

Higher Education Research and Advocacy Expertise Network in Africa



Grant number: **1070-0695**

Progress Report:

1 June 2007 to 31 December 2007

Ford Foundation
2008 -01-15

Dear John

Progress Report: Higher Education Research and Advocacy Expertise Network in Africa

Grant Number: 1070-0695

Grant Period: 1 June 2007 to 31 May 2009

Reporting Period: 1 June 2007 to 31 December 2007

The following are the deliverables for this project:

1. A better understanding of the specific links between higher education and economic development in a regional context. The project will shed light on how this is affected institutionally, with best practice examples.
2. Evidence-based information about the effects of higher education on attitudes towards democracy and a greater understanding of how this works in the higher education sector.
3. A strategy, and pilot implementation, for a network of more coordinated information delivery modes (electronic, briefs, forums) of policy relevant information to decision-makers.
4. For the first time across a number of countries in higher education in Africa, a planned link between research, data and advocacy.
5. Shared inter-disciplinary higher education studies capacity building in a network of senior and junior researchers across a number of countries.
6. A network of African higher education experts more closely linked to other international groupings.

Considerable progress have been made regarding the three main components of the project.

1. Higher Education and Democracy

A project description, including proposed activities, timeline and budget, was received from Robert Mattes (University of Cape Town) for his two research projects: *Higher education and democratic citizenship* and *Higher education and national legislative institutions*. Prof Mattes will lead the first of these projects and Kimberly Smiddy will lead the second. The research team will be assisted by Danga Mughogho, a PhD fellow from Malawi. A maximum of R840, 000 (US\$120,000) will be allocated to these projects. The project timeframe includes the delivery of the first draft of the public opinion report by mid-2008 and the second report (legislatures project) by April 2009.

At the HERANA project meeting held on 14 November 2007, ideas for a project involving Njuguna Ng'ethe (University of Nairobi), David Court (consultant) and colleagues were discussed. Their particular interest is in student participation in governance including the following issues:

- The ways in which students organise their own self-governance
- The linkages between student governance institutions and national politics
- The kinds of issues that students raise within governance structures, and
- Student formal participation in university governance.

At the time of writing, Prof Ng'ethe and colleagues are developing a proposal for this study.

Work on the proposed literature review on the links between research and policy, involving Tracy Bailey (CHET) and Harriet Deacon (consultant), began in December 2007. The purpose of the review is to map the terrain of issues relating to research and policy which will form the basis of a workshop or seminar involving different role players, with a view to developing a proposal for a study that will explore these issues in greater depth. Whether such a project is correctly placed within the HE & Democracy component of HERANA will be determined at a later stage.

2. Higher Education and Economic Development

A draft project description, including proposed activities, timeline and budget, was received from Peter Maassen (University of Oslo) and Pundy Pillay (consultant) for their research project: *Higher education and economic development in Africa: Macro and micro perspectives*. Following this submission, Prof Pillay has finalised the budget (R549,500 / US\$78,500) and work plan for his component of the project (macro perspective). In addition to Prof Pillay, the following individuals will form part of the research team: Prof Maassen, Romulo Pinheiro (PhD student / HEDDA), James Nkata (Makerere University) and Nico Cloete (CHET).

The timeframe for the macro component of this project is as follows:

Literature review	December 2007 – March 2008
Case studies (Finland, South Korea, North Carolina)	March – July 2008
Case studies (African countries)	August 2008 – April 2009
Final report	June 2009

The final work plan and budget for Prof Maassen's component of the project (micro perspective) will be submitted in early 2008.

At the HERANA meeting on 15 November 2007, ideas for collaboration with Glenda Kruss (HSRC) and Paul Lundall (University of Cape Town) were discussed.

3. Advocacy

HERANA Gateway

The proposal for the HERANA Gateway project, including proposed activities, timeline and budget, was finalised with Compress in September 2007. The broad project timeframe is as follows:

Project planning	September 2007
Design of web site	October 2007
Engagement of partners	November 2007
Programming for content pull	February 2008
Programming for content push	February 2008
Maintenance and adjustments	March 2008 – July 2009
Gateway promotions	March 2008 – July 2009
Project evaluation	May 2009

Since the start of this project in September 2007, the following progress has been made:

- Development of the technological infrastructure and web site design is underway. The Advocacy project team was given the opportunity to view draft web site designs at the meeting on 15 November 2007.

- Letters of invitation to potential partners in the project were sent to the Partnership for Higher Education in Africa, the Association of African Universities (AAU), African Higher Education Research Online (UWC), and the Center for International Higher Education. Positive responses have been received from all of these organisations except the AAU (no response). Teboho Moja and Esi Sutherland-Addy will assist in following this up. Compress is in the process of gathering technical information about these organisations' web sites and databases. A second phase of invitations will be sent out in 2008. This process will take longer than originally anticipated.
- Arrangements regarding the hosting of the Google Box in a country other than South Africa will be negotiated over the next few months. At the meeting in November, the possibilities of hosting the Box at the University of Oslo or New York University were raised. Shane Colvin from Oslo, and Teboho Moja and John Butler-Adam, will assist in these negotiations.

