African Higher Education Leadership in Advancing Inclusive Innovation for Development / **AHEAD**

585919-EPP-1-2017-1-RO-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP

Directory of Innovation Hubs

established in AHEAD partner Universities in Africa

Work Package 5, Deliverable 5.1

Innovation Hub at
Makerere University, Uganda

www.ahead-project.net

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Introduction

Ten Universities from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda cooperating within the Erasmus+ project "African Higher Education Leadership in Advancing Inclusive Innovation for Development / AHEAD" (585919-EPP-1-2017-1-RO-EPPKA2-CBHE-JP) **established Innovation Hubs** – new structures that aim to provide physical working space, consultancy and support for stakeholder collaboration in research and innovation. The objectives of the Innovation Hubs include:

- managing stakeholder input into research agendas and the design and delivery of curricula;
- providing start-up and entrepreneurship support through consultancy or applied research (incl. for scaling of grassroots innovations and social entrepreneurship);
- organizing start-up competitions for students/alumni with a view to encouraging the creation and scaling of enterprises;
- organizing mentorship schemes;
- searching and establishing contacts with grassroots innovators and managing grassroots innovation initiatives and inclusive innovation projects;
- exploring the possibilities for transfer of technologies and university spin-offs, as well as other types of collaborations with research organizations and business;
- supporting consortium building and project development and implementation in the field of research and innovation with a view to attracting funding. Fundraising should focus on: funding by business for applied research, public funding through national research support funds, funding for cutting edge innovation supported by donors;
- organizing training in innovation management and inclusive innovation;
- implementing further reviews of institutional innovation capacity and propose improvements.

This document represents a directory of AHEAD Innovation Hubs created by the partner Universities in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda:

KENYA

- Kenyatta University
- Kibabii University
- The Catholic University of Eastern Africa
- Kisii University
- Mount Kenya University

TANZANIA

- Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology
- The State University of Zanzibar

UGANDA

- Makerere University
- Kyambogo University
- Lira University

AHEAD Innovation Hubs in Kenya

Kenyatta University

Name of the Hub:	***The Inclusive and Grassroot Innovation Hub***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is a subset of the Chandaria Business Innovation and Incubation Centre, within the Division of Research, Innovation and Outreach
Main activities:	▪ Training in Inclusive and Grassroots Innovation for both staff and students ▪ Facilitating stakeholder's engagement and networking to promote exploration of grassroot and inclusive innovation activities ▪ Collating stakeholders' (Internal and external) input to inform development of the hubs' thematic area ▪ Offering brainstorming space to facilitate idea formulation and improvement for incubation admission at the Innovation, incubation centre ▪ Providing mentorship and consultancy services for innovation ideas ▪ Networking and building collaborations around inclusive and grassroots innovation ▪ Promoting community engagement forums and support communication links with the aim of nurturing entrepreneurship and sustainable development ▪ Student start-up competition and pitching
Link:	http://research.ku.ac.ke/en/innovation/exploring-grassroot-innovation
Picture:	

Kibabii University

Name of the Hub:	***KIBU Innovation and Incubation Hub (KIBU Hub)***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is a section under the office of Directorate of Research, Consultancy and Extension in the Division of Planning, Partnerships, Research and Innovation
Main activities:	▪ Business Incubation and Mentorship ▪ Business Development and Training Programmes ▪ Business concept development and business plan writing ▪ Corporate Solution ▪ Work space and administrative support ▪ Peer to Peer / Network-based Support ▪ Talent Placement ▪ Co-working space ▪ Direct Consulting Services ▪ Sector Agnostic Consultancy (Big 4 National Agenda Priority Areas) ▪ Access to networks and partners ▪ Investor matchmaking ▪ Intellectual Property Management ▪ Venture Financing ▪ Legal and Contract-Related Matters ▪ Business Start-Up and Idea Generation ▪ University-Industry Linkage, Mentorship, Networks and Partnerships ▪ Commercialisation of Innovations
Link:	https://kibu.ac.ke/ahead-project/kibu-innovation-and-incubation-hub/
Picture:	

