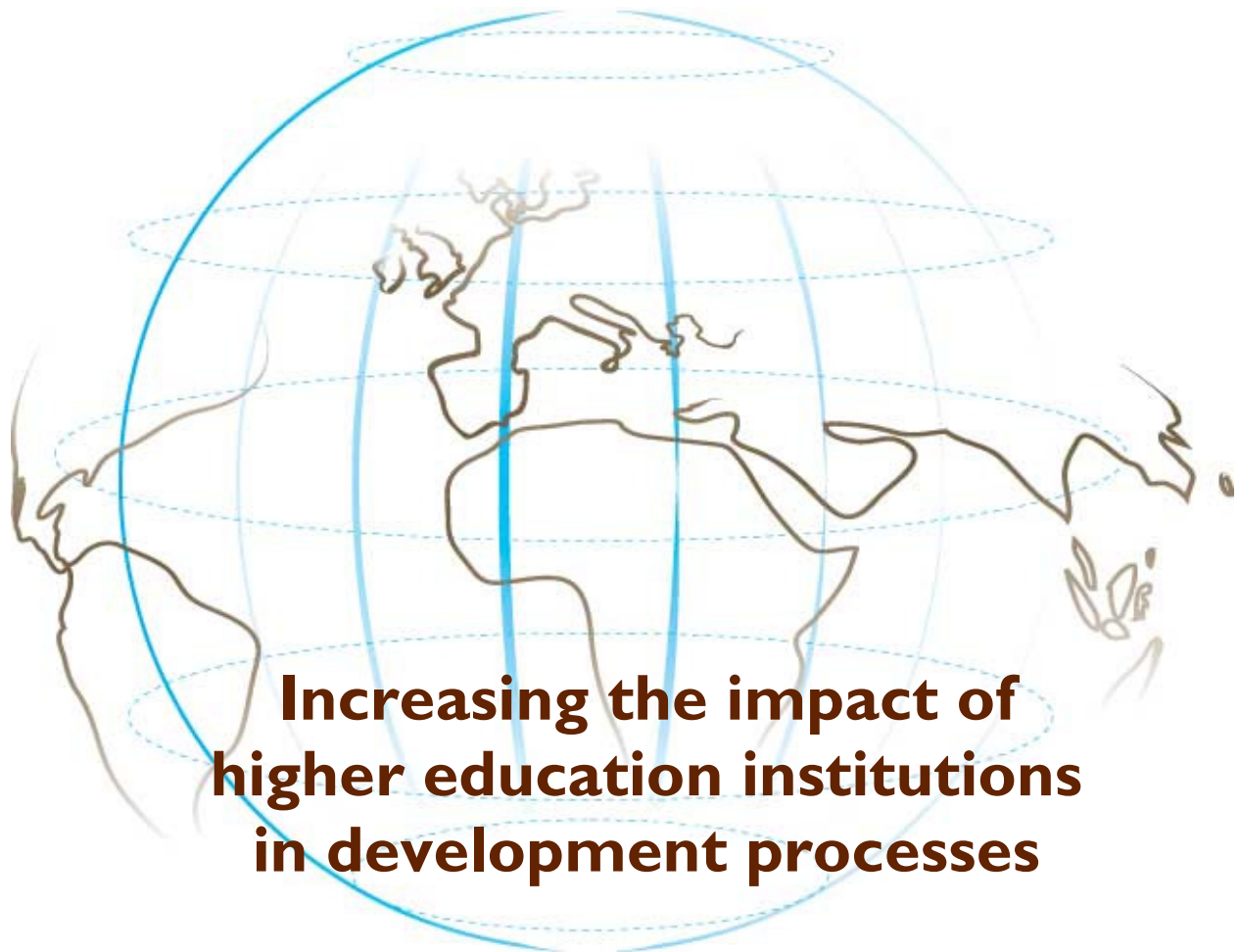


NUFU Programme Conference 2009



Increasing the impact of higher education institutions in development processes

Sunbird Capital Hotel, Lilongwe, Malawi

11-13 February 2009

Tuesday 10 February 2009

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| 1400 - 1800 | Registration |
| 1600 - 1730 | Updates from SIU
Optional session for institutional contact persons and project coordinators.
Location: Viphya room |
| 1845 | Organised transport from the hotel to the Ambassador's residence |
| 1900 - 2030 | Reception hosted by Ambassador Mr. Bjørn Johannessen, the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Malawi |

