

Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking

Project document

Project title

Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking

Project period

1 January 2013 – 31 December 2015

Budget

South	DKK 2.591.125
North	<u>DKK 2.158.876</u>
Total budget	DKK 4.750.001

Project holder

Aarhus University, Department of Culture and Society (CAS)

Project Director: Jens Seeberg, jseeberg@cas.au.dk

Project Coordinator/contact person: Martin Damgaard Larsen, etnmdl@hum.au.dk

South partners

- Maseno University (MSU), Kenya
- Gulu University (GU), Uganda
- Tribhuvan University (TU), Nepal

Partners in Denmark

Three Danish Universities (DU) will participate in the project in a consortium: Aalborg University, Roskilde University and Aarhus University (project holder).

Appendices

Annex 1: Total budget and activity plan.

Background

This project was originally conceptualized as part of the Building Stronger Universities (BSU) project under Universities Denmark within a larger budget frame of DKK 19M, and was intended to be administered through Platform on Stability, Democracy and Rights (PSDR) under this project. With the reorganization of BSU as decided by Danida in 2013, all BSU platforms will be phased out by 31 December 2013, and the present project is reconceptualised as an independent grant outside BSU Phase II. This document describes the revised framework for the part of the project originally managed by PSDR.

Objectives

Overall objective

- South partner universities strengthened in knowledge sharing, research dissemination and communication.

Immediate objectives

- South partner universities' institutional capacity in knowledge sharing, research dissemination and communication strengthened
- South partner universities' institutional capacity in e-learning strengthened
- South partner universities' institutional capacity in Problem-Based Learning (PBL) strengthened.

Rationale

“Knowledge sharing, dissemination and communication is the key focal area for the activities under this specific grant. All south partner institutions have expressed interest in building and strengthening their capacities in this field. There is a growing understanding that the universities have an obligation to the wider society to strengthen their communication and dissemination of research findings, thus contributing to develop and implement solutions to prevailing challenges in today’s society. At the same time improved communication and dissemination will strengthen the universities’ networks to society and probably society’s willingness to prioritise funds to the university sector.” (cf. the application “Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking”, 7 November 2012).

A new project framework

The project will be conducted within the originally planned project period of three years, from 1 January 2013 to 31 December 2015, and must apply a agreed 45/55 distributions of funds to north and south partners, respectively (cf. Danida grant letter, 104.Dan.8.L.2600).

The application budget is DKK 4.75M, and the activities that were originally planned among the PSDR partners will be maintained, with a few necessary modifications as described below. The project is implemented in accordance with the rules and regulations laid out by the Danida Fellowship Centre for Building Stronger Universities Phase 1.

- I. From 1 January 2014 Aarhus University will be project holder in a consortium with Aalborg University, Roskilde University, Maseno University, Gulu University and Tribhuvan University.
- II. In North a steering committee and a project coordinator will be appointed. Working groups may be established as necessary for the implementation of activities. Each South partner University will appoint a local working group and a focal point. Each partner university must appoint one person with overall project responsibility for management of funds and timely implementation of activities and submission of all necessary project documentation (c.f. DFC rules) to the project coordinator in Denmark.
- III. A Memory of Understandings (MoU) and a Letter of Agreement (LoA) will be signed by Aarhus University and Maseno University, Gulu University, and Tribhuvan University, respectively.
- IV. Except for Gulu University, where this project can be embedded in the BSU II set-up, the original application budget has been moderated to allocate funding for project coordination in North and South.
- V. The originally agreed activity plan (Annex 1) will be effectuated – with minor changes in regards to available funds for some activities, cf. item 4 above.

Project components

The three original project components will be executed in the modified project. It is expected that E-learning and PBL will be combined.

1. Knowledge sharing, Research Dissemination and Communication
2. E-Learning
3. Problem Based Learning (PBL)

Main activities and outputs

The specific project activities proposed in each country/institution address national and institutional needs and are in accordance with national strategies and priorities. An attempt will be made to coordinate the project with other relevant projects at the participating institutions to maximize synergies and avoid undue duplication.

