



## Appendix 1

## Annual Report Form

### Annual Reporting Form for Platforms under the Building Stronger Universities programme.

For the year:

<b>1</b>	<b>Project</b>	
	Name of Platform	Platform on Stability, Democracy and Rights
<b>2</b>	<b>Institution</b>	
	Name	Aarhus University, Faculty of Arts, Department of Culture and Language
	<b>Project Coordinator</b>	
	Name	Lene Marie Andreasen
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<b>4</b>	<b>Time Frame</b>	
	<b>Project period</b> (approved start and end date)	August 1 <sup>st</sup> 2011 – July 31 <sup>st</sup> 2013
	<b>Extension of project period, if any</b>	NA
<b>5</b>	<b>Annual Expenditure</b>	
	<b>Original Annual Budget</b>	4.805,186 DKK
	<b>Actual annual expenses</b> (must correspond with the Annual Accounts)	
	<b>Explanation of deviations from the original budget.</b>	<p>The implementation was slower than expected for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All modalities and templates had to be negotiated, agreed and developed.</li> <li>It took considerable time to create bank accounts at the partner universities in Africa and Asia. As a result partners were unable to implement activities for the first three months of the current reporting period.</li> <li>Lack of clarity about division of responsibility between researchers from the North and the South</li> <li>Confusion about objectives and incentive structures among researchers from the North and the South</li> <li>At times, North-South communication has been slow and inadequate mainly due to c) and d), which resulted in a delay in the planning and implementation of activities.</li> </ol>
<b>6</b>	<b>Progress of the Project during the Year</b>	
a	Describe the progress made towards the fulfilment of the approved objectives	<p>In general, there has been good progress towards the fulfilment of the following objectives.</p> <p><u>Strengthening institutional research capacity at South Universities within the areas of Stability, democracy and Rights</u></p> <p>A Conference titled “Unpacking the Concepts of Stability, Democracy and Rights” was successfully held at each of the three partner universities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At Maseno University there were 60 participants and 24 papers were presented.</li> <li>At Gulu University there were 62 participants and 21 papers were</li> </ul>

		<p>presented.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At Tribhuvan University there were 70 participants and 23 papers were presented.</li> </ul> <p>Most of the planned Small-scale collaborative research projects were initiated and they are expected to be completed in 2013.</p> <p>The planned research methodology workshops were developed and held as planned at partner universities with the involvement of Danish researchers. South-South collaboration was strengthened, as one of the workshops was a joint workshop in Gulu with participants from MSU and GU.</p> <p><u>Strengthening institutional capacity in the area of research-based education at South universities within the areas of Stability, democracy and Rights</u></p> <p>All of the planned Proposal Development workshop (2) were developed and implemented at GU and MSU.</p> <p>Out the nine PhD scholarships planned in phase I (three at each partner university) six were initiated, since only six proposals were accepted by the Assessment Working Group. One PhD grant at Tribhuvan University has been converted to six MPhil grants for staff. It is expected this will lead to an improvement in applications for PhD grants in subsequent phases.</p> <p>A PhD network has been developed as planned at MSU, but the activity has not yet been implemented at GU and TU. At TU plans have been made to develop a PhD schools and the PhD network will be part of that development.</p> <p><u>Strengthening institutional capacity in the area of research dissemination at South within the areas of Stability, democracy and Rights</u></p> <p>The planned workshops on Writing and Publication have been developed to strengthen the capacity to produce academic at partnership universities.</p> <p><u>Workshop to prepare activity plan for 2013-15</u></p> <p>Workshops to prepare an activity plan for 2013-15 were held at each of the partner universities. The workshops facilitated common understanding and ownership of the activities.</p> <p><u>Project coordination</u></p> <p>Platform activities have been effectively and efficiently managed and coordinated. Collaboration between all the involved partners (coordinators, chairmen etc.) has worked well. A lot of work has also been done in terms of developing formats and procedures as well as streamlining and cost-optimizing the project.</p> <p><u>The following additional activities were implemented</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two events were held to strengthen the financial management capacity of the South partners: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Representatives from the universities of Gulu University and Maseno and the Platform Secretariat participated in a Financial Management Workshop in Tanzania, February 2012. Participants came from East African partner universities across the four Platforms.</li> <li>2) A Financial Management Workshop at Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, with representatives from participating campuses, centers and central Tribhuvan University.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>
b	Describe the progress made in reaching the outputs/results	See under a)
c	Describe the progress in terms of institutional and research capacity building	<p>Overall, there has been good progress in terms of institutional and research capacity building, as documented by the positive feedback from all three partner universities. For example, it was mentioned that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At Gulu University at least 60% of the academic staff have benefitted from the project through training courses, scholarships or research grants.</li> <li>At Tribhuvan University the project has given faculties from the two campuses outside Kathmandu a rare opportunity for staff development with international exposure.</li> </ul>
d	Describe the status of the project management and partnership	<p>The partnership between the various participating institutions has been successful and the management structure has been workable. In the beginning there was some confusion regarding the roles and responsibilities of the various partners, but this has been resolved.</p> <p>Feedback from TU indicates that the BSU project has also brought the various campuses at TU closer together by providing opportunities for collaboration.</p>