Wednesday 11 February 2009

0800 - 1000	Registration
0930 - 1000	Tea/coffee
1000 - 1215	<p>Opening session <i>Chair: Ms. Ragnhild Tungesvik, Senior Adviser, Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Higher Education (SIU)</i></p> <p>Professor Z. D. Kadzamira, Vice Chancellor, University of Malawi Associate Professor Sonni Olsen, Chair of SIU Board Professor Fanny Duckert, Chair of NUFU Programme Board Dr. Ragnhild Dybdahl, Head of Department, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (Norad) Mr. Bjørn Johannessen, Norwegian Ambassador to Malawi Hon. George Chabonda, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Rural Development</p>
1215 - 1230	Group photo
1230 - 1330	Lunch
1330 - 1530	<p>Session I <i>International trends in higher education – effects on higher education institutions in the South and in the North</i> <i>Chair: Professor Brian O’Connell, Rector University of Western Cape (tbc)</i></p> <p>Key note 1: African perspectives Professor Goolam Mohamedbhai, Secretary General, Association of African Universities</p> <p>Key note 2: Asian perspectives Professor Le Quang Minh, Vice President, Vietnam National University</p> <p>Key note 3: European perspectives Professor Pierre de Maret, Council Member, European University Association</p>
1530 - 1600	Tea/coffee
1600 - 1700	Panel/plenary discussion
1800	Organised transport from the hotel to the University of Malawi, Kamuzu College of Nursing
1830	Cocktail and barbeque hosted by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Malawi Cultural show by Kwacha Dance Troup

Thursday 12 February 2009

0900 - 1030

Session 2

Effective and relevant communication in higher education and research

Chair: Associate Professor Trine Hvoslef-Eide, Pro Rector, Norwegian University of Life Sciences

Introductions:

Professor Edward Kirumira, Makerere University, Uganda
Dr. Agnes Chimbri, UNDP, Malawi

Panel:

Dr. Michael Mambo, World Bank, Malawi
Dr. Agnes Chimbiri, UNDP, Malawi
Professor Edward Kirumira

1030 - 1130

Session 3

Increasing the impact of institutions – measures for the future

Chair: Professor Lennart Wohlgemuth, NUFU Programme Board

Introductions:

1. Educating researchers for the future – revision of PhD education
Dr. Saleem Badat, Vice Chancellor, Rhodes University

2. Increasing access to and use of ICT in higher education and research
Professor Venansius Barya Baryamureeba, Makerere University

1130 - 1200

Tea/coffee

1200 - 1300

3. Stemming the brain drain by creating opportunities for young researchers

Dr. Jose Joao Miguel, Research Director, Eduardo Mondlane University

4. Closing the gender gap in academia

Professor Takyiwaa Manuh, University of Ghana

1300 - 1400

Lunch

1400 - 1600

Session 3 continues

Working groups – ideas and perspectives for future South-South-North partnership programmes

1. Educating researchers for the future – revision of PhD education

Chair: Professor Fanny Duckert, Chair of NUFU Programme Board

Resource person: Dr. Saleem Badat, Vice Chancellor, Rhodes University

Rapporteur: Professor James Tumwine, Makerere University

2. Increasing access to and use of ICT in higher education and research

Chair: Associate Professor Anne Ryen, NUFU Programme Board

Resource person: Professor Venansius Barya Baryamureeba, Makerere University

Rapporteur: Professor John Saka, University of Malawi

3. Stemming the brain drain by creating opportunities for young researchers

Chair: Professor Torbjørn K. Nielsen, NUFU Programme Board

Resource person: Dr. Jose Joao Miguel, Research Director, Eduardo Mondlane University

Rapporteur: Dr. Sylvia Temu, University of Dar es Salaam

4. Closing the gender gap in academia

Chair: Vice Rector Professor Orlando Quilambo, Eduardo Mondlane University

Resource person: Professor Takyiwaa Manuh, University of Ghana

Rapporteur: Ms. Lise Nordbrønd, Director, Centre for Women and Gender Research, University of Tromsø

1600 - 1630

Tea/coffee

1630 - 1730

Reports from working groups in plenary

1730 - 1830

Project presentations in plenary

Chair: Professor Martha Ulvund, NUFU Programme Board

1930

Conference dinner hosted by SIU

Entertainment by Lucius Banda and Zembani Band

Location: the Marquee

Friday 13 February 2009

0900 - 1000

Session 4

Future prospects – South-South-North partnerships after 2011

Chair: Professor Leonard Kamwanja, Pro Vice Chancellor, University of Malawi

Future prospects and policies for Norwegian funded institutional partnership programmes

Dr. Anne Wetlesen, Senior Adviser, Norad

1000 - 1020

Tea/coffee

1020 - 1130

Panel debate:

Strategies and priorities for South-South-North cooperation

Chair: Associate Professor Sonni Olsen, Chair of SIU Board

Introductions:

Professor Florens Luoga, University of Dar es Salaam

Professor Madhap Prasad Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Tribhuvan University

Professor Kjersti Fløttum, Vice Rector, University of Bergen

Professor Jayro Matovelo, Sokoine University of Agriculture

1130 - 1150

Presentation of conference resolutions, Professor James Tumwine, Makerere University

1150 - 1200

Closing remarks by Professor Z. D. Kadzamira, Vice Chancellor, University of Malawi

1200

Lunch and departure

Optional – at own cost:

1400

Post conference activity

Guided tour of the city centre and old town in Lilongwe

Description of sessions

Session 1

International trends in higher education – effects on higher education institutions in the South and in the North

Several international trends affect higher education institutions worldwide. Trends inside the higher education sector itself in one part of the world, such as the Bologna process, is affecting institutions in other parts of the world. Other trends in the society, the markets etc. have an effect on institutions in all countries, but perhaps in different ways. Examples of such trends are migration, the development of knowledge based economies and the fact that education increasingly has become a commodity in the open market.

