

DRUSSA

Development Research Uptake
in Sub-Saharan Africa



The Association
of Commonwealth
Universities



SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (DRUSSA) UNIVERSITIES' CAPACITY TO BE ENGAGED ACTORS IN RESEARCH FOR EVIDENCE-INFLUENCED DECISION- MAKING

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ORGANISATION SYSTEMS DESIGN
COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT CO-ORDINATOR
DRUSSA PROGRAMME**

UNIVERSITIES

Cameroon

University of Buea
Université de Yaoundé

Ghana

Kwame Nkrumah
University of Science
and Technology
University of Ghana

Nigeria

Obafemi Awolowo
University
University of Calabar
University of Ibadan

Ethiopia

Addis Ababa University

Kenya

Kenyatta University
Moi University
University of Nairobi

Mauritius

University of Mauritius

Rwanda

University of
Rwanda

Uganda

Mbarara University of
Science and Technology
Makerere University

Botswana

University of Botswana

South Africa

University of Limpopo
University of Fort Hare
University of Free State
Cape Peninsula
University of Technology

Zambia

University of Zambia

Zimbabwe

National University of
Science and Technology

‘RESEARCH UPTAKE’ RESEARCH FOR UPTAKE AND UTILISATION

- **DEVELOPMENTAL FOCUS**
 - **APPLIED RESEARCH**
- **INFLUENCING POLICIES AND PRACTICES**
 - **GROUNDED IN SCIENCE**
 - **EVIDENCE-BASED**
- **STAKEHOLDER FOCUS**
 - **SUPPLY AND DEMAND**
 - **COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**
- **MEETING UNIVERSITIES’ NEED TO BE ACTORS IN SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

PROGRAMME GOALS

- **FOCUSING ON STRENGTHENING CAPACITY OF UNIVERSITIES TO SERVE THEIR STAKEHOLDERS - UNIVERSITIES ARE KNOWLEDGE PRODUCERS AND CAN BE KNOWLEDGE INTERMEDIARIES**
- **ADDRESSING THE EXTERNAL CONTEXT - UNIVERSITIES' RELATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT WITH THEIR PUBLIC STAKEHOLDERS**
- **ADDRESSING THE INTERNAL CONTEXT - THE ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURES AND CULTURE THAT NEED TO BE ALIGNED**
- **PROVIDING INCENTIVES, TRAINING AND SUPPORT TO RESEARCHERS**
- **ADDRESSING THE DEMAND FOR EXPERTISE - SO THAT UNIVERSITY KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION AND KNOWLEDGE INTERMEDIATION IS BETTER APPRECIATED AND UTILISED**
- **CONNECTING KNOWLEDGE USERS AND PRODUCERS**

SYSTEMIC APPROACH TO STRENGTHENING CAPACITY



**INDIVIDUAL – RESEARCH UPTAKE
KNOWLEDGE SETS – ACADEMIC,
SHORT COURSES AND TRAINING**

**ORGANISATIONAL - RESEARCH
UPTAKE MANAGEMENT
INSTITUTIONALISED**

**SYSTEMIC - RESEARCH UPTAKE AND
UTILISATION –
AWARENESS, SUSTAINABILITY
PROFESSIONALISATION**

PROGRAMME

- **INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUILDING**
 - **PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**
 - **IN-SERVICE SHORT COURSES**
 - **COACHING FOR PRACTICAL KNOW-HOW**
- **INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING**
 - **ALIGNING CROSS-FUNCTIONAL RESEARCH AND COMMUNICATION FUNCTIONS**
 - **STRENGTHENING CAPACITY - CURRENT RESOURCES**
- **IMPROVING UNIVERSITIES' CAPACITY TO CONTRIBUTE RESEARCH EVIDENCE TO THEIR PUBLICS**

