

INVITATION

LAUNCHING THE THEME ON HUMAN HEALTH

15 September 2010, 10:00 – 15:00

At the University of Copenhagen, Frue Plads 1, Brandes Auditorium, 1st floor in main building

BACKGROUND

Human Health is one of the four themes within Universities Denmark's initiative "Building Stronger Universities in Developing Countries". The ambition of the Theme on Human Health is to contribute to the strengthening of capacities on a consolidated and long-term basis to conduct better research at selected universities and other research institutions. It is expected that the Theme on Human Health will primarily concentrate its efforts in Ghana, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Mozambique, setting off in 2010 in Ghana and Tanzania. However, a final selection of partner countries will be coordinated with the three other Themes.

Research and post graduate education play a significant role in the development landscape of low-income countries, both in terms of building a knowledge society and as drivers of democratic awareness. Researchers from Danish universities have a long tradition of working directly in partnerships with universities and academic institutions particularly in Africa. This provides a solid base for development of joint collaboration on capacity development with South partners and potential for improved information sharing and collaboration in Denmark.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

- To introduce the aims of the "Building Stronger Universities in Developing Countries" initiative
- To discuss organisation and opportunities for collaboration within the Theme on Human Health
- To initiate country specific working groups, beginning with Ghana and Tanzania, to explore and assess the opportunities for joint collaboration, and to plan the way forward
- To introduce already established/proposed thematic working groups within the Theme on Human Health: Reproductive Health, Climate Change and Health, and Occupational Health and Safety. Proposals for other relevant topics to be introduced at the meeting can be communicated to the Secretariat in advance.

The meeting is open to everyone with an interest in the Building Stronger Universities initiative and in specific in research for health in low income countries. Please confirm your participation by e-mail to Björg Elvekjær belv@sund.ku.dk no later than 10 September 2010.

LAUNCHING THE THEME ON HUMAN HEALTH

15 September 2010

- 9:30 – 10:00 Registration, coffee and tea
- 10:00 – 10:10 Welcome and objectives of the day, by facilitator Carl Erik Schou Larsen, Senior Consultant at Ulandssekretariatet, Faculty of Life Sciences, University of Copenhagen
- 10:10 – 10:45 Presentation of the “Building Stronger Universities in Developing Countries” (BSU) initiative, by Christian Pilgaard Hansen, Project Manager BSU
- Background and visions
 - Institutional set-up
 - Brief presentation of the four Themes and linkages between them
 - BSU vis a vis other existing Danish research councils, networks, and centres
- 10:45 – 11:30 Presentation of the Theme on Human Health, by Flemming Konradsen, Chairperson of the Steering Committee, Theme on Human Health
- Defining the Theme on Human Health
 - Structure and organization; presentation of the Steering Committee
 - Proposed overall areas of activities
 - Financial frame
 - How to get involved: country specific and thematic working groups; ad hoc events; website
- 11:30 – 11:45 B R E A K
- 11:45 – 12:30 Comments, questions, debate, summing up
- 12:30 – 13:00 L U N C H
- 13:00 – 13:30 Presentation of country specific and thematic working groups, by Carl Erik Schou Larsen and resource persons
- 13:30 – 15:00 Join a working group
- Ghana
 - Tanzania
 - Climate Change and Health
 - Reproductive Health
 - Occupational Health and Safety