International Collaborations with African Higher Education Institutions: Challenges and Opportunities

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Strategies for Internationalizing Student and Faculty Experiences

- Look beyond home campuses to universities in other countries
- Build the platform for such collaborations
  - At home institution
  - At collaborating institution

Sustainable International Collaborations/Partnerships with African HEIs
Challenges of Building Collaborations

- Finding institutions whose missions and functions align well with those of the home institution
- Adapting to distance and time differences in planning and scheduling
- Clarifying and following roles and responsibilities for each partner
- Sharing expectations for generating resources
- Using accountability measures
- Adapting to potential differences in infrastructure and their impacts on learning and research
Benefits of Looking Beyond One’s Own Campus

- Tremendous opportunities for all institutions involved to:
  - Expose the richness of cultures and languages
  - Advance knowledge in an interconnected global marketplace of ideas, products and social relations
  - Engage with unfamiliar geographies, people and institutional settings

Sustainable International Collaborations/Partnerships with African HEIs
International Collaboration with Universities in Sub-Saharan Africa

- Societies that offer their own rich cultures have the greatest benefits
- Opportunities for faculty members to test their theories
- Opportunities for students to experience practical applications of what they have learned in class
Challenges & concluding remarks

- How to move out of using the present state of affairs as a prism to look at the past and the future
- How to operate in uneven development: high and low, high or low infrastructures, civic institutions, education, art, culture, government and non-governmental organizations
- How to get beyond perceptions and misperceptions
- How to move away from images of poverty
Thank You.

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