



The Africa Unit

UK/Africa partnerships in HE/FE

The Association of Commonwealth Universities

BIS

Department for
Business Innovation
and Skills



Department for
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and Learning**
www.delni.gov.uk

The Africa Unit Newsletter

UK-Africa Higher and Further Education *Partnerships*

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The Africa Unit

The Importance of HE/FE Partnerships in Times of the Economic Downturn

Budgets the world over are under severe pressure – government budgets, education budgets, household budgets. At every level, people are looking to make cuts in those areas which are not a priority and to make savings in other areas. HE and FE are not exempt from this process. Governments, Universities and Colleges are looking at ways of transferring costs away from their budgets, and individuals are left wondering how they can bear the additional costs which are likely to come their way as a result – which will in some cases mean foregoing or at least deferring post-secondary education.

The overall economic climate inevitably leads to a stronger focus on the short-term; planning for tomorrow always takes second place to surviving today. It is, though, important not to lose sight of that longer-term perspective. There is a general recognition that the key to Africa’s development lies in education – and that the best investment that African Governments can make is particularly in educating girls. It is clear that investment in skills must remain

a priority if Africa is to maintain progress.

HE/FE partnerships can be an important element of maintaining this longer-term perspective. Those who have been involved in partnerships would generally agree that they can encourage an outward-looking focus when the economic downturn inevitably promotes introspection. Educational partnerships are a tool for economic development as they can help to building a skills base as well as improved employment prospects of young people. In a globalised economy, international partnerships between the UK and Africa can also increase global competitiveness at both ends of the equation.

So our hope is that Governments will recognise the importance of continuing to support partnerships as they scrutinise their budgets; that Universities and Colleges will do likewise; and that individuals will continue to put energy into the development and maintenance of partnerships in the recognition that everyone stands to benefit. That is our belief, and it is our commitment to provide as much support and assistance as we can to this development. ■

Northern Ireland: DELNI joined the Africa Unit

The Department for Employment and Learning Northern Ireland (DELNI) has subscribed to the Africa Unit. From now onwards, all NI Universities and Colleges can benefit from the work done and services provided by the Africa Unit. HE/FE institutions interested in UK-Africa partnerships, please do not hesitate to contact the Africa Unit. This can mark the start of great links and partnerships between NI and Africa!

DELNI has the aim to promote learning

and skills, to prepare people for work and to support the economy. It does so by promoting economic, social and personal development through high quality learning, research and skills training as well as by helping people into employment and promoting good employment practices.

With regard to the tertiary sector, DELNI works with the following HE institutions: Queen's University Belfast, University of Ulster, The Open University, Stranmillis University College, and St Mary's University

College. The Department also cooperates with the following FE institutions: Belfast Metropolitan College, Northern Regional College, North West Regional College, Southern Regional College, South Eastern Regional College, and South West College.

For further information, please visit: <http://www.delni.gov.uk/>



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www.delni.gov.uk

UK Collaborative on Development Sciences (UKCDS): New Website

Jessica Deery, Communications Officer at UKCDS, explains the rationale behind the new website and how poverty can be tackled with science – online.



A new website aims to boost the way researchers and funders work together to tackle major global challenges facing developing countries in Africa and other parts of the world.

The UK Collaborative on Development Sciences (UKCDS) – which aims to maximise the contribution of UK research to international development – launched its new website this month in an effort to provide a single online source of information for researchers, policy makers and funders con-

cerned with development sciences research.

“The multi-disciplinary nature of development sciences means information is often spread across many sources or hidden in broader research and policy areas, making it difficult and time-consuming to find”, explained UKCDS Director, Dr Andrée Carter.

“Our new website brings together all the essential information about development sciences that researchers and funders need – in one place. The site also showcases the impact UK science is having on

developing countries, allows stakeholders to learn about each other's work and highlights where there are opportunities for greater collaboration and coordination.”

Featuring funding opportunities, events, news and key publications, www.ukcde.org.uk, is organised into five key themes of Agriculture, Economy & Society, Environment, Health and Science, Innovation and Engineering.

For further information, please visit: www.ukcde.org.uk or email or call Jessica Deery, Communications Officer: j.deery@ukcde.org.uk / 020 611 8701



cluding conference to launch the project's final report, and present 'policy recommendations regarding further Europe-Africa collaboration in higher education' is to be held in Brussels (9/10). Several European project partners (ESU; EADTU) are involved, as is the AAU.

