

With the support of the Erasmus Mundus programme of the European Commission

## ***Access to Success: Fostering trust and exchange in higher education between Europe and Africa***

***Workshop: Access and retention: Sharing best practice between Europe and Africa***  
**17-20 November 2009, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

### **CHAPTER 1: THE OVERALL PROJECT FRAMEWORK**

#### **Rationale**

The Access to Success project, funded by the European Union Erasmus Mundus programme, aims at raising awareness of access and retention issues in higher education in Africa and Europe, exploring how higher education institutions in both continents are coping with the changing demands of their specific socio-economic environments. By doing so, it also intends to contribute to a wider discussion on effective inter-institutional cooperation between Europe and Africa, in particular with regard to student and staff mobility schemes, capacity building partnerships and government/donor support.

The project brings together representatives of universities (senior leadership, scientists and students from African and European universities), as well representatives of governments and donor agencies.

#### **Structure**

The project consists of two phases: a fact-finding phase in which surveys of higher education institutions were carried out in both Africa and Europe (Nov. 2008 – Oct. 2009) as well student surveys and focus groups. The dissemination and dialogue phase of the project, which is being launched with this workshop, examines the study results, facilitates opportunities for dialogue on cooperation, and promotes the strengthening of the bi-regional Europe-Africa cooperation in higher education. Three workshops and a final conference targeted at policy makers and donor agencies will be organised in this second phase (Nov. 2009 – Oct. 2010).

#### **Activities and envisaged outcomes**

- two surveys on access and retention conducted among European and African universities respectively (policies, practices, challenges)
- university case studies, identified through the survey, as a basis for discussion at project events, and to demonstrate lessons learned
- an outcome report consisting of case studies, thematic articles, and survey results and well as event results
- a white paper targeted towards governments and donors, on supporting university partnership in development cooperation policy
- 3 thematic workshops on
  - Access and retention, 17-20 November 2009, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
  - University cooperation and partnerships for development: the European dimension, 25-26 February 2010, Oslo, Norway
  - Intra and inter-regional mobility, 3-4 May, 2010, Accra, Ghana
- Outcome policy conference, which will bring together the university community, governments and donors (Sept. 2010)

## Partners

The Erasmus Mundus project "Access to Success: Fostering Trust and Exchange between Europe and Africa" (2008-2010) is being undertaken by the European University Association (EUA), a pan-European membership body of over 800 universities and national rectors conferences across the 46 Bologna process countries, together with the Flemish InterUniversity Council's department for University Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS), the Association of African Universities (AAU), the European Students' Union (ESU), the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR), and the European Access Network (EAN).

## CHAPTER 2: THE WORKSHOP

### Workshop: Structure and participation

This will be a dialogue-focused event with approximately 75 participants. Participants will be from the leadership of institutions in Africa and Europe as well as some faculty members involved either in access and retention issues or generally in university cooperation between Europe and Africa. The event will also have strong student participation: students from the European Students' Union and All Africa Student Union as well as Erasmus Mundus alumni will provide input and hold a separate focus group on the workshop topics. Officials from the European Union Delegation to the AU will attend as well as the Ethiopian Ministry of Education.

The workshop is designed to be highly interactive and draw from surveys that specifically targeted institutions across Europe and Sub-Saharan Africa, generating a varied sample of countries and types of institutions. Questions of interest:

- a) questions regarding the universities' basic understanding/definition of access and equity and whether this is an institutional/national objective
- b) questions regarding target groups of disadvantaged students in the access debate
- c) policies and actions to promote and enhance access to higher education
- d) questions of state/national policies that guide or determine institutional access policies and strategies
- e) strategies to enhance retention and success of students.

A parallel **Europe-Africa rectors' dialogue meeting** has been organised as a pre-event (17 November), designed to probe more general questions on bi-regional cooperation and the role of leadership. Over 33 rectors and vice-rectors from 24 countries (13 European countries and 11 African countries) will attend.

