



in Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities
(BBAW – Markgrafenstraße 38, 10117 Berlin)

AGENDA

Day 1 – March 20, 2017

How higher education and science can contribute to the achievement of all the SDGs

Higher education and science are seen as drivers of transformation in all development areas. The higher education and scientific community is tasked with developing visions for more sustainable societies, exploring development pathways, supporting sustainable technological and social innovation, and empowering people to shape the transformation process.

The following questions emerging from these challenges will guide our reflections and discussions:

- What does sustainability mean for higher education and science and how can it be ensured?
- What kind of higher education do we need to train qualified and responsible decision-makers, experts and scientists?
- How can scientific research help to generate findings of relevance to the sustainable transformation of our society? How can we make better use of these findings?
- Which kind of partnerships and communication structures are key to this process? Who learns from whom and what do they learn? Between South and North, with stakeholders from politics, society and business, and from the development cooperation arena.
- How does the higher education and research sector need to proceed in order to fulfill these tasks? What good practices exist? What kind of resources and incentives are needed to support this development?

09:30 **Registration**

10:00-10:15 **Welcome and Opening remarks**

Roland Lindenthal, Head of Division, Education and the Digital World, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Barbara Unger and **Hinrich Mercker**, facilitators



10:15-11:00 Keynotes

Food for thought regarding the following questions:

What explicit and implicit roles does the 2030 Agenda attribute to higher education and science?

What is the current state of the art in debates and examples of 'transformative higher education and research' from a German, international and African perspective?

What kind of partnerships and alliances are essential to effective international and development cooperation in matters of global sustainability?

Prof. Dirk Messner, German Development Institute / Deutsches Institut für Entwicklungspolitik (DIE)

Response: **Prof. Heila Lotz-Sisitka**, Rhodes University, South Africa

11:00-11:30 Tea / coffee break

11:30-13:00 Thinking Labs (TL) – cycle one

TL 1) German-Arab-Master's Programmes (GAMP): South-North networks for joint learning and research in the development context

- What is the potential of intercultural study programmes for achieving sustainable cooperation between the universities involved and initiating change processes?
- What are the opportunities and challenges of cross-sectoral/interdisciplinary/ (supra-) regional approaches in teaching and research?
- How do we link theory with practice in order to contribute to sustainable development?

Werner Wasmuth, GIZ, **Andreas Böhler**, DAAD, **Prof. Mohamed A. Salheen**, Ain Shams University, **Franziska Laue**, University of Stuttgart

TL 2) New Partnerships for Innovation in Sustainable Development (NoPa): the connection between research support and development cooperation projects

- Can bilateral research actually contribute to local development needs?
- How do we promote sustainable and effective connections between the research community and development cooperation actors?
- How do we integrate research results into development initiatives for greater impact?

Ilona Daun, DAAD, **Christoph Buedke** and **Marcus Regis**, GIZ



TL 3) Bilateral graduate schools contributing to the development of transformative research approaches

Using the example of the SDG Graduate School 'Wits-TUB Urban Lab – Interdisciplinary Bilateral Postgraduate Studies Programme for sub-Saharan Africa (IBPSA)', we explore to what extent higher education institutions can contribute to the 2030 Agenda:

- How can a joint application-oriented research agenda be developed that supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda?
- How can external stakeholders from the spheres of politics, economy and society be involved to ensure social impact and sustainability?
- How do we integrate innovative methods of digital learning?

Lars Gerold, DAAD, Prof. Philipp Misselwitz, TU Berlin, Department of Architecture, Taki Sithagu, University of the Witwatersrand, School of Architecture and Planning, Aditya Kumar, Development Action Group (DAG)

TL 4) Labour market oriented higher education - cooperation between higher education institutions and the private sector

- Which strategies and instruments proved to be efficient to
 - o make higher education more responsive to labour market needs in developing and emerging market countries?
 - o enhance the employability of graduates in developing and emerging market countries?
 - o foster entrepreneurship in developing and emerging market countries?
 - o promote innovation and technology transfer?
- What promising strategies exist for establishing strategic and institutional cooperation between universities and enterprises in developing and emerging market countries?
- How can the German model of dual study programmes be adapted to the context of developing and emerging market countries?
- How can cooperation between the higher education and research sector and other development sectors (e.g. health, environment, food security) be strengthened to generate the necessary human capacities for reform endeavours and development agendas?

Dr. Karola Hahn, GIZ and Prof. Dr. Anton Mangstl; Prof. Jürgen Bode, University of Applied Sciences Bonn-Rhein-Sieg (H-BRS), Prof. Natheer Abu Obeid, German Jordanian University (GJU), Tobias Wolf, (DAAD)

13:00-14:30 Lunch and poster market

14:30-16:00 First impressions from the Thinking Labs (plenary discussion)

Thinking Labs – cycle two

16:00-16:15 Tea / coffee break



16:15-17:00 **Results from the Thinking Labs** – rapporteurs from Thinking Labs engage in discussion with representatives of organising organizations

Dr. Thomas Hesse, Deputy Secretary General, Alexander von Humboldt Foundation (AvH)

Stefan Bienefeld, Head of Division Development Cooperation and Transregional Programmes, DAAD

Carsten Schmitz-Hoffmann, Director, Economic and Social Development Division, Department of Sector and Global Programmes, GIZ

Bettina Tewinkel, Head of Division Southern Africa, Health, Education, Social Protection, KfW Development Bank