For further information, please visit: www.accesstosuccess-africa.eu/web or http://ec.europa.eu/education/erasmus-mundus/doc1799_en.htm

EU-Africa Links – 'Access to Success'

A 3-day workshop – 'Access and Retention in Africa and Europe', funded as an Erasmus Mundus initiative, is taking place in Addis Ababa, from 17th November. It is part of a wider European University Association (EUA) project, launched last year, which has as its aim 'more efficient co-operation between the regions

[Europe and Africa], particularly with regard to student and staff mobility schemes and capacity-building partnerships'. Further workshops, some involving donor and development agencies, are planned next year (Oslo, 25-26/2/10; Accra, 5/10). These will focus on institutional capacity-building and regional mobility respectively. A con-

Certificated Programme in Higher Education Management in Southern Africa: Transforming HE in the Region

Higher education in Southern Africa faces a range of complex and inter-related challenges, which need to be addressed through better collaboration and sharing of knowledge, influence and resources. Although an effective HE sector is critical to the broad aims of development, resources to achieve the desired effectiveness are not being provided by governments. Hence, to achieve their mandates, institutions themselves must develop the required innovative strategies

to manage in resource poor environments.

As part of the response to this challenge the Graduate School of Public & Development Management (P&DM) and the Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA) are partnering to offer a short course Higher Education Management in Southern Africa at NQF Level 8.

The programme is ideal for managers, specialists, academics, consultants and leaders involved in HE, inclusive of both the

public and the private sector. Among others, the course objectives are to: gain an understanding of HE in Southern Africa; gain familiarity with key theoretical explanations; and to apply leadership and management strategies.

For further information please contact **Edith Lefine** lefine.e@pdm.wits.ac.za and for registration information please contact **Coco Belgarrab** [@sarua.org](mailto:operations@sarua.org)



Africanists/Diaspora Network to support UK-Africa Educational Partnerships

The Africa Unit has recently launched its 'Initiative for the Development of a Network of UK and African Academics to support Educational Partnerships between the UK and Africa'. This is a group of African and UK academics based in the UK and Africa working on African issues who are interested in supporting HE/FE partnerships between England/Northern Ireland and Africa. The purpose of the group is to inform and support the Africa Unit's work

in brokering and enhancing England/Northern Ireland-Africa partnerships in the tertiary sector, as well as strengthening and broadening the evidence base in the partnership landscape.

The aim of this network is to act as an advisory and consultancy group to the Africa Unit particularly in the following areas:

- Assisting the Africa Unit in identifying the challenges and opportunities of educational partnerships between England/

Northern Ireland and Africa;

- Supporting the work of the Africa Unit in finding suitable partners for English/Northern Ireland and African institutions seeking to work together;
- Investigating ways of identifying and sharing good practices in England/Northern Ireland-Africa educational partnerships.

If you are interested in becoming a member of this network or if you wish to suggest names of other academics who may be interested, please contact the Africa Unit at S.Hinz@acu.ac.uk

Vacancy: Commonwealth Secretariat – Head of Education

The post holder heads the Education Section, which is part of the Social Transformation Programmes Division (STPD). The Education Section focuses upon the education-related MDGs most specifically with regard to access to quality education.

Among other responsibilities, the Head of Section will work to initiate, maintain and strengthen partnerships with a range of education stakeholders, within and beyond the Commonwealth. This will be

through contributions to global forums, active representation at key events, and identifying of areas for collaboration.

As well as providing high quality advice on policy, the post holder is responsible for monitoring progress of the Commonwealth towards the MDGs, organising triennial conferences of the Commonwealth Education Ministers, and the broader advocacy of education within the Commonwealth.

The job requires strong knowledge, and

firsthand experience of education practices, education policy and planning of development modalities.

Applicants must be a national of a Commonwealth country.

Deadline: 6 November 2009

For further information, please visit: <http://www.thecommonwealth.org/jobs/subsite/191203/167709/vacancies/>





HED/USAID Higher Education Partnerships in Africa: 1997-2007 (Spring 2007)

(Morfit, C.; Gore, M.; HED; 2009)

A useful overview paper of US-Africa higher education partnerships developed and administered as part of USAID's Higher Education for Development (HED) Program. It brings together analyses of several impact and evaluation studies, and summarises lessons learned. Although referenced to US policy its assessments, conclusions, and index of supported links, could be usefully compared with other Africa HE partnership schemes.