For an overview of outputs and activities see page below.

	Outputs	Activity no.	Activity	Indicators
1	KNOWLEDGE SHARING, RESEARCH DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION			
1.1	Stability, Democracy and Right (SDR) themes Research Networks within and across the partner universities established	1.1.1	Thematic knowledge sharing conference - MSU, Kenya	# participants # women participants (min. 30%) # papers
		1.1.2	Development of research applications / joint proposal workshops	# Proposals submitted for funding
1.2	Capacity to produce academic publications and outreach materials enhanced	1.2.1	Academic article writing	# participants # women participants (min. 30%) # papers
1.3	SDR themes research disseminated to relevant stakeholders and policy makers	1.3.1	Thematic dissemination workshop	# participants # women participants (min. 30%) # presentations
1.4	SDR themes disseminated through various outreach activities	1.4.1	Research dissemination through radio programmes	# radio programmes sent
		1.4.2	Specific outreach activities conducted to disseminate SDR research activities at community and policy levels	# participants
2	E-LEARNING			
2.1	A comprehensive needs assessment of e-learning capacities at south partner universities implemented and strategies developed	2.1.1	Map e-Learning resources and establish e-Learning Task Force	# of resource persons
		2.1.2	Assess specific technical	Recommendations

			Institutional needs at GU (in continuation of 2.1.3)	# women participants (min. 30%) # presentations
		2.1.4	Develop E-learning strategy (GU) (together with 2.1.4, and in continuation of 2.1.2)	Strategy
2.2	Technical capacity and infrastructure enhanced	2.2.1	Limited support to IT infrastructure	Bandwith increase Stable power supply # training PCs
2.3	Awareness raised and staff of south partner universities trained in e-learning techniques and pedagogies	2.3.1	Develop E-Learning training programme on e-Learning pedagogy, conducted at MSU	# participants # women participants (min. 30%) # presentations
2.4	Selected MSc and PhD courses at the south partner universities redesigned to e-learning and pilot tested	2.4.1	Develop e-Learning pilot projects within SDR themes	# participants # women participants (min. 30%) # of E-learning and face-to-face sessions
2.5	E-Learning experiences shared and evaluated	2.5.1	Pilot project evaluation workshop/e-workshop	# participants interviewed # materials assessed # teaching quality assessed
3	PROBLEM BASED LEARNING (PBL)			
3.1	PBL experiences and competencies at south partner universities mapped and analysed	3.1.1	Exploratory workshop on PBL (why and how) (with activity 3.2.1)	# participants # women participants (min. 30%) # presentations
3.2	Awareness raised and staff of south partner universities trained in PBL principles and methods	3.2.1	Develop PBL based (potentially online) pilot projects within thematic research themes (with activity 3.1.1)	# participants # women participants (min. 30%) # of PBL-based teaching programmes conducted
3.3	PBL experiences shared and evaluated	3.3.1	Pilot project evaluation workshops	# participants interviewed # materials assessed # teaching quality assessed

Risks and assumptions

Political and social stability is an issue in countries with high economic inequality and this impacts on universities in various ways and to varying degrees across the three south partner countries and institutions. This project has fragile states as a thematic priority and it has therefore been important to include fragile states among its partner countries in spite of the added difficulties that this necessarily implies.

General assumptions for the successful implementation of the proposed activities:

- University policies/senior management at south partner universities remain favourable and committed towards research dissemination and communication, e-learning and Problem-Based Learning
- Senior university management and university policies, including reward and incentive schemes, at partner universities in Denmark and in the south are supportive towards the proposed activities
- Interest of key persons to organize and initiate activities within the proposed areas is sustained
- Efficient and effective collaboration and coordination among platform partners and between platforms is maintained
- It is assumed that no major, long-lasting strikes or similar mass action among students or staff at partner universities will render project implementation impossible.