### Partners

While the EUA is the leading partner in the overall project, VLIR-UOS plays an important role in the activities in Ethiopia, in particular the first workshop. This is because VLIR-UOS has a country office in Ethiopia. In fact, VLIR-UOS funds two major 10-year Institutional University Cooperation programmes, in Mekele and Jimma, plus other academic exchange mechanisms, including individual scholarships for various training programmes in Belgium. The annual total investment of VLIR-UOS in Ethiopia is over 2.5 million euro.

The Belgian Embassy, the Ministry of Education (in particular the State Minister for Higher Education) and the African Union contributed to various parts of the program.

### Rationale

This particular event is unique as it departs from the assumption that effective university partnership between Europe and Africa must address the needs of the societies in which universities are embedded, and therefore must be founded upon mutual knowledge of the challenges our universities face as drivers of growth and development. Access to higher education (which entails both widening and increasing participation) and retention (ensuring successful completion and relevant/supportive learning paths) are critical issues in both Europe and Africa that merit reflection on a bi-regional level.

This event is also unique in that it organises the first Europe-Africa rectors' dialogue, an initiative spearheaded by the European University Association and an attempt to bring university leadership together for face-to-face bi-regional dialogue on future priorities in cooperation.

Future workshops in the framework of this project (February and May 2010) will focus on the European regional dimension in capacity building with African universities and mobility both between and within Europe and Africa.

The European University Association and VLIR-UOS have been critical players in the realisation of this event, as have the other project partners: The Association of African Universities, the European Students' Union, the Association of Norwegian Higher Education Institutions and the European Access Network.

### **CHAPTER 3: FACT AND FIGURES**

#### **Europe-Africa Rectors' dialogue (17 November 2009)**

24 countries represented in total

13 European countries- 19 rectors and vice-rectors from Europe

11 African countries – 15 rectors and vice-rectors

33 rectors and vice-rectors in total

In addition, all Ethiopian University Presidents are welcome

#### **Workshop (18-19 November 2009)**

75 Participants from 28 different countries

16 European countries

12 African countries

*Europe- Strong geographic disparity (N-S-E-W in Europe):* Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Estonia, Italy, Ireland, Lithuania, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

*Africa:* Cabo Verde, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe.



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The Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions



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## ***Access to Success: Fostering trust and exchange between Europe and Africa in Higher Education***

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**17-20 November 2009, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

**Preliminary Programme as of 16 October 2009**

**Monday 16 November 2009**

Arrival of participants (all day)

### **PRE-WORKSHOP MEETINGS AND PROGRAMME**

*The pre-workshop meetings are by invitation only but the visit to the Ministry and reception are for all participants.*

**Tuesday 17 November 2009**

- |                      |  |
|----------------------|--|
| <b>09.30 – 13.30</b> | <b>Dialogue meeting of African and European Rectors (<i>invitation only</i>)</b><br><i>Ghion hotel</i> |
| <b>09.30 – 13.30</b> | <b>Student focus group (<i>invitation only</i>)</b><br><i>Ghion hotel</i>                              |
| <b>13.30 – 14.30</b> | <b>Lunch</b>   |
| <b>15.00</b>         | <b>Bus transfer to Ethiopian Ministry of Education</b>   |
| <b>15.30 – 17.30</b> | <b>Visit at Ethiopian Ministry of Education</b>  |
| <b>18.30</b>         | <b>Opening reception at the Belgian Embassy to Ethiopia</b>  |

### **WORKSHOP**

**Wednesday 18 November 2009**

- |                      |   |
|----------------------|---|
| <b>08.45 – 09.00</b> | <b>Registration</b><br><i>Ghion hotel</i> |
| <b>09.00 – 09.45</b> | <b>Opening session: Welcome</b>           |



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Opening of workshop by project partners/ workshop logic  
*Flemish Inter-University Council for Development Cooperation*  
*European University Association*

Welcome of ministry host and European Commission  
*Dr. Haile Adhane, State Minister for Higher Education, Ethiopia*  
*Mitiku Haile, President, Mekelle University, Ethiopia (TBC)*  
*European Commission Delegation to Ethiopia (TBC)*