The Catholic University of Eastern Africa

Name of the Hub:	***CUEA-AHEAD Innovation Hub***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is a sub-structure within the existing Pope Paul VI Learning Resource Centre
Areas of activities:	▪ Networks and connections ▪ New technologies ▪ Technical and business talent ▪ Mentoring, including encouragement, experience, and accountability support ▪ Pathways to investment and customer revenue ▪ Community of like-minded individuals at different stages in their journey Furthermore, CUEA-AHEAD Innovation Hub is planned to become a leading Pastoral Innovation Hub for the Association of Member Episcopal Conferences in East Africa (AMECEA) region, Africa and the world in coordinating pastoral issues dealing with the big data.
Link:	https://www.cuea.edu/?page_id=7273
Pictures:	

Kisii University

Name of the Hub:	***Kisii University e-Hub***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is a separate unit in the university accessible to the School of Business and Economics as a key link and the Library. It is hosted at the Research and Extension resource room.
Main activities:	The activities of the e-hub belong to the following areas: ▪ Research and innovation ▪ Fostering entrepreneurship ▪ Education and Training ▪ Community engagement ▪ Fundraising ▪ Partnering with business and policy makers The activities include: ▪ conducting start-up competitions ▪ entrepreneurship training for students ▪ stakeholder training ▪ implementation of mentorship schemes ▪ filing proposals for funding from various sources
Link:	https://research.kisiiuniversity.ac.ke/funded-research-projects/ahead-project-kisii-university/
Pictures:	

Mount Kenya University

Name of the Hub:	***Innovation and Incubation Centre (I-Hub)***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is a sub-structure of the MKU's Innovation Department
Areas of activities:	The purpose of the Innovation Hub is to give an opportunity to internal and external stakeholders to provide their innovations that will lead to ground-breaking products and services. The innovations could include: ▪ developing prototypes ▪ scaling-up of new products, technologies, processes and services and ▪ bringing them closer to the market for accelerated industrial and socio-economic development in the country
Link:	https://cgsr.mku.ac.ke/innovation-hub/
Pictures:	

AHEAD Innovation Hubs in Tanzania

Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology

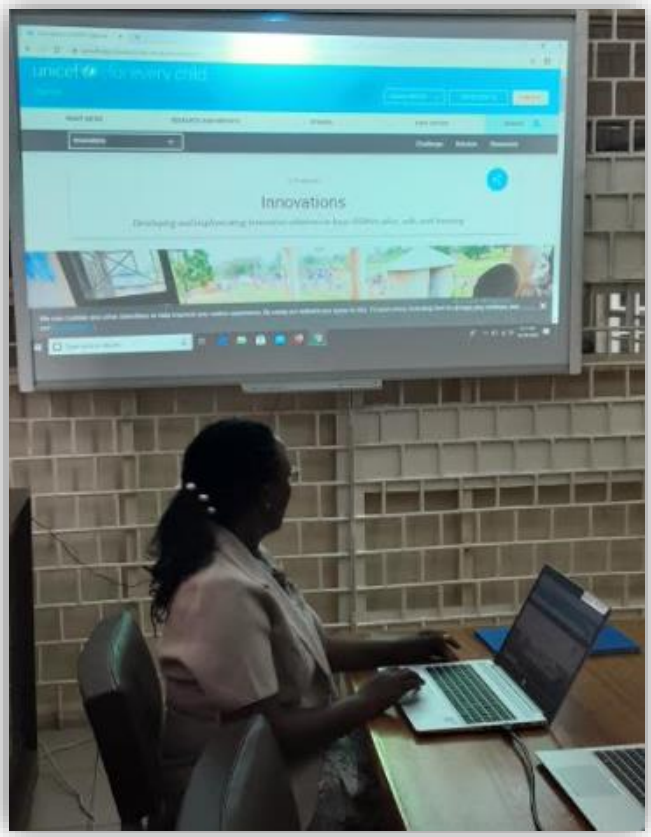
Name of the Hub:	***DIT Innovation Hub***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is a stand-alone lab within the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology, located in the teaching complex at DIT Dar es Salaam Campus.
Main activities:	The Hub is a platform which aims to help innovators from various fields, particularly Computer Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunication Engineering, to nurture and incubate their innovations. The activities of the DIT innovation hub include the following: ▪ Business incubations ▪ Entrepreneurship trainings ▪ Provision of consultancy services to public and private organizations ▪ Providing links between industry and DIT ▪ Mentoring DIT innovators ▪ Software development trainings ▪ Provision of a platform for multi-disciplinary research and inclusive innovation by linking student with the community.
Links:	Information about the Hub: https://www.dit.ac.tz/ad18942s080ub/project Information about ongoing activities: https://www.dit.ac.tz/ad18942s080ub/inhub
Pictures:	

