

BSU Newsletter

An extra 19 million DKK earmarked for the BSU platforms

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has informed Universities Denmark that an extra 19 million DKK has been earmarked for the four BSU platforms for the period 2012-14. The funds come on top of the already approved 60 million DKK for 2011-13 and shall support activities especially within communication and dissemination of research findings at the partner universities in the developing countries.

The detailed conditions and procedures for the administration of the extra funds will soon be decided.

Joint Financial Management Workshop for all partners in East Africa held in Moshi, Tanzania



Participants from Kenya, Tanzania and Denmark at group work

The Building Stronger Universities (BSU) initiative has held its first joint platform activity with participants from all seven partner institutions in East Africa.

Originally, the Danish secretariat for the Human Health platform had planned a Financial Management Workshop for its own four partner institutions in Zanzibar and

mainland Tanzania. However, an invitation to include all seven BSU partners in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda was soon accepted by the three other platforms.

Hence, on 1-3 February 2012 a group of 19 project coordinators and administrators from East African universities and research institutions and five participants from the Danish Universities met in Moshi, Tanzania, for the workshop 'Financial Management – a Practical Approach'.

At the workshop the participants were trained in the tools and procedures for financial management, including the special requirements for reporting on grants provided by Danida. Besides, participants from each of the institutions were given the opportunity to briefly present how the project has been organized in their institutions. At the end of the workshop it was a joint assessment that with the training up front accounting and reporting had been made easier.

The programme was planned and facilitated by Dorte Holler Johansen, Project Administrator at the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences, University of Copenhagen. Christian Gregart from the Faculty of Science, University of Copenhagen, was the main presenter. Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre, a partner of the Human Health platform, assisted with the practical arrangements.

The participation in the workshop's group work and discussions was engaged and active. Besides the strict objective of increased skills in financial management and reporting, the participants appreciated the opportunity to meet and discuss with colleagues from other institutions. Thus the workshop established new contacts that will contribute to enhanced networking and collaboration between institutions, both within and outside the context of BSU.

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