Closing of day 1 and look ahead to day 2

Barbara Unger and **Hinrich Mercker**, facilitators

17:00-18:00 **Guided tour of Gendarmenmarkt, Bebelplatz to the Humboldt University**

18:00 **Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Prof. Eva-Inés Oberfell, Vice-President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Susanne Neubert, Director Centre for Rural Development

Prof. Narciso Matos, Pro-Rector of the Polytechnic University of Mozambique and former Executive Director of the Foundation for Community Development

Reception at the Humboldt University (Senate Hall) and networking dinner (Unter den Linden 6, 10099 Berlin)



Day 2 - March 21, 2017

Higher education and science play an essential role in achieving SDG 4

As part of Sustainable Development Goal 4, the standards against which higher education will be measured are high: it should be universally accessible, affordable and of high quality. Furthermore, it should promote skills that are relevant for employment, decent work and entrepreneurship. More scholarships should be granted to least developed countries in particular. There is a need for well-qualified researchers, teachers and competent graduates to fill seminal positions – in the global South as well as the global North.

The following questions will guide our reflections and discussions:

- How can we ensure quality and relevance in higher education while at the same time expanding equal access and inclusion?
- How do we finance higher education systems facing the challenges of quality and broader access? What mix of financial instruments is appropriate (public and private, North and South)?
- How do we ensure that an increased number of scholarships for least developed countries have an impact on sustainable development?

08:30-09:30 **Joining in**

Barbara Unger and **Hinrich Mercker**

Keynote

The keynote will focus on reflections on how to translate relevant targets of SDG 4 into meaningful and feasible higher education strategies at governmental and institutional level. Based on experiences from Latin America, the speaker will particularly address strategies and challenges with regard to enhancing quality and relevance in higher education while at the same time increasing access and inclusion in the sector.

Prof. Dilvo Ristoff, until recently Ministry of Education, Brazil

Interview with **Dr. Beatrice Khamati Njenga**, Head Education Division, African Union Commission



09:30-11:15 **Open space session (OS)**

OS 1) Inclusion and equity

- Why is inclusion and diversity management important in higher education? How can diversity management and equity be safeguarded in tertiary education and the science sector? What does the current situation look like? What good practices exist and what lessons can be learned from the field?
- What inclusion and equity challenges do higher education institutions face as a result of digitisation?

Christoph Hansert and **Lena Leumer**, DAAD, **Dr. Liz Marr**, Open University, UK

OS 2) Financing higher education

- What are the characteristics of the current financial situation in higher education?
- How do higher education finance systems face the challenge of balancing quality and access?
- How do we enhance equity (e.g. through demand side financing, like stipends and student loans)?
- What experiences have been gained with different financial instruments (public/private/individual, national budget/international partners)? What are good practices?

Ulrich Jahn and **Dr. Detlef Hanne**, KfW

OS 3) Enhancing quality, governance and relevance – the role of higher education management

Using the example of projects in Africa and South East Asia, the following questions will be discussed:

- How can universities define and identify relevance in teaching and research? How can they anticipate future needs?
- What mechanisms can universities put in place to enable them to practice a culture of continuous responsiveness?
- How can universities collaborate with the labour market in curriculum development and QA processes to enhance the relevance of their degrees?
- How can internal mechanisms be implemented in universities which are conducive to increasing and assuring the quality of educational offerings?
- How can internal and external quality assurance mechanisms be combined efficiently?
- What role does higher education management play in these processes?

Stefan Bienefeld, DAAD, **Prof. Dr. Mike Kuria**, IUCEA, **Dr. Karola Hahn**, GIZ



OS 4) Scholarships within the 2030 Agenda

Expanding the number of scholarships for developing countries is a means of implementation for achieving SDG 4.

- What results can be expected from expanding the number of scholarships for developing countries? What kind of scholarship programmes are needed to support sustainable development in the long run? What are the main challenges for donors, implementing organizations and universities?
- Where does the brain drain debate currently stand with regard to scholarships (brain drain vs. brain gain, brain strain, brain circulation, etc.)? What successful strategies exist for supporting graduates and scientists who studied abroad and plan to return to their home countries or regions?
- How can we ensure that scholarships are reaching the best and not only the best connected? How can we improve outreach, selection and mentoring for students and scientists from disadvantaged backgrounds and LDCs?

Cay Etzold, DAAD, **Dr. Daniela Kneißl**, AvH, **Henner Kirchner**, GIZ, **Maren Kröger**, UNHCR, **Prof. Turoop Losenge**, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology

OS 5) What do we understand by interdisciplinarity?

Prof. Matthias Weiter, Humboldt University in Berlin, **Gilda Monjane**, Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy (MIREME)

OS 6) Transforming Higher Education in Africa

Prof. Phillip Clay, Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), **Piyushi Kotecha**, Southern African Regional Universities Association (SARUA), **Prof. Heila Lotz-Sisitka**, Rhodes University, South Africa

11:15-11:45 **Tea / coffee break**

11:45-12:15 **Gallery walk: insights into the open space session**

12:15-13:15 **Wrap-up of the expert meeting**

Impressions from an observer and final statements

Dr. Ingrid Jung, Senior Expert, Education for Sustainable Development

Fishbowl session

Farewell

Michael Holländer, Program Manager Sector Program Education, GIZ, on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

13:15 onwards **Lunch**