- 09.45 – 10.00**      **Presentation of the Access to Success project**  
*Michael Gaebel, European University Association*
- 10.00 - 10.30**      **Coffee break and group photo**
- 10.30 – 12.00**      **Plenary session I: Challenges for access and retention in Africa and Europe**
- Chacha NYAIGOTTI-CHACHA*  
*Executive Secretary*  
*The Inter-University Council for East Africa*
- Maria Helena Nazaré, EUA Vice-President & Rector*  
*University of Aveiro, Portugal*
- Chair: Michael Gaebel, EUA*
- 12.00 - 13.00**      **Access and retention in Europe and Africa: Presentation of survey results**  
*European University Association and Association of African Universities*
- 13.00 – 14.15**      **Lunch**
- 14.15 – 15.00**      **Case study I (Widening access, diversity and retention - Europe)**
- Fiona Andrews, Director, Recruitment, Admission and Participation Service, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom*
- 15.00 – 15.45**      **Case study II (Diversity and retention - Africa)**
- Sola Akinrinade, Vice-Chancellor, Osun State University, Nigeria*
- 15.45 – 16.15**      **Coffee break**
- 16.15 – 17.00**      **Case study III (Student centred learning - Europe)**
- Bart De Moor, Vice Rector for Internationalisation, Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium*



17.00 – 17.45



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**Case study IV (Balancing access and teaching/research excellence - Africa)**

*Stephen Simukanga, Vice-Chancellor, University of Zambia, Lusaka, Zambia*

19.30 – 22.00

**Dinner at Ghion Hotel**

Thursday 19 November 2009

09.00 – 10.30

**Plenary session II: The students' perspective on access and retention**

*Inge Gielis and Love Hansson, European Students' Union (ESU)  
Oludare Ogunlana, Secretary General, All-African Students Union (AASU)*

10.30 - 11.00

**Coffee Break**

11.00 – 11.45

**Case study V (Student and staff retention - Africa)**

*Lillian Tibatemwa-Ekirikubinza, acting Vice-Chancellor, Makerere University, Uganda (TBC)*

11.45 – 12.30

**Case study VI (Access, retention and Gender policy - Europe)**

*Hans Sünkel, Rector, Graz University of Technology, Austria (TBC)*

12.30 – 13.30

**Lunch**

13.30 - 15.00

**Closing plenary session**

**Summary of workshop**

*Mee Foong Lee, European Access Network*

**Discussion**

**Announcement of second Access to Success workshop**

*Tor Torp, Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions*

16.00 - 18.00

**Visit to the African Union**

19.00

**Dinner at Yod Abyssinia Restaurant**



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**Friday 20 November 2009**

**Post-workshop programme:**

- Morning Excursion- visit for all conference participants to the veterinary department of Addis Ababa University in Debre Zeit
- Lunch near Crater Lakes
- Optional afternoon visit to Ethiopian National Museum
- Dinner at restaurant

**Saturday 21 November 2009**

Departure day

*\*VLIR-IUC network meeting (invitation only)*

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## **Africa – Europe Rectors' dialogue meeting**

**17 November 2009, Ghion Hotel, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**  
(by invitation only)

9.30 – 9.45

### **Introduction and welcome**

*Olusola Oyewole, Association of African Universities (AAU)*

*Helena Nazaré, Vice-President, European University Association (EUA)*

9.45 – 10.15

### **Recent developments in European higher education**

*Helena Nazaré, Vice-President, EUA*

10.15 – 10.45

### **Recent developments in African higher education**

*Olusola Oyewole, AAU*

10.45 – 11.15

### **Coffee break**

11.15 – 13.30

### **Future priorities for Africa – Europe collaboration in higher education**

Input statements (10 minutes each):

*Speakers identify priority areas of cooperation for future collaboration between Europe and Africa, and discuss the role and interest of their own country/region and institution. This will be followed by open discussion.*

