BUILDING STRONGER UNIVERSITIES – CHALLENGES AND OUTCOMES



BUILDING STRONGER UNIVERSITIES III

Objective: Strengthen the research capacity of universities in selected Danida priority countries = capacity building

Thematics: Natural resources, health, democracy/rights + administrative capacity

Activities: Courses/traning, mentoring, mobility, limited joint research

BSU III Partners:

- -Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology with AU, UC, CG Consult, Access 2 Innovation
- -University of Ghana with AU, UC, CG Consult
- -Gulu University (Gulu, Uganda) with AAU, RUC, SDU, UC
- -Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College with SDU, UC, DTU, DTI
- -Sokoine University of Agriculture with AU, UC, CG Consult
- -State University of Zanzibar with AU, UC



THE RESEARCH UNIVERSITY: AMBITION AND **RATIONALE**

-Aim is to transform universities from predominantly teaching institutions with limited research, to become research universities where academic staff continuously engage in research, where teaching is based on research, and where research contributes to society's advancement

Intended outcomes: frameworks, systems, and practices for research, better able to engage with private and public stakeholders for the generation of new knowledge for addressing the social and economic problems.....

Outputs:

- (i) graduates who have been exposed to relevant research, rather than textbook learning, and who approach professional life equipped with critical thinking and problem-solving tools, and
- (ii) research results that contributes to solving development challenges



INSTITUTIONALIZATION AS THE KEY CHALLENGE IN THE SOUTH

Level of institutionaliza -tion in university

Individual-driven

research

'Personal' projects

Departments as 'islands'

Admin/finance not involved

Limited publication

Department level research projects

Inter-department projects/interdisciplinarity

Several researchers/groups cooperate

Projects managed according to university regulations/finance system

Incentive systems research:teaching ratio and norms clear

Research-based teaching

Admin/finance responsive to researcher's needs

Synergy effects

Institutional learning through evaluation

Prioritization of research areas

Interdisciplinary research centers

Strategic alliances and University-wide Initiatives

International collaboration

International coauthorship w research groups

Sandwich programs Mobility flows Joint Degrees Increase in ranking

Time



CHALLENGES (DK)

At Government Level:

- Limited DK ambition: Why not go beyond 2021? Why not BSU scholarships? Why not link with the 'Partnering with Denmark – Danish Authorities in International Cooperation' approach?potential to address key structural challenges that are central to the SDC's

At University Level:

- Capitalizing on BSU partnerships as platforms for proposal formulation and consortia preparation
- Low-hanging fruit: Partnering with BSU universities for SDC relevant research and education, not least with respect to food and health challenges... How to achieve such reorientation?