Budget overview

Actual activity budget	DU	MSU	TU	GU	Total
Knowledge sharing research dissemination and communication	392,338	452,500	320,000	275,000	1,439,838
E-Learning	726,725	250,000	540,000	243,037	1,759,762
Problem-Based Learning (PBL)	440,000	90,000	80,000	70,000	680,000
Coordination	240,000	22,500	22,500	-	285,000
Total	1,799,063	815,000	962,500	588,037	4,164,600
Audit	-	30,000	30,000	-	60,000
Administration fee	359,813	57,050	67,375	41,163	525,400
Grand total	2,158,876	902,050	1,059,875	629,200	4,750,001

See annex 1 for total budget.

Annex 1: total budget and activity plan, 2013-2015 (Project: Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking)

SN		Activity no.	Activity	Head	DK	MSU	TU	GU	Total	
1	KNOWLEDGE SHARING, RESEARCH DISSEMINATION AND COMMUNICATION									
1.1	Stability, Democracy and Right (SDR) themes Research Networks within and across the partner universities established	1.1.1	thematic knowledge sharing conference - Kenya	Compensation	-	15,000	10,000	-	25,000	
Travel & accommodation				200,000	22,500	150,000	50,000	422,500		
Materials and local expenses				-	15,000	-	-	15,000		
Venue				-	20,000	-	-	20,000		
Total				200,000	72,500	160,000	50,000	482,500		
1.1.2		Development of research applications / joint proposal workshops	Compensation	-	-	-	-	-	-	
			Travel & accommodation	62,338	240,000	80,000	80,000	462,338		
			Materials and local expenses	-	-	-	-	-		
			Venue	50,000	-	-	-	50,000		
			Total	112,338	240,000	80,000	80,000	512,338		
Subtotal output 1.1					312,338	312,500	240,000	130,000	994,838	
1.2	Capacity to produce academic publications and outreach materials enhanced	1.2.1	Academic article writing	Compensation	60,000	-	5,000	-	65,000	
Travel & accommodation				20,000	-	-	10,000	30,000		
Materials and local expenses				-	-	10,000	5,000	15,000		
Total				80,000	-	15,000	15,000	110,000		
Subtotal output 1.2					80,000	-	15,000	15,000	110,000	
1.3	SDR themes research disseminated to relevant stakeholders and policy makers	1.3.1	thematic dissemination workshop	Compensation	-	10,000	-	10,000	20,000	
Travel & accommodation				-	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000		
Materials and local expenses				-	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000		
Venue				-	20,000	10,000	20,000	50,000		
Publication				-	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000		
Subtotal output 1.3						60,000	40,000	60,000	160,000	
1.4	SDR themes disseminated through various outreach activities	1.4.1	Research dissemination through radio programmes	Broadcast	-	-	-	20,000	20,000	
1.4.2		Specific outreach activities conducted to disseminate SDR research activities at community and policy levels	Lump sum	-	80,000	25,000	50,000	155,000		
Subtotal output 1.4					-	80,000	25,000	70,000	175,000	
Sub total - Knowledge sharing, Research dissemination and Communication					392,338	452,500	320,000	275,000	1,439,838	
2	E-LEARNING									
2.1	A comprehensive needs assessment of e-learning capacities at south partner universities implemented and strategies developed	2.1.1	Map e-Learning resources and establish BSU e-Learning Task Force	Compensation	15,000	-	-	-	15,000	
Total				15,000	-	-	-	15,000		
2.1.2		Assess specific technical Institutional needs at GU (in continuation of 2.1.3)	Compensation	-	20,000	-	-	20,000		
			Travel & accommodation	-	10,000	-	-	10,000		
			Total	-	30,000	-	-	30,000		
2.1.3		E-Learning experience Sharing workshop at Maseno (S-S-N)	Compensation	60,000	20,000	-	-	80,000		
			Travel & accommodation	101,725	10,000	105,000	53,037	269,762		
			Materials and local expenses	-	20,000	-	-	20,000		
			Venue	-	15,000	-	-	15,000		
Total		161,725	65,000	105,000	53,037	384,762				
2.1.4	Develop E-learning strategy (Gulu)	Compensation	30,000	20,000	-	-	50,000			

Annex 1: total budget and activity plan, 2013-2015 (Project: Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking)

