



African Network for Internationalization of Education

Call for Proposals

Theme

Internationalization of Higher Education in Africa and its Role in Promoting the Achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

Background

The African Network for Internationalization of Education (ANIE) is a non-profit, non-governmental, membership-based organization committed to the advancement of high quality research, capacity building and advocacy on internationalization of higher education with prime focus on Africa. ANIE has received a grant from the UK Department for International Development (DfID), through the Mobilization of Regional Capacities Initiatives (MRCI) Program administered by the Association of African Universities (AAU), to implement a project entitled *Development of a Framework for Sharing R&D Resources on the Internationalization of Higher Education in Africa*. Part of this funding is to support research on the international dimension of higher education in Africa and its role in the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). It is through this support that this call is made.

ANIE invites research proposals from young African scholars addressing the largely unexplored field of internationalization of higher education in Africa and its role in enhancing the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Interested researchers are required to develop research proposals to explore how internationalization of higher education could contribute towards the achievement of any of the four selected MDGs.

Aims and Objectives

Within the framework of its strategy to strengthen the development of research capacity and knowledge sharing on the international dimension of higher education in Africa, this call is intended to:

- (i) Promote and enhance the responses by African higher education institutions to the new developments, consequences, opportunities of internationalization and the potential of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Africa.
- (ii) To develop the capacity of young African scholars to conduct research and build a strong network of experts on internationalization of higher education in Africa.

- (iii) Produce empirical studies that have direct influence on the achievement of the selected MDG(s) and other benefits.
- (iv) Encourage and promote the inculcation of research culture and sharing of relevant experiences among young African researchers
- (v) Foster the participation of young African scholars in research and debates on the international dimension of higher education in Africa

Research Themes

Four MDGs have been selected as themes of research in this call. ANIE expects the successful candidates to showcase how internationalization of higher education in Africa would help in addressing these themes.

a. **Global partnership for development:** Higher education institutions have local, regional and international dimensions mainly based on the universality and complementarity of knowledge and scholarship. They are a core part of global partnerships and therefore provide a viable mechanism for building sustainable regional and global partnerships that could be utilized in addressing local challenges including the MDGs.

b. **Universal basic (primary) education:** Even though several African countries are on track towards achieving universal primary education by 2015, progress remains slow in other countries. Millions of children-especially girls from poor backgrounds are still out of school. Through their varied capacities, international engagements and collaborative efforts, higher education institutions are critical actors in supporting reforms to implement basic education for all.

c. **Promote gender equality and empowerment of women:** Training and access to knowledge are among the best tools for empowering women and stemming the feminization of poverty. Higher education institutions have a role to play in empowering women and in working towards gender parity in accessing higher education. The international dimension of higher education brings several opportunities that could be utilized to enhance the achievement of this goal.

d. **Combat HIV& AIDS, malaria and other diseases:** Higher education institutions in Africa - in their pursuit of their triple missions for teaching, research and community service are important vehicles for capacity development, knowledge generation and service delivery to their communities. They have a crucial role to play in developing strategies to respond to the scourge of HIV &AIDS at local, national, regional and global levels. In this regard we are looking for proposals which seek to address how the international dimension of higher education in Africa can help to address and respond to the challenges of HIV & AIDS, malaria and other diseases.

e. Other MDG(s) or relevant theme(s) can be addressed but only in addition to any of the above themes.

Applicants

Applicants should be young African researchers who have completed their first degree or equivalent professional training, with proven capacity to carry out research on the theme of this call. Those are currently enrolled for post graduate degrees with evidence of successful research output are encouraged to apply. The successful candidates will be required to be registered as ANIE members.

Specifications for Proposals

Proposals should not be more than 2000 words and should demonstrate sound academic style and quality. Higher consideration will be given to collaborative and cross disciplinary research teams, multidisciplinary, sensitivity to gender issues and development of young scholars. Proposals from a group of researchers doing a comparative research across different countries are particularly encouraged. In addition, the proposals should fulfill the following requirements;

- a. Should address how internationalization of higher education will support the achievement of the chosen theme or goal of the research initiative
- b. Should link research to policy within the context of local (universities), national governments and regional development initiatives or organs.
- c. Should underline the use of evidence-based or empirical research.

The proposals should include a background statement, problem statement, aims and objectives, a conceptual framework, methodology, work plan, a budget a one page resume. ANIE will publish and disseminate the research outcomes and the authors are required not to publish the papers in any other media before the release of the ANIE publication.

Funding

Successful candidates will receive an equivalent of USD 2000.00 (two thousand US dollars) to undertake the research and present the research findings. The budget may cover travel, procurement of research materials, accommodation, and communication.

The deadline for submission of proposals is **30 August, 2010**.

Successful applicants will be notified of the outcome of the selection by **30 September 2010**.

Successful applicants will be invited to participate in a capacity building workshop and 2nd ANIE Annual Conference in Kampala Uganda from 2nd to 5th November 2010. The researches should be completed within a period of 12 months from the date of award and the research papers submitted to ANIE for dissemination and publication.

Contacts

All applications or requests for further information should be sent to:

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