INSTITUTIONALISING STRATEGIC RESEARCH UPTAKE MANAGEMENT

- **INWARD FACING**

- OPERATIONALISING THE MISSION, VISION, STRATEGY AND POLICIES OF THE UNIVERSITY
- UTILISING INSTITUTIONAL RESOURCES TO ENABLE RESEARCH UPTAKE
- MANAGING THE INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH UPTAKE PORTFOLIO
- RECORDING AND EVALUATING THE RESEARCH UPTAKE PORTFOLIO
- PLANNING THE COMMUNICATION AND DISSEMINATION OF RESEARCH FOR UPTAKE BY STAKEHOLDERS

- **OUTWARD FACING**

- STRATEGIC PRESENTATION OF THE INSTITUTION'S RESEARCH UPTAKE PORTFOLIO

STAKEHOLDERS IN THE RESEARCH UPTAKE PORTFOLIO

- **INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS/**
 - **ACADEMIC PEER COMMUNITY**
 - **POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS**
 - **STUDENTS**
 - **MANAGERS AND ADMINISTRATORS**
 - **EXECUTIVE MANAGERS**
- **EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS**
 - **GOVERNMENT**
 - **FUNDERS**
 - **INDUSTRY**
 - **SMEs**
 - **COMMUNITIES**

UNIVERSITIES CONNECTING WITH THEIR PUBLICS, AUDIENCES AND RESEARCH USERS

- **‘THE PUBLIC’ IS NOT MONOLITHIC, THERE ARE ‘MANY PUBLICS’.**
 - **INTERESTED AND AFFECTED BY WHAT THE UNIVERSITY PRODUCES AND DEMANDING THAT UNIVERSITIES DO MORE WITH THEIR RESEARCH OUTPUT**
 - GOVERNMENT, NGOs, AGENCIES
 - FUNDERS
 - COMMUNITIES
 - BUSINESS AND INDUSTRY
 - ACADEMIC COMMUNITY (INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL)
 - **MAKING RESEARCH FINDINGS ACCESSIBLE AND ATTRACTIVE TO PUBLICS, AUDIENCES AND USERS**
 - “KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION”.KNOWLEDGE MOBILISATION”
‘KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE’ “TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER”

STRATEGIES TO INCORPORATE RESEARCH UPTAKE

- **CONTEXT**
 - **EXISTING POLICIES**
 - **ADAPTABLE, OR NOT**
 - **EXISTING INSTITUTIONAL CULTURES AND REGULATIONS**
 - **MANAGING CHANGE**
 - **EXISTING INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY**
 - **ALIGNMENT**
 - **COMPETENCIES**

RESEARCH UPTAKE DISCOURSE

RESEARCH UPTAKE INSTITUTIONAL PORTFOLIO

POLICIES AND STRATEGIES FOR RESEARCH UPTAKE MANAGEMENT

- **MAKING UNIVERSITY RESEARCH ACCESSIBLE**
 - OPEN ACCESS AND COPYRIGHT - CREATIVE COMMONS
 - LIBRARIES AND REPOSITORIES
 - WEBSITES
 - KNOWLEDGE TRANSFER MECHANISMS
- **MAKING UNIVERSITY RESEARCH VALUABLE**
 - INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OWNERSHIP, COPYRIGHT AND CONFIDENTIALITY
 - TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER CENTRES AND INCUBATORS

STRATEGIC RESEARCH UPTAKE MANAGEMENT

- **ALIGNED WITH THE INSTITUTION'S LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PROCESSES**
- **OPERATIONALISING THE INSTITUTIONAL MISSION VISION AND STRATEGIC PLAN**
 - **RESEARCH**
 - **ACADEMIC OUTPUTS**
 - **PUBLICATION COUNTS – TRANSLATING RESEARCH**
 - **RANKING - RELEVANCE**
- **SOCIETAL IMPACT**
 - **RESEARCH**
 - **TRANSLATION, DISSEMINATION**
 - **RESEARCH UPTAKE PORTFOLIO**