			(together with 2.1.4, and in continuation of 2.1.2)	Travel & accommodation	-	15,000			15,000
				Materials and local expenses	-	-	-	10,000	10,000
			Total		30,000	35,000	-	10,000	75,000
	Subtotal output 2.1				206,725	130,000	105,000	63,037	504,762
2.2	Technical capacity and infrastructure enhanced	2.2.1	Limited support to IT infrastructure	Basic infrastructure	-	-	300,000	80,000	380,000
			Total		-	-	300,000	80,000	380,000
	Subtotal output 2.2				-	-	300,000	80,000	380,000
2.3	Awareness raised and staff of south partner universities trained in e-learning techniques and pedagogies	2.3.1	Develop E-Learning training programme on e-Learning pedagogy, conducted at MSU	Compensation	120,000	40,000	-	-	160,000
				Travel & accommodation	80,000	30,000	75,000	25,000	210,000
				Venue	-	-	-	-	-
			Total		200,000	70,000	75,000	25,000	370,000
	Subtotal output 2.3				200,000	70,000	75,000	25,000	370,000
2.4	Selected MSc and PhD courses at the south partner universities redesigned to e-learning and pilot tested	2.4.1	Develop e-Learning pilot projects within SDR themes	Compensation	120,000	20,000	-	-	140,000
				Travel & accommodation	80,000	10,000	20,000	80,000	190,000
				Materials and local expenses	-	10,000	20,000	-	30,000
			Total		200,000	40,000	40,000	75,000	355,000
	Subtotal output 2.4				200,000	40,000	40,000	75,000	355,000
2.5	E-Learning experiences shared and evaluated	2.5.1	Pilot project evaluation workshop/e-workshop	Compensation	60,000	10,000	-	-	70,000
				Travel & accommodation	60,000	-	10,000	-	70,000
				Venue	-	-	10,000	-	10,000
			Total		120,000	10,000	20,000	-	150,000
	Subtotal output 2.5				120,000	10,000	20,000	-	150,000
	Sub total e-Learning				726,725	250,000	540,000	243,037	1,759,762
3	PROBLEM BASED LEARNING (PBL)								
3.1	PBL experiences and competencies at south partner universities mapped and analysed	3.1.1	Exploratory workshop on PBL (why and how) (with activity 3.2.1)	Compensation	-	10,000	-	-	10,000
				Travel & accommodation	-	10,000	10,000	-	20,000
				Venue	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
			Total		-	30,000	20,000	10,000	60,000
	Subtotal output 3.1				-	30,000	20,000	10,000	60,000
3.2	Awareness raised and staff of south partner universities trained in PBL principles and methods	3.2.1	Develop PBL based (potentially online) pilot projects within themes (with activity 3.1.1)	Compensation	180,000	20,000	20,000	20,000	240,000
				Travel & accommodation	120,000	-	-	-	120,000
				Materials and local expenses	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
			Total		300,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	390,000
	Subtotal output 3.2				300,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	390,000
3.3	PBL experiences shared and evaluated	3.3.1	Pilot project evaluation workshops	Compensation	60,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	90,000
				Travel & accommodation	80,000	10,000	10,000	10,000	110,000
				Venue	-	10,000	10,000	10,000	30,000
			Total		140,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	230,000
	Subtotal output 3.3				140,000	30,000	30,000	30,000	230,000
	Sub total Problem Based Learning				440,000	90,000	80,000	70,000	680,000

Annex 1: total budget and activity plan, 2013-2015 (Project: *Capacity Building within Research Communication, Dissemination and Networking*)

	Coordination				240,000	22,500	22,500	-	285,000
	Total				1,799,063	815,000	962,500	588,037	4,164,600
	Audit				-	30,000	30,000	-	60,000
	Total excl. administrative fee				1,799,063	845,000	992,500	588,037	4,224,600
	Administrative fee - North (20%)				359,813	-	-	-	359,813
	Administrative fee - South (7%)				-	57,050	67,375	41,163	165,588
	GRAND TOTAL				2,158,876	902,050	1,059,875	629,200	4,750,001