e	Describe the progress made of the communication activities during the year	Some progress was made in terms of communication e.g. newsletters have been circulated. However, communication is acknowledged as an area, where there is more work to be done. Fortunately, BSU was awarded a communication grant in 2013 for that purpose.
<b>7</b>	<b>Substantive Changes</b>	
	Have any of the responsible persons been changed? If so, please list the changes, the actions taken and consequences.	<b>Kenya:</b> A member of the PSC, Dr. Christine Ombaka resigned from the university and was replaced by Dr. Carren Nyangara, the Director of the Gender Institute. An additional member, Dr. Florence Indede, Chairperson of the Department of Kiswahili & Other African Languages has joined the PSC. The aim is to enrich and further strengthen the work of the PSC.
	List any new factors possibly affecting the achievement of the objectives in the future and describe how the project will address them.	The incentive structure in the project remains a factor negatively affecting the achievement of the objectives. To ensure participation of staff at the partner universities, especially in the working groups, it is important that compensation is provided for. The matter was discussed at length at the phase II planning meeting and a budget line provided for it.  At TU there has been varied capacity and interest in the participation of the different activities. It has been suggested to develop tailor-made support programmes for the involved facilities to support learning and participation.  Office space for BSU activities has been a problem at Gulu University; a temporary structure will be provided.
<b>8</b>	<b>Statements and Permits</b>	
	<b>Affirm that the required research permits, approvals and authorizations</b> were in place before the start of the activities. List any new approvals/ authorizations obtained during the year and explain the status for any documents still not obtained.	All SDR partner universities have permission to carry out research. However, Gulu University has had a challenge regarding clearance of small scale research projects. The Institutional Review Committee (IRC) under the National Council for Science and technology is responsible for clearance, which has been a time-consuming process.
<b>9</b>	<b>Lessons learnt</b>	
	<b>Describe lessons learnt</b> , including positive experiences or solutions of interest for other projects.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It takes time to build up partnerships and develop the required trust and common understanding. As a result, the implementation of activities has been slower than expected; however, implementation is gradually gaining pace as the partnerships are developing. Face-to-face contact is important.</li> <li>• A strong efficient and effective ICT infrastructure is essential for effective implementation of activities</li> <li>• It is important to integrate BSU activities into existing activities at partner universities, such as examinations, seminars and public lectures. In this way, the partner universities will assume more responsibility of BSU activities.</li> <li>• Access to research information, e.g. electronic resources, will strengthen research capacity in addition to training.</li> <li>• The thematic focus on issues of stability, democracy and rights still remain highly relevant to the partner universities</li> <li>• With the granting of charters to more universities, capacity at PhD level still needs to be enhanced.</li> </ul>

**Attachments:**

1. List of publications, proceedings etc. produced by the project during the year, with possible links.
2. Overview of the progress of the PhD educations within the project

The Project Coordinator and the institution herewith confirm that the information given in the annual report is correct:

**Date:**

**Printed name:**

(Project coordinator)

**Signature:**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Printed name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Head of Institution/Chairperson of Steering Committee)