Launch of the Finland-Africa Platform for Sustainable Development Goal 9 (Innovation)

Presided by
Li Andersson, Minister of Education of Finland
and Rector Jukka Kola, University of Turku

Main Campus, Agora building, Lecture hall XXI
(Yliopistonmäki, Vesilinnantie 5, Turku)
26-27 August 2019

PROGRAMME
Monday, 26 August 2019
Location: Lecture hall XXI (unless otherwise stated)

9:00   Registration

10:00  **Participant installation and programme overview**
   
   *Dr Pascal Doh, University of Turku*
   
   *(Coordination: Joni Koskinen, University of Turku and Marceline Pirkanniemi, PhD Åbo Akademi University)*

   **Introduction to seminar: “Innovation for development”**

10:10  Innovation for development in Africa – and the Finnish perspectives
   
   *Jussi S. Jauhianen, Professor, University of Turku*

10:20  Innovation for development
   
   *Jumanne Mtambalike, CEO, Sahara Ventures (Tanzania)*

10:30  **Welcome speeches**
   
   *Jukka Kola, Rector, University of Turku*
   
   *Minna Arve, Mayor of Turku*
   
   *H.E Vera Songwe, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), represented by Mr Oliver Chinganya, Director of African Center for Statistics and Acting Director of Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management at UNECA*

   **Keynote speech**

10:50  State of the Art: Finland–Africa cooperation for SDG9
   
   *Liisa Laakso, Professor-Senior Researcher at the Nordic Africa Institute (Sweden), Former Rector of the University of Tampere*
Plenary presentations

Chair (General Comment): Kimmo Nuotio, Professor at the University of Helsinki – Chair Strategic Research Council, Academy of Finland

11:00  Orientation, priorities and visions of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the role of Finland
Victor Konde, Head of Section, Green Economy, Technology and Innovation Section, UNECA

11:15  North–South partnerships of the Association of African Universities and the potential role of Finland as a partner
Felicia Kuagbedzi, Communications and Publications Officer, Association of African Universities (Ghana)

11:30  Funding instruments, business partners and the involvement of Finnish companies in sustainable solutions for developing countries: the role of universities
Birgit Nevala, Finnfund, Finland

11:45  Tanzania Resilience Academy: “Resilience Academy – Safe, Inclusive, Sustainable Cities”
Niina Käyhkö, Associate Professor, University of Turku and Tanzanian Team (World Bank participation online)

12:00  Lunch break

12:50  Participant re-installation in Lecture hall XXI

Opening ceremony
(Coordination: Niina Käyhkö, Associate Professor, University of Turku)

13:00  Statement of the Minister of Development Cooperation and Trade, represented by Jarmo Sareva, Ambassador for Innovation Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland

Statement of the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Vera Songwe by Mr Oliver Chinganya, Director of African Center for Statistics and Acting Director of Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management at UNECA
Opening speech – Launch of platform

Li Andersson, Minister of Education of Finland

Plenary:

Examples of Finland–Africa education and research cooperation

13:20 University of Turku – University of Namibia education cooperation
Erkki Sutinen, Professor, University of Turku and Kenneth Matengu, Vice-Chancellor, University of Namibia (from distance)

13:30 The University of Turku initiatives with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
Thierry Amoussougbo, UNECA-Institute of Development Studies, Dr Pascal Doh, University of Turku and Professor Jussi S. Jauhiainen, University of Turku

13:40 Elements of sustainability in North–South cooperation
Seppo Holtta, Professor (Emeritus) of Higher Education Management and Administration, University of Tampere

13:50 The United Nations Technology and Innovation Lab and the collaborative role of Finnish educational, research and innovation institutions
Razi Latif, Laboratory Manager, United Nations Technology and Innovation Laboratory, Aalto University

14:00 Group photos
PARALLEL WORKSHOPS
Sustaining the Finland–Africa Platform for Innovation (SDG9)