(www.hedprogram.org/Portals/0/PDFs/U.S.%20Higher%20Education%20Partnerships%20in%20Africa%205.27.09.pdf)



Manual for Monitoring and Evaluating Education Partnerships

(Marriott, N.; Goyder, H.; 978-92-803-1337-6; IIEP; Unesco; 2009)

A guide to assessing partnerships in the education sector. It is not focused on international links but is useful nevertheless in drawing attention to some of the issues involved in establishing education partnerships generally, and reviewing their effectiveness and value. It includes, for example, a 'checklist for evaluating a partnership's strengths and weaknesses'.

(www.iiep.unesco.org/news/single-view/hash/0133d346f6.html?tx_ttnews%5Btt_news%5D=204&tx_ttnews%5BbackPid%5D=262)

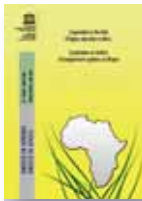


Global Education Digest: Comparing Education Statistics across the World (2009)

(Unesco Institute for Statistics (UIS); 978-92-9189-070-5; 2009)

A source of statistics on education internationally, this year produced to coincide with the World Conference on Higher Education (WCHE), and therefore with a focus on tertiary-level study. Significant trends include the 'unprecedented growth in the number of students' and increasing student mobility – regionally as well as internationally. It also includes figures for graduate numbers according to broad subject areas.

(www.uis.unesco.org/ev.php?ID=7628_201&ID2=DO_TOPIC)



UNESCO in AFRICA (1) (Special issue) (July 09) (Cooperation in the field of higher education in Africa)

(Unesco (Regional Bureau for Education in Africa (Dakar))

A new journal produced with the aim of raising both the profile of Unesco's work in Africa and some of the issues to which it is most committed. The first issue of 'Unesco in Africa' focused on higher education, and was published to coincide with the WCHE.

(www.unesco.org/en/education/dynamic-content-single-view/news/unesco_launches_journal_on_education_in_africa/back/9195/)
(www.unesco.org/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/ED/ED/pdf/UNESCO%20-%20Brochure1_03.pdf)

Differentiation and Articulation in Tertiary Education Systems: a Study of Twelve African Countries

((World Bank Working Paper, 145) (ADEA (WGHE), AAU in partnership with the Africa Region Human Development Department) (World Bank/IBRD 2008) [Ng'ethe, Njuguna; Subotzky, George and Afeti, G.]

The ADEA Policy Brief is based on this detailed analysis of education systems, focusing on Africa, which was originally issued as a World Bank Working Paper. As well as studying what drives or restricts 'differentiation' in higher education, it includes usefully comparative case studies which summarise higher education – its history and structure – in several sub-Saharan African countries.

(www.aau.org/wghe/publications/ED_Tertiary_edu_differentiation_articulation.pdf)

Education at Glance: OECD Indicators

(OECD; 9789264024762; 2009)

An annual comparative statistical guide for OECD countries. Among trends for which it gives evidence is the growth both in enrolment and international student mobility, as well as recording graduation and employment/unemployment rates. It also shows relative expenditure on higher education, and the economic benefits of education based on earnings levels.

(www.oecd.org/dataoecd/41/25/43636332.pdf)

Partnership Funding Schemes

DelPHE: Opening of Round 5

The Development Partnerships in Higher Education (DelPHE) is a funding scheme managed by the British Council and funded by the UK Government's Department for International Development (DfID). DelPHE aims to provide funding to support partnerships between Higher Education Institutions working on collaborative activity linked to the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Round five call for DelPHE funding is open now. Since the DelPHE portfolio is currently under represented in several countries, round five particularly encourages applications from the following African countries: Democratic Republic of Congo,

Ghana, Mozambique, Nigeria, Sierra Leone and Sudan.

Applications from other DelPHE countries are welcome but will be given lower priority at selection. Similarly, projects in the health sector are a low priority given that health currently represents the greatest proportion of all DelPHE projects.

Application forms must be submitted in English to the British Council office in the country of the lead partner. Deadlines vary in each country with the earliest deadline in January 2010.

