

Motivation of Dutch organisations to participate in capacity development programmes

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Netherlands organisation
for international cooperation
in higher education

Background of the study

Nuffic's own initiative

- Input's generation for the discussions towards shaping the future

Lead questions

- Motivation to participate in current programmes?
- Expectations regarding participation in future programmes?

Implementation

- Interviews and questionnaire to HE (WO, IO, HBO) & “not HE”
- 36 organisations as sample & more than 100 informants
- Informants: management, academic staff, policy officers, project staff

Dutch organisations adhere to the objectives of the capacity development programmes

- Partial complementarity between own objectives and programmes objectives:
 - 82% for Institutional programmes (NPT, NICHE)
 - 91% for the Fellowships programme (NFP)
- Participation in the programmes enables:
 - Fulfillment of corporate responsibility
 - Contributing to capacity development in South & generating input for own organisation (e.g. for HE: quality impulse for education and research; international profile)
 - Fulfillment of HE's Internationalisation agenda's
- Development cooperation has support within HE communities (mainly at students level)

Perceptions of factors influencing participation

- **Past (before 2002): stimulating factors**

- Prospects for long term cooperation
- Diversity of projects
- Opportunities for setting own agenda
- quite “lean and mean” procedures
- Possibilities to input into processes from programme/project design up to implementation

- **Since 2002: hampering factors**

- Limited/no room for setting own agenda or impacting the project processes and directions
- More complexity and costs for acquisition, implementation and administration of projects

➤ *Challenges for HE in realization of own ambitions*

Participation in future programmes? (1)

- Fellowship programme : **YES! More fellowships would be much more welcome**
- Institutional programme: **yes, with the condition that....**

Participation in future programmes? (2)

Type programme	Interest in participation		No interest	Number of organisations
	Yes	Yes, with the condition...		
Fellowships	24 (73%)	5 (15%)	4 (12%)	33* (100%)
Institutional	6 (17%)	24 (67%)	6 (16%)	36 (100%)

Conditions for participation in future IP (1)

Content should be suitable

HE:

- link exists between programme focus (thematic, geographic) and priorities in HE's core functions(education, research)
 - room for “true” partnerships with “**mutual benefits**” as principle
- ➡ **limited Technical Assistance**

Not HE:

- More practical, less theory
 - No academic cooperation programme
- ➡ **extensive Technical Assistance**

Conditions for participation in future IP (2)

Implementation should be well-balanced

- A greater role for Dutch organizations (mainly HE) in programme cycle
- Involvement in articulation of projects
- More flexibility in project implementation
- Full cost recovery

Administration should be lean and mean

- Administrative processes are kept simple
- Less bureaucracy

Suggestions for a new IP

1. One programme, various modalities
2. More variety in focus sectors/themes and topics of projects
3. Long term partnerships as one of the programme's objectives
4. Room for students participation
5. Involvement of the private sector (both in partner countries and in NL)
6. Room for cross-border projects
7. Introduce a channel approach in recipient countries

Suggestions for improving NFP

- Systematic of repartition of fellowships to be reconsidered
- NFP Courses List could be made flexible
- Enable “co-production” through established networks
- Allow “co-financing” of fellowships
- Screen applicants on income

Thank you!