



SYNERGY IN DEVELOPMENT 2007

A Decade of Higher Education Collaboration in Development



APPENDIX C: DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF EACH WORKSHOP SESSION

SYNERGY 2007 SESSIONS							
<i>Replicability, Scaling Up, Sustainability and Institutional Capacity Building</i>							
Type and # of Sessions	Africa	Asia & the Near East	Europe & Eurasia	Latin America & the Caribbean	Producing New Knowledge for Economic Growth: Projects in Science & Technology	Enhancing the Quality and Relevance of Higher Education	Building on the Impacts of Higher Education at the Local & Regional Levels
7 Roundtables	Participants discussed how higher education contributes to local and national development in sub-Saharan Africa and recommended ways in which partnership impact can be increased and sustained, e.g., targeting issues of strategic mutual interest, conducting applied research on immediate local needs, actively engaging the local community, establishing a cadre of trainers, and strengthening outreach efforts.	Participants discussed how to make colleges and universities more responsive to workforce needs and how to get industry to invest more in higher education. They cited activities such as: faculty visiting with industry representatives to determine overlapping interests and benefits and private sector-assisted study tours of industry for U.S. and host country students and faculty.	Participants discussed how to ensure sustainability, with suggestions including: clearly defining activities and expected results based on the needs of the participants and beneficiaries; increasing the diversity of partnership personnel, beneficiaries, and stakeholders; increasing the diversity of funding sources; and taking a multi-disciplinary and flexible approach to addressing development challenges.	Participants presented examples of sustaining and replicating partnership activities and building institutional capacity, including: establishing a summer institute to increase enrollment; adapting materials for use in nearby provinces/countries; sharing research; and utilizing train-the-trainer models.	Participants discussed ways sustainability has (or has not) been achieved in their partnership projects. Successful examples included the development of information technology training courses used to generate income through modest fees and the development of a marketing strategy for additional funding which also appeals to the business rather than only philanthropic interests of a company.	Participants discussed various keys to sustainability, including: engaging stakeholders on an early and regular basis to jointly address challenges; ensuring outreach efforts are relevant to local community needs; developing a realistic strategic plan to attract future funding; and joint teaching and research on topics/issues relevant to local community needs.	Participants discussed various ways in which working with other partners have helped university partnerships increase their impact on a local and regional level. Examples included: using a cost-effective sandwich model to deliver long-term training and successfully leveraging HED seed monies to replicate efforts beyond the original host community.

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SYNERGY 2007 SESSIONS <i>Replicability, Scaling Up, Sustainability and Institutional Capacity Building</i>						
Type and # of Sessions	Opening Plenary	The Role of Universities in Developing Human Capital	How do we Measure Institutional Capacity Building ?	What do we Mean by Sustainability?	A Regional Model for Leadership Training for Health in Africa	Higher Educational Reform in the Middle East
5 Presentations 2 Plenaries	<p>The two presenters talked about: technology, human resources, and institutional capacity building as being “drivers of change” in international development; the importance of long-term training for sustainable impact and the need to make it an integral part of USAID’s development agenda; the need to expand higher education’s engagement in international development; and the need to increase USAID’s support for higher education’s development activities.</p>	<p>Participants discussed how their projects are increasing human capital by employing train-the-trainer programs, improving academic leadership, developing new academic degree programs, and increasing outreach to local communities. Some keys to developing human capital included having a clear understanding of roles, undertaking follow-up activities, and engaging in strategic planning.</p>	<p>Participants discussed ways to identify and build institutional capacity, including: revising old and developing new curricula and programs, transferring technology, gaining accreditation, diversifying funding sources, developing fundraising policy and procedures, establishing a community advisory board, implementing quality control, and developing leadership capacity, especially among women and minorities.</p>	<p>Participants discussed various keys to sustainability, including: ascertaining and adapting to institutional priorities; developing multi-stranded relationships with the local business community; building mutual understanding and trust through regular communication between the partners; and tapping the knowledge and resources of the local community.</p>	<p>Participants discussed how their partnership has expanded from a university-to-university model targeting Tanzania and Uganda to one that is building a regional alliance for public health leadership throughout Eastern Africa impacting numerous countries, including the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, and Sudan.</p>	<p>Participants discussed how their partnerships are contributing to human and institutional capacity building in 13 countries in the Middle East and North Africa, with a particular focus on sustainability and replicability. They provided examples such as utilizing train-the-trainer programs, long-term student exchange programs, expanding joint degree programs to other universities, and engaging additional stakeholders.</p>

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SYNERGY 2007 SESSIONS <i>Replicability, Scaling Up, Sustainability and Institutional Capacity Building</i>						
Type and # of Sessions	Public Sector Partners	Foundation and Corporate Representatives	Agriculture: Influencing Policy through University Partnerships	Health: The Role of University-Based Academic Centers in Health Interventions	Education: The Role of Community Colleges in Skills Development and Utilization	Environment: University-Based Research and Training for Environmental Protection
6 Discussions	Participants discussed their institutions' strategies to bolster higher education's impact on development. Examples included working to increase institutional capacity by investing in high quality curricula, faculty, information technology infrastructure, research, and community outreach. They also cited demand-side financing, low interest, long-term financing, and private sector engagement.	Participants discussed ways in which their organizations were collaborating with higher education institutions to bring about sustainable development. Their keys to long-term partnership success included: mutual understanding and respect, "customized" cross-sector engagement, workforce development specific to local needs, and market-driven agribusiness systems.	Participants discussed the important role that colleges and universities can play in development through agriculture-related activities addressing areas such as commercialization, small farmer livelihoods, cooperative business leadership development, policy reform and harmonization, and private sector involvement.	Participants discussed how their partnership projects have been able to increase their impact by replicating and scaling up their efforts. Examples included an initially modest general internal medicine program which has become one of the largest and most comprehensive HIV/AIDS programs in Africa; and the first-ever post-graduate medical training program (pediatrics) in Laos which has expanded into internal medicine, ob/gyn, family medicine, surgery, and anesthesia.	Participants discussed various keys to the usefulness and sustainability of their activities in the local communities, including: a common vision, realistic expectations of partners's resources, responsiveness to local community and workforce development needs, and mutual respect. Examples of achieving sustainability included the use of train-the-trainer models and the founding of an association of community colleges.	Participants discussed various actual and potential activities to sustain impact, including: the creation of local research centers to retain partnership data and collect additional data in the host country; on-going faculty exchanges for teaching, research, and outreach; open workshops, lectures, and seminars to expose the project to a wider audience, including potential funders; and engagement of local industry in research and training.

Total Number of sessions = 19