The State University of Zanzibar

Name of the Hub:	***SUZA Innovation Hub***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is a sub-structure in the School of Computing Communication and Media, directly interacting with the Directorate of Postgraduate Studies, Research and Consultancy, which is responsible for issues related to innovation.
Main activities:	The activities of the Innovation Hub involve: ▪ managing stakeholders' input in the research agenda and design of curricula ▪ providing support for start-up and entrepreneurship ▪ organizing start-up competitions ▪ managing and enhancing contacts with grassroots innovators ▪ providing training in innovation management and inclusive innovation ▪ raising funds through application for grants.
Link:	https://www.suza.ac.tz/suza-innovation-and-incubation-hub/
Pictures:	

AHEAD Innovation Hubs in Uganda

Makerere University

Name of the Hub:	***Makerere Innovation Hub***
Position in the University's structure:	The Hub is established and located at Albert Cook Library in the College of Health Sciences, which operates under the Main Makerere University Library services. It interacts closely with The Innovation Support Centre (TISC) started by the Uganda Registration Services Bureau, and housed at the Makerere University Main Library.
Main activities:	The Hub is set to: ▪ provide access to research databases and to patent databases ▪ help entrepreneurs in accessing support from external stakeholders in the business sector, through internships and business incubation ▪ provide information literacy training to researchers and innovators ▪ provide support to the community through training and access to the Innovation Hub, as external stakeholders ▪ reach out to the business players to source for partnerships ▪ establish partnerships with policy makers in the Parliament and in the line ministries to provide legal attachments in support of the activities of the Innovation Hub.
Link:	https://chs.mak.ac.ug/ahead
Pictures:	

Kyambogo University

Name of the Hub:	***Disability Support Centre***
Position in the University's structure:	The Centre is a unit of its own under the office of the Vice Chancellor, but it is supported by the technical expertise from the Faculty of Special Needs and Rehabilitation. It works closely with organisations of and for persons with disability to ensure disability inclusion.
Main activities:	The Centre is a coordinating environment that is created to take care of the needs of students and staff at the University so that their special needs are met. It is also a one stop centre for disability related services: ▪ Disability and special needs assessment ▪ Guidance, counselling and mentoring ▪ Disability assistive devices and support services such as Braille paper, Perkin Braillers, magnifying glasses, printing and photocopying for students ▪ Auxiliary services such as sign interpreters, sighted guides, readers and support assistants ▪ Monetized support depending on need ▪ Referrals for further support where applicable ▪ Coordinating with the academic units on the reasonable accommodation study needs of the students with disabilities ▪ Coordinating with the Dean of students on the reasonable accommodation and welfare needs of students with disabilities ▪ Coordinating with the Human Resources on the reasonable accommodation needs of staff with disabilities ▪ Entrepreneurship promotion and Disability awareness raising ▪ Advocacy and Net-working
Link:	https://kyu.ac.ug/african-higher-education-leadership-in-advancing-inclusive-innovation-for-development/
Pictures:	

Lira University

Name of the Hub:	***Research and Innovations Lab***
Position in the University's structure:	The Lab is a research facility for supporting innovation and creativity. It is part of the Library system and managed by library staff who report to an innovations hub / research commons committee of senate.
Main activities:	The activities of the Lab include among others providing ICT services, electronic resources, software and research initiatives, systematic reviews, and entrepreneurship. The Lab as part of the library also promotes library activities like research training to include reference management, e-resources access procedures, etc. in addition to its main activities. The main areas of activities include: ▪ Training in innovation management and inclusive innovation ▪ Reviews of institutional innovation capacity ▪ Managing stakeholder input ▪ Start-up competitions ▪ Mentorship schemes ▪ Contacts with grassroots innovators ▪ Knowledge transfer and spin outs ▪ Fundraising
Link:	https://library.lirauni.ac.ug/index.php/innovations-hub/
Pictures:	

Erasmus+ Programme

Capacity Building in Higher Education

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