



Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference

Venue: Kenyatta International Conventional Centre (KICC)
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Session Name: Converging the power of investment in Higher Education to transform Africa

Date: Wednesday, 24th October, 2018

Time: 10:30 – 13:00

Room: Aberdares

Venue: Kenyatta International Conventional Centre (KICC) - Nairobi, Kenya

Background

Achieving prosperous Africa based on inclusive and sustainable growth and development driven by Science, Technology and Innovation as aspired in the African Union Agenda 2063 requires achieving a critical mass of well-educated citizens with requisite skills to revolutionise production and delivery of goods and services. Africa faces a critical shortage of these high level skills and the impact being reflected on the low scientific research and innovation outputs from the continent. According to the UNESCO Science Report of 2015, by 2014, Sub Saharan Africa (SSA) contributed only 1% of global researchers, had between 50,000 to 80,000 researchers, which was between 70 to 90 researchers per million inhabitants (0.009% of its population). The Report farther notes that by 2014, SSA had only 233 patents recorded with United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), a mere 0.1% of the global registered patents and only 1.5% of the patents from South Korea alone. The African Capacity Building Foundation in its assessment of the capacities required for the implementation of Agenda 2063, showed that Africa may be short of 4.3 million engineers and 1.6 million agricultural scientists and researchers (ACBF, 2017). These figures present a worrying state for Africa, especially in the wake of Africa's political leadership's commitment through its aspirations in Agenda 2063 of achieving a prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development driven by its own people, women and youth inclusive.

Higher education institutions especially at post graduate level will play critical role in training the required critical mass of human resources required to deploy STI. African higher education institutions, however, face challenges of financing training and research in higher education institutions. While strides have been made by African Governments to finance undergraduate training, post graduate training with great potential is largely funded by development partners, yet has great potential to yield requisite skills and innovations for economic transformation. While this is so for most African countries, a few African countries have developed financing models, deliberately invested in higher education especially at graduate level and have reaped benefits in





terms of economic transformation. Models such as students' loans, local public-private partnerships, cost shared funding with development partners as a models of sustaining quality higher education especially at graduate level training. For aggregated economic impact from higher education at continental level, sustainable funding models and their impact on the economies at national level should be widely disseminated across the continent and countries adapt them to suit local conditions. In addition, a collective continental level mechanism owned by African Governments on successfully financing education at graduate level needs to be developed to share the scarce human and financial resources that are scattered across the continent. For success and sustainability, a coordination mechanism for this continental initiative should be proposed to ensure that commitments made are met, success stories, challenges, are shared and mechanisms for addressing such challenges collectively developed and deployed for sustainability.

Session Aim:

The aim of this session is to provide a platform for policy makers and experts in African higher education to share successful higher education financing models and their returns in the countries where they were implemented for the rest of Africa to learn from. The session will propose a mechanism for converging, at continental level, higher education financing mechanisms for maximum returns for the African continent including its coordination and monitoring for success and sustainability.

Specifically, the session will provide a platform for;

- Sharing experiences on models for financing/investment in higher education and evidence on returns, challenges and opportunities
- Proposition for national level financing models that the African countries can adopt and adapt
- Propose a mechanism for converging investment in higher education at continental level with specifics on coordination, monitoring and sustainability

Session contributions:

Moderator: Nancy Kachungira, BBC World Service

- Very briefly introduce the topic and the presenters (5 Minutes)
- Ensure that speakers keep to their allocated time of 10 minutes
- Facilitate audience participation during the discussion session and ensure short questions for presenters rather than long statements (15 Minutes)
- Provide an opportunity for all presenters to participate in answering questions
- Direct questions to a particular presenter rather than allowing each one to answer each question, unless a question has been addressed to a specific presenter
- Present a brief summary of salient points at the end of the discussion and close the session





Lead Speaker:

Prof. Tolly Mbwette, former President, Pan African University

- Provide an overview of the role of higher education in national development and why national Governments should invest in higher education
- Provide a continental synopsis of successful financing models of higher education and returns to investments

Panellists, Topics & Confirmation status:

1. **Hon. Dr. Mathew Opoku Prempeh, Minister of Education, Ghana.** The contribution of higher education to Ghana's current economic status. Investments models and returns
2. **Prof. Nkandu Luo, Minister of Higher Education, Zambia** – Securing commitment and overcoming challenges to increase national Government investment in higher education
3. **Hon. Prof Joyce Ndalichako, Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Tanzania.** Balancing the need for higher education and declining budget allocation due to competing priorities
4. **Mr. Henry Rotich, Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Kenya.** Financing a rapidly expanding higher education sector. Experiences from Kenya
5. **Prof. Amadou Tidiane Guiro, Université du Sine Saloum El Hadj Ibrahima Niass (USSEIN), Senegal.** Investing in emerging higher education institutions: models for success and sustainability

Discussions: (*Q&A with the audience*)

Rapporteur: (*Mr. Emmanuel Okalany*)

Mode of session contributions:

- You will be seated at the front of the room. A power point presentation is not preferred
- You will discuss and provide your perspectives as regards to the theme of the session (10 minutes)
- Keep your answers to the questions from the audience short to the point





Proposed session line up: (*This is your mini-session program. Please break down the time into detail*)

Time	Activity
10.30 - 10.35:	Ms. Nancy Kachungira - Moderator introduces the session
10:35 - 10:50	Lead speaker - Prof. Tolly Mbwette , former President, Pan African University
10:50 - 11:00	Hon. Dr. Mathew Opoku Prempeh , Minister of Education, Ghana. The contribution of higher education to Ghana's current economic status. Investments models and returns
11:00 - 11:10	Prof. Nkandu Luo , Minister of Higher Education, Zambia – Securing commitment and overcoming challenges to increase national Government investment in higher education
11:10 - 11:20	Hon. Prof Joyce Ndalichako , Minister of Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training, Tanzania. Balancing the need for higher education and declining budget allocation due to competing priorities
11:20 - 11:30	Mr. Henry Rotich , Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Kenya. Financing a rapidly expanding higher education sector. Experiences from Kenya
11:30 – 11:40	Prof. Amadou Tidiane Guiro , Université du Sine Saloum El Hadj Ibrahima Niass (USSEIN), Senegal. Investing in emerging higher education institutions: models for success and sustainability
11:40 – 12:00	Plenary discussions of the presented cases distil those which could be scaled out to the wider continent
12:00 - 12:20	Plenary discussions of a joint mechanism for investment in higher education in Africa including coordination, monitoring and sustainability
12:20 – 12:40	Take away messages and closure

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Expected take away messages: (*What you expect out of the discussion*)

