

THE BSU PLATFORM ON ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE – NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2011

LAUNCH OF INCEPTION PHASE

The inception phase (August 1-November 15, 2011) is already on the run!

Right now our chairman, Jørgen E. Olesen, is holding joint meetings together with Christian P. Hansen (the chairman of the Platform on Growth & Employment) as well as platform specific meetings at our four partner universities in Ghana and Tanzania.

The purpose of the visit is to finalise the discussion on the Memorandum of Understanding, agree on the final governance structure, with special emphasis on the platform working groups, and to agree on priorities for research area and activities. This will form bases for a more thorough needs assessment, the latter with reference to the recommendations by the International Panel of experts.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS BY DANISH PARTNERS FOR PARTICIPATION IN PLATFORM WORKING GROUPS

As the Platform working groups (WGs) are essential for the implementation of our activities, it is highly important to launch them as soon as possible, i.e. within the upcoming month.

With reference to our joint proposal (submitted April 29, 2011) the Platform WGs are to be established at each African university (see below for further information on working tasks). The WGs will consist of up to six members from each southern university and of up to three members from Denmark. The WGs will meet once annually. Between meetings members will communicate via the Internet (e.g. Skype) or by phone.

You are hereby invited to join a WG! Please send your application for participation to sla@dmu.dk – latest September 1, 2011.

In your e-mail please indicate the name of the African universities (UoG, KNUST, UDSM, SUA) of interest and attach a short note on your reason for interest for participating in the WG at the specific partner university. Danish partners already having on-going activities and a well-established collaboration with UoG, KNUST, UDSM or SUA, respectively, are strongly encouraged to participate. Unfortunately, the Platform is not in a position to cover salaries, but to a limited extent travel expenses.

We envisage that participation in a platform WG will provide excellent opportunities for extending collaboration with the south universities and we therefore encourage your engagement in this. Looking forward to receiving your applications for participation! 😊

PLATFORM WORKING GROUP

A Platform Working Group will be established at each African university to ensure the implementation of the activity plan and to:

- Identify topics for research networking;
- Plan and initiate research courses carried out under the platform;
- Review applications and qualifications of candidates for PhD scholarships and for short-term scientific missions;
- Discuss north-south and south-south collaboration and review proposals for collaboration;
- Discuss initiatives to enhance research productivity and quality within the Environment and Climate Platform;
- Discuss initiatives to enhance interdisciplinarity in education and research within the platform areas;
- Review progress of the platform and discuss the annual progress report;
- Prepare plans for the subsequent phase of the platform

Best regards,

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