14:10–15:00  **Workshop 1: Defining the missions and objectives of the platform**
Location: Lecture hall XXI

Chairperson
Moderator: *Seppo Holtta, Professor (Emeritus) of Higher Education Management and Administration, University of Tampere*
Rapporteur: *Irinja Paakkanen, Head of International Affairs, University of Turku*

Theme examples: objectives (innovation-focused development cooperation and knowledge diplomacy), the internationalization of Finland, education and innovation export, stakeholder identification and perspectives, resource mobilization approaches and financing, role of Finland and UNECA, challenges and perspectives

14:00–14:50  **Workshop 2: Practicalities and operationalisation of the platform**
Location: Granö lecture hall XV

Chairperson
Moderator: *Jukka Käyhkö, Professor, University of Turku*
Rapporteur: *Babila Sama Thomas (PhD), University of Helsinki*

Theme examples: role of different actors (related ministries and agencies, business, funding agencies, NGOs, UTU, Finnish universities, AMKs and NGOs), resource mobilization approaches and financing, synergies and partnership, affiliation, host, coordination and routine operations, governance (board), annual meetings and forums, other themes

14:50  **Coffee break**
Plenary panel discussion

15:00 The potential of a Finland–Africa Platform in innovation focused development cooperation and Finnish knowledge diplomacy in Africa (scope, impact, strategies, coordination, new actors, synergies-partnerships and funding perspectives)

Chairperson

Moderator: Marko Nieminen, Professor, Aalto University
Rapporteur: Michael Danquah, Research Fellow, United Nations University (UNU-WIDER)

Jyri Arponen, Senior Lead, Circular Economy, SITRA
Rosemond Boohene, Professor and Dean, University of Cape Coast (Ghana)
Johanna Hakala, Manager, International Affairs, Academy of Finland
Helena Laukko, Executive Director and Head of Organization, United Nations Association, Finland
Jarmo Sareva, Ambassador for Innovation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland
Kalle-Antti Suominen, Vice-Rector for research, University of Turku (or representative of the administration)
Heikki Uusi-Honko, Head, International Networks, Business Finland

Comments

Edward Mutafungwa, Aalto University, Finland
Yondo Mine Guy Raoul (Finland–African Alumnus, PhD Aircraft Engineering), Senior Aerospace Engineer, AIRBUS, Germany
Khuram Shahzad, Representative, Innovation Lab, University of Vaasa
Plenary presentations
(Coordination: Felicia Kuagbedzi, Association of African Universities (Ghana))

16:00  Innovation focused development cooperation: the Finnish experience
Dr Lauri Hooli, Post-Doctoral Researcher, University of Turku

16:10  Digital services supporting value chain connectivity of entrepreneurs in under-served communities
Marko Nieminen, Professor, Aalto University

16:20  IFAD investments and SDG9 in Eastern and Southern Africa: potential for Finland–IFAD partnership
Sauli Hurri, Regional Technical Specialist at International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Kenya

16:30  The importance of the national innovation system framework in SDG9 and the potential role of Finland in Africa: experiences from Scinnovent
Dr Maurice Bolo, Scinnovent (Kenya)

16:40  Closing remarks and discussion
(Sightseeing around the city of Turku: to be announced)

19:00  Dinner (on invitation only)
Restaurant NOMAD (Kristiinankatu 5, Turku)
www.nomadfoodandwine.com
Tuesday, 27 August 2019
Location: Lecture hall XXI (unless otherwise stated)
(Coordination: Ville Myllynpää & Dr Elizabeth Eta, University of Turku)

09:30 Opening
Jarmo Sareva, Ambassador for Innovation Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland & Victor Konde, Head of Section, Green Economy, Technology and Innovation Section, UNECA

Opening presentation
09:40 Bridging knowledge and technology gaps in Africa: The Next Einstein Forum in Africa
Esther Kunda, Policy, Innovation & Community of Scientists Manager at the Next Einstein Forum (Rwanda)