University World News Africa Edition

The proposal for an Africa edition of the University World News, including activities, timeline and budget, was finalised with Karen MacGregor in August 2007. Eight editions of the Africa newsletter will be produced over a two-year period. The first edition, based on the CHET 10th Anniversary Seminar (16 November 2007), will be produced in December 2007. A brochure for the Africa edition was produced in November 2007. A masthead for the newsletter and the web site for the Africa edition are in the process of being designed. At the meeting in November, it was agreed that an editorial board of some kind will be formed which will take responsibility for critically reviewing the proposed content of each edition.

Below is a graphic illustration of progress with the various HERANA projects. The summary is followed by an organisational chart.

KEY

The dates indicate deadlines

	Completed
	In-progress
	Not yet started

Programme: Higher Education & Economic Development

Project 1: Macro perspectives

Team: Pundy Pillay, Peter Maassen, Romulo Pinheiro, James Nkata, Nico Cloete

Dec-07
Proposal and budget submitted

Apr-08
Case study report: North Carolina

May-08
Case study report: Finland

Jul-08
Case study report: South Korea

Dec-08
Case study report: Africa

Jun-09
Integrated case study report

Project 2: Micro perspectives

Team: Peter Maassen, others to be confirmed

Dec-07
Draft proposal and budget submitted

Feb-08
Proposal and budget

Dec-08
Complete case study visits (x1)

Jun-09
Complete case study visits (x3)

Sep-09
Draft report

Dec-09
Final report

Programme: Higher Education & Democracy

Project 1: DARU projects

Robert Mattes, Kimberly Smiddy, Danga Mughogho

Dec-07
Proposal and budget submitted

Jul-08
Report: HE & Democratic Citizenship

Jul-09
Report: HE & African Legislatures

Project 2: Student governance

Team: Njuguna Ng'ethe, David Court, Fallou Ndiaye

Jan-08
Development of proposal currently in progress



HERANA project progress (cont)

KEY

The dates indicate deadlines

	Completed
	In-progress
	Not yet started

Programme: Advocacy

Project 1: Gateway

Team: Francois van Schalkwyk, Amy Bradfield

Sep-07 Proposal and budget submitted	Oct-07 Web site design	Nov-07 Engagement with prospective partners	Feb-08 Programming (content pull, push)	May-09 Project evaluation	Jul-09 Maintenance, adjustment, promotion
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Project 2: UWN Africa edition

Team: Karen McGregor, Mignon Hardie

Sep-07 Proposal and budget submitted	Dec-07 Web site / newsletter design	Mar-08 No. 1	Jul-08 No. 2	Oct-08 No. 3	Jan-09 No. 4	Apr-09 No. 5	Jul-09 No. 6	Oct-09 No. 7	Jan-10 No. 8
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Project 3: Research & Policy

Team: Harriet Deacon, Tracy Bailey

Jan-08 Literature review currently in progress
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HERANA STRUCTURE

CO-ORDINATING GROUP

Responsibility: Guide network establishment and advise Secretariat

Members: Nico Cloete, Teboho Moja, James Nkata, Lidia Brito, Esi Sutherland-Addy, Peter Maassen

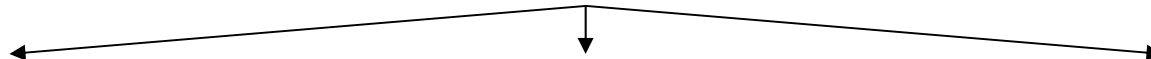


NETWORK SECRETARIAT/MANAGEMENT SUPPORT STRUCTURE

Responsibility: Secretariat for Core Elements of Network, Support Research and Advocacy Groups, Monitor implementation, Ensure links between research and advocacy agencies, Accountability to funders

Outsourced Support Services: IT (TENET), Financial Services (CHEC and KPMG), Travel and Workshops (Millennium), Publications (Compress)

Staff: Nico Cloete (Project Manager), Tracy Bailey (Project Co-ordinator), Angela Mias (Project Administrator)



HIGHER EDUCATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Senior Researchers

Pundy Pillay (Consultant)
Peter Maassen (University of Oslo, Norway)
James Nkata and Florence Nakayiwa-Mayega (Makerere University, Uganda)
Pieter le Roux (UWC Institute for Social Dev)

Researchers

Rumolo Pinheiro (University of Oslo), Paul Lundall (UWC/UCT), 3 from other networks

Research Trainees

Gerald Ouma (Post doc)
From Noma masters

HIGHER EDUCATION AND DEMOCRACY

Senior Researchers

Robert Mattes (UCT Democracy in Africa Research Unit)
Njuguna Ng'ethe (Institute for Development Studies, Nairobi)
Falilou Ndiaye (University Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal)

Researchers

Danga Mughogho (Centre for Democratic Development, Ghana), David Court (Consultant, Kenya), Thierry Luescher (CHE), Harriet Deacon (Consultant)

Research Trainees

Each senior researcher has a masters/PhD student working with them

ADVOCACY

Senior Advisors

Teboho Moja (New York University)
Esi Sutherland-Addy (University of Ghana)

Portal Connecting Info Centres

Francois van Schalkwyk and Amy Bradfield (Compress)
Google Technology

Media

Karen MacGregor and Mignon Hardie (University World News, E-Briefs)

Dialogues

CHET in consultation with Senior Researchers and Advisors