Rein Raud, Rector, Tallinn University, Estonia

Joan Vinãs, Rector, Lleida University, Spain

Kaba Urgessa, President, Jimma University, Ethiopia

Brian O'Connell, Rector, University of the Western Cape, South Africa

#### Discussion topics:

- Regional higher education convergence: concrete and expected impacts, prospects and challenges
- Higher education in development cooperation
- Research collaboration and capacity building in research

13.30 – 14.30

### **Lunch**

*Ghion Hotel*



## IUC-Workshop 21 November 2009 – Ghion Hotel – Addis Abeba

### *Draft programme*

#### **Introduction**

All rectors, local IUC coordinators and Flemish IUC coordinators were invited to participate to the EUA workshop of 17-20 November 2009 on “Access to success” (Ghion Hotel, Addis Abeba) in order to discuss with other African and European rectors about a survey on this topic at European and African universities. VLIR-UOS contributed to this interesting event in many logistic, human resource and financial ways.

On **Saturday 21 November 2009**, a one day workshop is organised by VLIR-UOS with representatives from all universities of the African IUC network and a number of Flemish IUC stakeholders. The event takes place at Ghion Hotel, Addis Abeba between 9 AM and 6 PM. The rationale behind this initiative was to take this unique opportunity to offer a platform of intellectual exchange and discussion with our IUC network members, following a recurrent question of having such an event.

VLIR-UOS wishes all participants a fruitful and rewarding day.

#### **Workshop Programme (draft)**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Theme</b>	<b>Actors</b>
9:00-9:10 10 min.	Welcome and presentation round	Peter De Lannoy, VLIR-UOS Coordinator South
9:10-9:20 10 min.	Introduction to the programme of the day	Luc Janssens de Bisthoven, VLIR- UOS Programme Officer
9:20-9:50 30 min.	Introduction to VLIR-UOS country approach	Peter De Lannoy, VLIR-UOS Coordinator South
9:50-10:05 15 min.	The VLIR-UOS representation and activities in the <b>Democratic Republic of Congo</b>	Kathleen Wuytack, permanent representative of VLIR-UOS in DRC, and Peter De Lannoy
10:05-10:20 15 min.	The IUC Programme with <b>Jimma University</b>	Prof. Kaba (rector), Prof. Luc Duchateau, and Kora Tushune, IUC coordinators at Jimma University

10:20-10:35 15 min.	The IUC Programme with Mekelle University	Profs Haile Mitiku (rector), C/Hiwot Kindeya (local coordinator) and Martine Dekoninck, international Affairs, K.U.Leuven
10:35-10:50 15 min.	The VLIR-UOS representation and activities in Ethiopia	Dr. Hans Bauer, permanent representative of VLIR-UOS in Ethiopia, Prof. Bruno Goddeeris (K.U.Leuven), K. Descheemaeker (CGIAR)
10:50-11:05 15 min.	Coffee pause	
<b>Thematic work sessions – WORLD CAFÉ</b>		
11:05-11:15 10 min.	WORLD CAFÉ: principle and organization	Luc Janssens de Bisthoven, VLIR-UOS P.O.
11:15-11:45 30 min.	WORLD CAFÉ <b>Group 1: VLIR-UOS country approach</b>	Prof. Kora Tushune, local coordinator JU, Ethiopia
11:45-12:15 30 min.	<b>Group 2: Thematic approach</b>	Prof. Kenneth Mavuti, local coordinator UoN, Kenya
12:15-12:45 30 min.	<b>Group 3: north-south-south and south-south linkages and collaboration</b>	Prof. Peter Mtakwa, local coordinator SUA, Tanzania
12:45-13:15 30 min.	<b>Group 4: synergies and opportunities for interaction between IUC and other direct and indirect cooperation actors (BTC, INGOs, NGOs Flemish and local)</b>	Prof. D. Wessels, local coordinator UL, South Africa
13:15-14:45 1h30 min.	Lunch	
14:45-15:30 45 min.	Reports WORLD CAFÉ and discussion	Prof. Georges Eisendrath (VUB)/ Prof. Kenneth Mavuti Prof. Gilford Hapanyengwi Prof. Peter Mtakwa Prof. Larry Pokpas
<b>IUC Phase Out – results and lessons learned</b>		
15:30-16:30 4 x 15 min.	IUC Phase-out: Lessons learned (strengths and weaknesses) of the finalised IUC partner programmes with  SUA UoN UNZA UNZI	Moderator: Prof. Brian O’Connell and . L. Pokpas (UWC) Profs G. Monela and P. Mtakwa (SUA) Profs. G. Magoha, K. Mavuti and G. Eisendrath (UoN, VUB) Profs. Stephen Simukanga, S.B. Kanyanga and I. Nyambe (UNZA) Profs. L.M. Nyagura and G. Hapanyengwi (UNZI)  Rapporteur: Prof. B. Manderick (MU-K)