For further information, please visit <http://www.britishcouncil.org/delphe.htm>



British Council/ACU DelPHE, Grant Writing Workshop, at the University for Development Studies in Tamale, Ghana, in January 2009



International Association of Universities (IAU) - LEADHER (Leadership Development for Higher Education Reform) Programme

The International Association of Universities (IAU) offers the Leadership Development for Higher Education Reform (LEADHER) programme which is also supported by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SAREC/Sida).

The overall aim of the LEADHER programme is to establish opportunities for learning partnerships and collaboration among IAU Member Institutions as it connects professionals in higher education institutions working to improve the match between societal demand and what higher education institutions offer. Its goal is to create partnerships with an international scope while South-South or North-South (such as UK-Africa) cooperation is particularly encouraged.

LEADHER awards a limited number of grants of up to €10,000 to partnership projects that address an area of needed higher education institutional reform. The partnership project must focus on one or two of the following reform areas:

- Revenue generation, diversification of funding sources and financial accountability
- Application of internal quality assurance measures
- Institutional governance and decision-making structures
- Research planning, management and dissemination
- Use of ICTs in learning, research and/or management
- Recruitment and professional development of faculty and staff (HRM)
- Student access and equity policies, including actions to secure success
- Student counselling, guidance and social services
- Outreach, community and extension services
- Incorporating sustainable development into the curriculum and campus management (greening)
- Internationalization strategies, including curricular reform and cross-border activities

Partnership projects must have the aim of promoting professional and institutional development through the exchange of experiences and expertise and mutual benefit through reciprocal learning. Hence, each partnership project shall involve single or reciprocal learning visits, which are organised exchanges between individuals or teams of institutional administrators from one partner institution to another.

Among African institutions funded for 'learning visits' this autumn (09) are universities in Kenya (Kenyatta), Mozambique (Eduardo Mondlane), and Sudan (Al Zaeim Al Azhari)

For further information, please visit www.unesco.org/iau/LEADHER/results2009_Spring.html or e-mail devylder.iau@unesco.org
Next application deadline:
30 November 2009

Searching for a Partner

In this section we provide a list of UK and African HE and FE institutions searching for a partner. This information can also be found on the Africa Unit's website. The aim of this section is to provide UK and African institutions with greater opportunities to seek partners by publicizing UK – Africa partnership opportunities in order to widen the pool of prospective partners from which institutions can choose.

If you would like to publicize your search for a partner, please visit the Africa Unit's website where you can fill in a webform that would add your details to our Potential Partners UK or African Database.



African Institutions Searching for a Partner

Rwanda

Institution: Kigali Health Institute, Nursing Department

Project Title: Strengthening Nursing Services to Rwandan Population through Kigali Institute of Health

Project Type: Staff Development and Training/Staff Exchange/ Human Resources Development

Subject Area: Health

Message: The vision of the Kigali Health Institute is to be a centre of excellence in training and development of health professionals. The Kigali Health Institute will have to put special emphasis on the goals identified in KHI strategic plan 2007 – 2012 in order to achieve its mission of being a leading institution in training and improving the capacity of health workers.

The institute attaches the following values as part and parcel of its corporate integrity and credibility when dealing with the public, collaborators, partners and stakeholders:

- healthy lifestyle, equity and respect, creativity and research, professionalism, accountability, transparency, good governance, quality assurance and standardisation.

Mission Statement of the Department of Nursing:

- The Department of General Nursing aims at being a regional

leading graduating nursing department in teaching, research and clinical care delivery.

It believes in self-directed learning strategy.

Department Overall Goals:

- To achieve excellence in nursing education with a curriculum that is relevant to the needs of the population.
- To develop research that contributes to the advancement of nursing.
- Maintain high standards across the life span of the Rwandan population.
- To provide nursing care of the highest quality and evidence based practice.
- Graduate a nurse who is a change agent in health policy.

Since the institution has the problem of expanding its building capacities in order to keep on training many health professionals, we are interested in a mutual partnership to help us realize our mission and consequently reach our vision.

Contact: Uhawenimana Thierry Claudien

Email: barcauhthclone@yahoo.ie; rector@khi.ac.rw

South Africa

Institution: Human Sciences Research Council –HSRC, Policy Analysis & Capacity Enhancement –PACE Department

Project Title: Capacity Building and Strengthening/Developing Skills for Employability; Collaborative Research Curriculum Design and Development

Subject Area: Social Sciences and Economics/Development Studies

Message: Build research capacity of postgraduate students and academic staff. Collaborative research and publications. Research Training & workshops presentation.