09:50 Reports and resolutions of parallel workshops and panel discussion

Plenary presentations
10:20 Perspectives on Finnish–African educationl collaboration
Annika Sundbäck, Head of Impact Programme, EDUFI, Finnish National Agency for Education

10:30 Innovation activities of universities in Ghana: the tale of two universities
Rosemond Boohene, Professor and Dean, University of Cape Coast (Ghana)

10:40 Nordic companies in Africa: the potential of Nordic university–industry partnership for SDG9 in Africa
Flemming Sorensen, African Innovation Network, Copenhagen (Denmark)

10:50 Learning and university collaboration for catalysing innovation and impact in East-Africa
Antero Järvi, University of Turku

11:00 Coffee break
11:10  **PANEL DISCUSSION**

*University-company partnership for SDG9 (innovation) in Africa*

Chairperson
Moderator: Heikki Uusi-Honko, Head, International Networks, Business Finland
Rapporteur: Emma Nkonoki, University of Turku

Antero Järvi, Professor, University of Turku
Esther Kunda, Next Einstein Forum (Rwanda)
Sarah Laaru, Laaru Consulting, Helsinki
Katja Maetoloa, Project Planner, HAMK University of Applied Sciences, Finland
Abayomi Magbagbeola, Consultant, University of Lagos (Nigeria) and Finnish universities
Flemming Sorensen, African Innovation Network, Copenhagen (Denmark)
Ville Taajamaa, University of Turku, Future Technologies
Seppo Tikkanen, PoDoCo (Post Docs in Companies)

Comments
Maurice Bolo, The Scinnovent Centre (Kenya)
Eila Hannula, Regional Coordinator, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences
Jussi Mertsola, Professor (Emeritus) of Pediatrics
Leena Plym-Rissanen, Aalto University

12:00  **Lunch break**
Presentation of individual and university projects

*Coordination: Anssi Malinen, University of Turku & Esther Kunda, Policy, Innovation & Community of Scientists Manager at the Next Einstein Forum, Rwanda*

13:00 The fusion grid platform: electricity, connectivity and digital services for entrepreneurs in rural communities in Africa
*Antti Pinomaa, Post-Doctoral Researcher, Lappeenranta University of Technology*

13:10 Innovating sustainable businesses: analysis of innovative entrepreneurs in Kenya
*Paula Linna, Post-Doctoral Researcher, University of Jyväskylä*

13:20 The Finnish University of Applied Science Model for higher education institutional differentiation in Africa
*Fidelis Cho Ngwa, Professor and Director, School of Engineering, University of Bamenda (Cameroon)*

13:30 The German experience of higher education cooperation in North Africa
*Leonie Schoelen, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz (Germany) and Paris Descartes University (France)*

13:40 EU Africa cooperation for sustainable development in infrastructure
*Forti Bertrand, Institute of International Relations (Cameroon)*

13:50 Break

14:00 Co-operatives as a tool for promoting sustainable socio-economic development: case Finland and Ethiopia
*Shimelles Tenaw, Senior Adviser and Researcher, Omnia, the Joint Authority of Education in the Espoo region*

14:10 Building sustainable and resilient communities through co-creation between universities and businesses in Tanzania and Finland
*Sonja Vanto, Assistant, Projects and Study Affairs, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences and Elsa Keskitalo, Principal Lecturer and Project Manager, Diaconia University of Applied Sciences*

14:20 Climate service for Africa
*Moammar Dayoub, Department of Future Studies*
14:30 The prospects and perspectives of Finnish start ups in Africa: case of Nigeria
   Reggie Rusan, Economic Operator with Finnish Start ups, Founder, SimpleTec Solutions

14:40 Feedback, perspectives and closing remarks
   UNECA, MFAF, UTU and the participants

15:30 End of seminar

Support
University of Turku (sponsor)
Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Finland
Turku City Council
United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
University Partnership for Development (UNIPID)