What are the most important trends influencing higher education institutions in the different regions; what are the effects on the institutions; how do they effect the institutions' role and impact in the society, and what are the implications for South-South-North cooperation?

Session 2

Effective and relevant communication in higher education and research

Communication is important throughout the research process. Researchers need to communicate with local communities, policy makers, practitioners and other stakeholders from the design phase to the dissemination phase of a research project.

Effective communication can improve the relevance and impact of research and higher education. How do we get there? How policy relevant is higher education and research? Are policy makers responsive to inputs from research? The panellists are invited to reflect on these issues from their specific point of view, and to share best practices and experiences.

Session 3 – Working group session

Increasing the impact of institutions – measures for the future

In this session all participants will get an introduction to the topics that will be discussed in parallel working groups after lunch. The working group sessions are supposed to come up with inputs and conclusions to be included in the resolution from the conference. The resolution will provide important input for the further development of the NUFU Programme and other similar programmes. The outcomes of the working groups may also provide useful inputs for further development at the institutions represented at the conference.

Working group 1:

Educating researchers for the future – revision of PhD education

European PhD education, including the Norwegian one, has developed from being based on monographs to focusing on article based theses. This development forces the PhD students to pursue international publication at an earlier stage and at the same time increases the spread of the research results to the scientific community. Is this development also viable for Asia and Africa; how far have we come, and what needs to be done to boost this development?

How can international cooperation contribute to the revision of PhD education? Can the development of joint PhD programmes between institutions contribute, and how? How to overcome other obstacles to effective PhD education, like cumbersome administrative procedures and time consuming recruitment regulations?

Working group 2:

Increasing access to and use of ICT in higher education and research

Higher education and research has changed dramatically over the last 15 years due to the development of information and communication technology. Access to research literature, journal articles etc. has become significantly better, especially through the numerous initiatives to promote open access. At the same time researchers have pointed to the “digital divide” as a factor to create even greater differences between North and South.

How can universities in Asia and Africa increase the access to and use of ICT in higher education and research? How to attract funds for investments in ICT infrastructure? How to increase the effective use of the equipment already in place? How to use ICT tools to improve teaching and learning, as well as to increase the quality in research? How to increase the value of open access, both in terms of distribution and use?

Working group 3:

Stemming the brain drain by creating opportunities for young researchers

Brain drain has over the years been seen as one of the major treats to the development of higher education institutions, particularly in Africa. Researchers leave their country not only due to economic and political reasons, but often because they are attracted by opportunities to pursue their research interest, and develop themselves academically in a stimulating environment.

How can international cooperation contribute to create opportunities for research at the home institutions? What measures could be taken and what opportunities could be offered in order to retain the PhD candidates educated with support from the NUFU Programme?

Working group 4:

Closing the gender gap in academia – affirmative action or ‘mainstreaming’?

It is a global challenge to close the gender gap in academia. Even in Norway 83 per cent of all full professors are male (figures from 2005), whereas the majority of university students are female. In Africa and Asia the figures are even “worse”. In most countries there is a male domination at all levels in academia. It is a common understanding that it is a loss, not only to the quality of the academic community, but also to the quality and content of higher education and research when female researchers and staff members are lacking.

In 2007 the NUFU Programme met the target to recruit at least 40 per cent female PhD candidates. This was a major achievement, since we know that many projects struggle to identify qualified female candidates who are able and willing to enter into PhD programmes. The rate of completion of the female candidates remains to be seen. Institutional as well as cultural and societal factors may work counterproductively in this regard.

How can female participation and completion be promoted and improved? What practical measures need to be taken in order to increase and facilitate the participation of women? How can international cooperation projects improve the facilitation and performance in this area? Can gender mainstreaming in research and higher education programmes contribute to recruiting more women into academia, and how should gender mainstreaming be effectively promoted and implemented?

Session 4

Future prospects – South-South-North partnerships after 2011

The present programme period of the NUFU Programme expires in 2011, and for the Norad’s Programme for Master Studies (NOMA) Programme in 2014. Preparations for a continuation of the current programmes will start already in 2009/10. In the panel debate the participants are challenged to reflect on the way ahead, from the perspective of their institution, country and region. The panellists will present one main challenge and two suggestions for change in the set-up of the NUFU Programme and other cooperation programmes.

How can South-South-North partnerships (NUFU) have greater impact in the global development processes?