**Remark:** a strict timing will be kept during the workshop. Please take notice of the allocated time per activity block.

16:30-16:45 15 min.	Coffee pause	
16:45-16:55 10 min.	Report on the Phase Out – lessons learned	Prof. B. Manderick (MU-K)
<b>Modalities of collaboration within the context of a country approach</b>		
16:55-17:10 15 min.	The mixed commission in Tanzania – process and opportunities for synergies with university research and development	Prof. Peter Mtakwa (SUA)
17:10-17-25 15 min.	The rectors' conference in Ethiopia	Prof. Urgessa Kaba and Kora Tushune (JU, Ethiopia)
17:25-17:45 20 min.	Round of feedback	All participants
17:45	Drink	

## WORLD CAFÉ

### Principle

1. The participants are divided in **4 groups**;
2. Each group is allocated to one **thematic table**;
3. Each table is headed by a **moderator** with a large sheet of paper or a laptop;
4. the moderator stays at his table during the whole event;
5. the moderator welcomes the group and explains briefly the theme to be discussed;
6. the group **discusses** about the theme of the table;
7. the moderator takes **notes** of the interesting discussion points;
8. after 25 minutes, the group dissolves and everybody chooses another table **of his own choice**, meaning he/she will come into a **newly formed group**;
9. the moderator explains first the conclusions of the **last** round,
10. the new group discusses about the table theme;
11. this exercise is **repeated 4x**, until everybody has participated to all 4 tables.
12. after two hours the world café is finished.
13. All participants are invited to take a refreshment to their tables.

### Organisation and contents

<p>Group 1: VLIR-UOS country approach/ moderator <b>Prof. Kora Tushune</b>, local coordinator JU, Ethiopia</p> <p><u>Subthemes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- what to expect from a country approach by VLIR-UOS</li> <li>- linkages IUC and Own Initiatives</li> <li>- linkages IUC partners and other universities and institutes of higher education within the country</li> <li>- what to expect from a permanent VLIR-UOS representative</li> <li>- lessons learned: what to avoid</li> </ul>
<p>Group 2: Thematic approach/ moderator <b>Prof. Kenneth Mavuti</b>, local coordinator UoN, Kenya</p> <p><u>Subthemes:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- water</li> <li>- health: primary health care, horizontal health care</li> <li>- food security</li> <li>- land management</li> <li>- ICT and other transversal topics</li> </ul>

- Strategies for thematic approaches
- Needs assessments

Group 3: north-south-south and south-south linkages and collaboration/ moderator **Prof. Peter Mtakwa**, local coordinator SUA, Tanzania

Subthemes:

- South South collaboration
- VLIR-UOS North South South Programme
- Other donors
- Platforms and networks

Group 4: synergies and opportunities for interaction between IUC and other direct and indirect cooperation actors (BTC, INGOs, NGOs Flemish and local)/ moderator **Prof. D. Wessels**, local coordinator UL, South Africa

Subthemes:

- Links with local NGOs
- Links with international NGOs
- Links with bilateral cooperation
- Links with other donors
- Links with parastatals and ministries

Workshop: Access and retention: Sharing best practices between Europe and Africa  
17-20 November 2009, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia  
Participants' list

Name	First name	Title	Position	Institution	Country	Email 1
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