Contact: Mukole Kongolo

Email: mkongolo@hsrc.ac.za; kongolo25@yahoo.com

Kenya

Institution: Kenyatta University, Resource Mobilisation Centre

Project Title: Food Security; Leadership Training; and ICT for Management

Project Type: Capacity Building and Strengthening/Developing Skills for Employability; Collaborative Research

Subject Area: Food Security; ICT/Open and Distance Learning/Online Learning

Message: *Kenyatta University is keen on joint projects with UK institutions with which we can develop proposals for mutual gain. Our areas of interest are:*

- i) Research and extension training on food security*
- ii) Setting up a training and research centre for leadership training especially on governance of universities*
- iii) Enhancing ICT for research, learning and management*

Contact: Prof. Wangari Mwai

Email: wanganidoc@yahoo.com

Tanzania

Institution: Tumaini University; Kilimanjaro Christian Medical College (KCMC); Department of Immunology, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

Project Title: Capacity Building and Improvement of Learning Material at the KCM College

Project Type: Curriculum Design and Development; Staff Development and Training/Staff Exchange/Human Resources Development; Student Academic Development/Student Mobility

Subject Area: Educational Practices/Teaching and Learning/Research Management

Message: *We are looking for a partner for developing electronic learning materials, support for training of students at Masters levels, as well as development of Curriculum for new programs.*

Contact: Jaffu Chilogola

Email: jchilx@yahoo.co.uk

UK Institutions Searching for a Partner

Institution: University of Ulster, UNESCO Centre

Project Title: Capacity Building and Strengthening/Developing Skills for Employability; Collaborative Research; Staff Development and Training/Staff Exchange/Human Resources Development

Subject Area: Educational Practices/Teaching and Learning/Research Management; Governance /Public Administration

Message: *The International Development Programme at the University of Ulster pursues a brokerage role on behalf of all University Departments and Schools so we may be a useful first point of contact for potential partners in Africa: your enquiries are most welcome!*

Contact: Neil Alldred

Email: nj.allred@ulster.ac.uk

Institution: Queen Mary University of London; School of Business and Management

Project Title: Governance and Transparency

Project Type: Curriculum Design and Development

Subject Area: Governance /Public Administration

Message: *We are a School of Business at the University of London specializing in public and private sector good governance, accountability, responsibility, and transparency*

Contact: Stefano Harney

Email: s.harney@qmul.ac.uk

Future Events

November

4-6

IAU

Annual Conference

The Role of Higher Education in Promoting Inter-Cultural Dialogue and Understanding

Beirut (Notre Dame University – Louaize)

(www.unesco.org/iau)

(www.unesco.org/iau/conferences/Lebanon2009/index.html)

9-11

UNESCO Bamako Cluster Office, in collaboration with GUNI Africa

International Conference on Building Research Capacity in Africa (ICBRECA) (First)

Promoting Research in African Universities through Regional and International Research and Knowledge Networks and the Use of ICTs

Bamako

(www.unesco-bamako.org/conferences)

(www.guni-rmies.net/news/detail.php?id=1423)

10-11

CAAST-Net, Network for the Coordination and Advancement of Sub-Saharan

Africa-EU Science & Technology Cooperation

CAAST-Net Stakeholders' Conference on Africa-Europe Science and Technology Cooperation: Status and Way Forward

Mombasa

([http://www.caast-](http://www.caast-net.org/xwiki/bin/view/Main/Stakeholders+Conference+2009)

[net.org/xwiki/bin/view/Main/Stakeholders+Conference+2009](http://www.caast-net.org/xwiki/bin/view/Main/Stakeholders+Conference+2009))

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AAU

Africa University Day (Theme: Linkages with the Productive Sector)

(www.aau.org/announce/detail.htm?ai=236)

16-18

Qatar Foundation (partners include ACU, AUF, & IIE)

World Innovation Summit for Education (WISE)

Global Education: Working Together for Sustainable Achievements

Doha, Qatar

(www.wise-qatar.org/en/this-edition)

December

2-4

Online Educa Berlin 2009

15th International Conference on Technology Supported Learning & Training

Berlin

(www.online-educa.com)

With contributions from Nick Mulhern, Librarian at the ACU

If you have any feedback or comments about the Africa Unit Newsletter and its contents, please contact us in one of the following ways:

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