



Wilton Park

## Programme

# Higher education and development: tackling 21st century challenges

Monday 23 – Wednesday 25 June 2014 | WP1331

Globally, higher education has experienced a surge of growth in recent decades. This is against the backdrop of a growing recognition of the importance of higher education to economic growth; the expanding role of the global knowledge economy; the internationalisation of the higher education sector; and the rise of ICT as a tool with the potential to address some of higher education's most demanding challenges. Developing countries have been important players in the expansion of higher education, with demographic and economic change driving demand for higher education services and skills.

This conference will bring together decision-makers from developing countries with a broad cross-section of stakeholders who represent the diversification of higher education provision and offer important perspectives on the transformations currently underway in the sector. The dialogue will focus on exploring innovative approaches to deliver higher education that is accessible, affordable, and of high quality. The conference will also provide an opportunity for participants to engage in open exchange and constructive challenge, and to deepen mutual understanding.

Main objective: To develop a clear vision of what higher education should deliver for developing countries in the 21st century and identify strategies for realising that vision.

### **In partnership with:**

Department for International Development (DFID)

### **Supported by:**

Pearson

## Monday 23 June

1300-1430

Participants arrive and buffet lunch available

1500

### **Welcome and introduction**

#### **Robin Hart**

Director of Programmes, Wilton Park, Steyning

#### **Lynne Featherstone**

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for International Development, Department for International Development (DFID), London

## What should higher education deliver for developing countries in the 21st century?

1520-1645

### 1. Defining a vision: 21st century expectations of higher education

- What are the key benefits that participants believe Higher Education (HE) should deliver in developing countries?
- How have expectations of HE shifted for the 21st century? Why?

#### **Session Chair: Robin Hart**

Director of Programmes, Wilton Park, Steyning

#### **Fred Swaniker**

Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer, African Leadership Academy, Johannesburg

#### **Jo Beall**

Director, Education and Society, British Council, London

1645-1730

Photograph followed by tea/coffee

1730-1900

### 2. Higher education, jobs and growth

- What do employers expect of HE, and what do government and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) expect of employers?
- What role should HE play in supporting entrepreneurship?
- How can employers, government, HEIs and others work together effectively to remove barriers on the HE to employment pathway?

#### **Session Chair: Myles Wickstead**

Member, Wilton Park Advisory Council; Former Head of Commission for Africa Secretariat, The Open University, Milton Keynes

#### **Simon Thompson**

Chairman, Tullow Oil plc, London

#### **Guy Pfeffermann**

Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Global Business School Network, Washington DC

#### **Srikanth Iyengar**

Vice President and Regional Head - Europe, Financial Services, Infosys Limited, London

#### **Wilfred Kiumi**

Managing Director, Jamhuri Film and Television Academy, Nairobi

1930

Drinks reception and dinner

**Tuesday 24 June**

0800-0845

Breakfast

### Which developments in the supply of higher education offer promise in helping to realise this vision?

0900-1045

### 3. Innovation, quality and affordability of teaching and learning

- Which innovations in teaching and learning have already added value to HE in developing countries in terms of improving quality/affordability? Which have the potential to do so?
- What are the main challenges holding back improvements in the quality/affordability of teaching and learning in developing countries which further innovation could help to address?
- What is the role of different actors – government, employers, HEIs, private investors, external supporters – in fostering educational innovation?

**Session Chair: Rod Bristow**

President, Core Markets, Pearson, London

**Belinda Tynan**

Pro Vice-Chancellor, Learning and Teaching, Open University, Milton Keynes

**Freddy West**

Co-founder, Spire Education, Nairobi

**C Raj Kumar**

Vice Chancellor, OP Jindal Global University, Haryana

1045-1115

Tea/coffee

1115-1245

**4. Developing diverse student bodies**

- What strategies have been successful in improving access to HE for under-represented groups, including women, those of lower socio-economic status, ethnic minorities and the disabled?
- What strategies have been successful in ensuring that access translates into good employment outcomes? How can the quality of the HE experience for these groups be improved to improve this?

**Session Chair: Robin Hart**

Director of Programmes, Wilton Park, Steyning

**Sohail Naqvi**

Vice Chancellor, Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Lahore

**Musimbi Kanyoro**

President and Chief Executive Officer, Global Fund for Women, San Francisco

1300-1430

Lunch

1500-1630

**5. Building networks for research and influence**

- What kinds of strategies have worked well to increase uptake of research by policymakers in developing countries?
- What kind of strategies have worked well to increase uptake of research by the private sector?
- What potential is there for greater private sector sponsorship of research in developing countries? What role is there for government or external supporters in brokering private sector sponsorship?

**Session Chair: Myles Wickstead**

Member, Wilton Park Advisory Council; Former Head of Commission for Africa Secretariat, The Open University, Milton Keynes

**Alexander Ademokun**

Senior Programme Manager, INASP, Oxford

**Val Snewin**

International Activities Manager, The Wellcome Trust, London

1630-1700

Tea/coffee

## How should higher education systems evolve to meet 21st century expectations?

1700-1830

### 6. Governing changing higher education systems: experiences of reform

- What reform has been carried out and how far has it progressed?
- What were the different interests of stakeholders in reform? How were they managed?
- What impact has reform had on quality, relevance, access and sustainability of HE?
- Is more reform needed?

**Session Chair: Mark Lowcock**

Permanent Secretary, Department for International Development (DFID), London

**Naana Jane Opoku Agyemang**

Minister of Education, Ministry of Education, Accra

**Jacob Kaimenyi**

Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Nairobi

**Shiferaw Shigutie Wolassa**

Minister of Education, Ministry of Education, Addis Ababa

**Sifuni Mchome**

Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MoEVT), Dar es Salaam

**Damilola Ogunbiyi**

General Manager, Lagos State Electricity Board, Lagos

1900

Reception followed by dinner

**Hosted by: Iain Ferguson**

Chair, Wilton Park, Steyning

**Dinner Speaker: Richard Boggis-Rolfe**

Chairman, Odgers Berndtson, London

## Wednesday 25 June

0800-0845

Breakfast and checkout

0900-0915

### 7. Reflections

0915-0945

### 8. Strengthening higher education systems

**Introduction in Plenary (speakers talking initially for 10 minutes)**

- How can higher education systems in developing countries grow to scale, without compromising quality?
- What are the critical gaps in capacity which hold back HE's potential to contribute to development – both within higher education systems, the private sector and public sector? How can these gaps be addressed?

**Zaw Myint**

Deputy Director General, Department of Higher Education (Lower Myanmar), Yangon

0945-1100

**Discussion in break-out groups (3-4 groups) on agreed themes; facilitators to be announced.**

1100-1130

Tea/coffee

1130-1245

## 9. Refining and realising a 21st century vision of higher education

- How have participants' perceptions of a 21st century vision evolved during discussions?
- What are the main take-aways regarding how this vision can be realised?

**Feedback from break-out groups followed by plenary discussion.**

**Jonny Baxter**

Head of Secretariat, Higher Education Taskforce, Department for International Development (DFID), London

1245

Lunch

1345

Participants depart