

Berne/Switzerland, 9-10 November 2009

Support for Scientific Capacity Building in Developing Countries: Coordinating and Enhancing Efforts

Joint workshop of the International Foundation for Science (IFS) and the Commission for Research Partnerships with Developing Countries (KFPE) of the Swiss Academy of Sciences (SCNAT)

The objective of the workshop is to analyze the emerging international "architecture" of research funding for young scientists in developing countries. The approaches of various organizations such as IFS, TWAS, START, regional research networks, national research councils and others will be highlighted and discussed. Furthermore, the workshop will discuss potential relationships and collaborative arrangements between organizations which promote scientific capacity strengthening in less developed countries. The workshop is part of the external evaluation of IFS and will be an occasion for the evaluators to assess the IFS approach in a broader context.

Workshop Programme

Venue: Swiss Academy of Sciences SCNAT, Schwarztorstrasse 9, 3007 Bern

Monday, 9 November 2009 - Chair: Ana Maria Cetto

09.00	<p>Welcome</p> <p><i>Ana Maria Cetto, Chair IFS</i> <i>Jürg Pfister, Secretary General SCNAT, Vice-Chair IFS</i></p>
09.10	<p>Setting the Stage – IFS in a changing world</p> <p><i>Michael Stahl, Director IFS</i></p>
09.30	<p>Science and research in developing countries (I)</p> <p>Major challenges for individual researchers in developing countries</p> <p><i>Nighisty Ghezae, Head of Scientific Programme, IFS</i></p>
09.50	<p>Discussion</p>
10.10	<p>Coffee Break</p>
10.40	<p>Science and Research in Developing Countries (II)</p> <p>Major challenges for research institutes in developing countries – insights from two regions.</p> <p><i>Atta Ur-Rahman, COMSTECH, Pakistan</i> <i>Berhanu Abegaz, University of Botswana</i></p>

11.20	Discussion
11.40	<p>Science and Research in Developing Countries (III)</p> <p>Major challenges for research donors to promote science and research in developing countries</p> <p>Some reflections based on experiences of the International Science Programme.</p> <p><i>Peter Sundin, International Science Program (ISP), Uppsala University, Sweden</i></p>
12.00	Discussion
12.15	Lunch at La Cultina
13.45	<p>Input presentations for the Working Group Sessions</p> <p>1) Co-operation among research donors:</p> <p>Should and can the institutional links between donors be strengthened? Is there room for a deepened co-operation such as joint funding schemes?</p> <p><i>Elisabeth Schenker, Swiss National Science Foundation, Switzerland</i> <i>Eckart Ehlers, Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft, Germany (to be confirmed)</i></p> <p>2) Supporting developing countries with weak scientific infrastructure:</p> <p>What potential possibilities do research donors and research institutes from developing countries with a strong scientific infrastructure (Mexico, Brazil, India etc.) have to support countries with a weak infrastructure?</p> <p><i>Bassirou Bonfoh, Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques, Côte d'Ivoire</i> <i>Gunther Hahne, Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD), France</i></p>
14.45	Coffee Break
15.15	<p>Working Group Session 1 – Chairs: Elisabeth Schenker, Michel Carton</p> <p>Co-operation among research donors</p> <p>New approaches and ideas to be discussed</p>
17.15	Closing of the first day
19.00	Official Dinner hosted by Swiss Academy of Sciences

Tuesday, 10 November 2009 - Chair: Jürg Pfister

08.45	<p>Working Group Session 2 – Chairs: Boitumelo Kgarebe, Atta Ur-Rahman</p> <p>Supporting developing countries with weak scientific infrastructure:</p> <p>Co-operation between Southern research institutes and research donors - existing and new approaches and ideas to be discussed</p>
10.45	Coffee Break
11.15	Reporting of Working Group Session 1 (each group 10') & Discussion
12.00	Reporting of Working Group Session 2 (each group 10') & Discussion
12.45	General discussion and conclusions
13.00	Closing of the workshop
13.10	Lunch at MusigBistrot Monbijou & Farewell