



The African Network for Internationalization of Education: Profile and Accomplishments

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Constructing ANIE

- Originated from project on *Higher education in Africa: The international dimension 2006-2008*
- Aim was to come up with a book on developments on internationalization in different African countries
- 15 African countries participated- represented by senior researchers and later younger ones
- Project meetings were held in Cairo, Kwa Zulu Natal, Port Elizabeth, Nairobi
- The first idea on establishing a network came up in the Cairo meeting and was followed up in successive meetings
- Project was completed and the book published- new knowledge & identification of gaps
- The Nairobi meeting held in April 2008 discussed the founding of the network
- Founding documents developed and structures discussed
- Moi University, Kenya asked to provide space for secretariat

What is ANIE

ANIE is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental pan-African network and think tank committed to the advancement of high quality research, capacity building, information sharing and exchange, transnational networking and cooperation, and policy advocacy on the internationalization of higher education to enable African universities and development stakeholders take optimal advantage of the opportunities presented by internationalization and globalization. Established in 2008, ANIE has its Secretariat based at Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya. ANIE takes the pioneering mandate of enhancing the understanding and further development of the international dimension of higher education in Africa by expanding knowledge and strengthening and sustaining a cohort of highly competent professionals, scholars, and researchers in the field of international education and development. Further detailed information about ANIE can be found on our website (www.anienetwork.org).

Structure

- ANIE is a membership based African network
- Membership- individual, affiliate (institutions)
- A Governing Board of 9 members from different parts of Africa
- AGM- Membership is from across Africa
- Special Interest Groups e.g. NESI
- Committees
- Secretariat –thin, coordination
- Small organization, specialized, trying to be strategic

Why ANIE?- Activity Areas

Based on the outcomes of the project it was a priority that the network focuses on;

- (i) Research on internationalization in Africa
- (ii) Capacity building/ professional development for internationalization in Africa
- (iii) Advocacy and policy dialogues on internationalization in Africa
- (iv) Develops a framework for information sharing/ dissemination
- (v) Organize Annual conferences on internationalization in Africa
- (v) Develops and sustains a new generation group of scholars in internationalization

Achievements- Research

- Identified as one of the main functions of the organization
- Research agenda developed in 2009
- Research group on internationalization established
- 1st research grant in 2010 worth 99,000 pounds for project on *Development of a Framework for sharing of R & D resources on Internationalization of HE in Africa* –MRCI project from AAU implemented in collaboration with IUCEA
- 2nd grant by ADEA in 2011
- Since then ANIE has engaged in research projects supported by EU Commission (2), OECD (2), SIDA (1), NRF-South Africa (1), Aga Khan Foundation (1), DFID (2), DAAD (2), CODESRIA (1), British Council (2)
- Financial & in kind support from several organizations especially in organizing activities
- ANIE is developing a strong research portfolio
- Several publications have come out- books, chapters, policy briefs
- Our niche is in multicounty studies
- The new generation group
- 6 research projects are currently underway
- **8 books published so far, 2 special journal issues, several commissioned researches, contributions in university world news**
- A book series with Sense Publishers has been approved
- Strong networks with relevant research organizations in Africa e.g CODESRIA
- ANIE has been involved in establishment of Ali Mazrui Centre for HE studies and now working on a new centre for policy studies in International HE studies at University of Pretoria

Achievements- Capacity building

Capacity (individual/institutional) to support internationalization in Africa was identified as weak.

- Developing capacity for research on internationalization in Africa (research group/ new generation group)
- Professionalization of international offices (SIG has been created)
- Internationalization at home
- Internationalization of the curriculum (SIG has been created)
- Internationalization Strategy development (ISAS in collaboration with IAU)
- Best practices in international collaborations
- ANIE organizes training workshops for capacity building workshops
- In 2018- 9 workshops were held- (i) *Europe-Africa relations* (ii) *Trans-National Education in Africa* (iii) *Using blended learning to internationalize the classroom* (iv) *Open access and knowledge partnerships* (v) *Promoting values in international partnerships*
- Need to develop handbook for managing international offices/institutionalization of internationalization on campus
- A network of international office practitioners being developed- training programs
- Trainings for Deans and other key players

Achievements- Information sharing and dissemination

- Developed an information sharing strategy in 2010
- Developed website, newsletter- 3 issues annually, monthly bulletin, list serve (different stakeholders)
- Using our partners and their frameworks for dissemination- AAU, IUCEA, ASIE, University Worldnews, EAIE, universities etc.
- We participate in several events annually
- ANIE developed AFIRE as its information sharing platform
- Social media
- Several international organizations rely on us for dissemination
- **This is a strategic area where we intend to do much more**

Advocacy/ Policy dialogues

Putting internationalization on the agenda

How do we influence policy & make policy makers aware of developments in internationalization and what we do?

- Agreements and relations with influential policy platforms in the continent e.g AU, AAU, IUCEA, SARUA, ACDE
- Participation in continental policy meetings e.g AAU General Assembly, COREVIP, ADEA Triennial,
- ANIE leadership has to be influential-Chair PAU council, Board of AAU, Chair of IUCEA, Chair of ACDE
- ANIE is represented in international boards- SIU, NORPART, APPEAR, ASIE, IDEA, IUCEA
- Organizing sessions in international conferences
- Policy dialogues with different stakeholders e.g vice chancellors, deans
- Policy briefs- comprehensive internationalization



Achievements- Annual conferences

- Main platform for sharing knowledge and experiences on internationalization in Africa
- 9 Annual conferences held so far since 2009
- Predictable (1st week of October each year)
- We try to improve on quality each year (follow a clear template)

ANIE Conferences

- 1st Conference in 3-4th September 2009 – Moi University- *Trends, challenges and realities of internationalization of HE in Africa (with IUCEA, MOHEST-Kenya)*
- 2nd Conference on 4th & 5th November 2010- Kampala, Uganda- *Internationalization of Higher Education in Africa: Responding to opportunities & challenges (with IUCEA).*
- 3rd Conference in 25th-26th October 2011- Abuja, Nigeria (jointly with BC/NUC)- *Internationalization in Africa: Where to Focus Funding and Create Real Impact in the HE sector in SSA (with British Council & NUC).*
- 4th Conference, September 2012 – University of Pretoria, South Africa- *Internationalization of Higher Education in Africa: Maximizing Benefits, Minimizing Risks (with UP)*
- 5th Conference 2nd-4th October 2013, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (with IIE & AUC)- *Intra-regional cooperation: Making internationalization and regionalization work for Africa*
- 6th Conference 7th-9th October 2015 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania (with OUT, Ardhi Uni & Periperi U)- *From the MDGs to the SDGs: The contributions of international higher education*
- 7th Conference, 5-7th October 2016, Accra, Ghana (UPS & AAU)- *Partnerships for knowledge generation and sustainable development.*
- 8th Conference 4th -6th October 2017, Kigali, Rwanda
- 9th Conference 2nd-3rd October 2019, Nairobi, Kenya Africa, *Internationalization and the Global Context: Making it Work*
- *10th Conference, October 2020, University of Pretoria, South Africa- Africa as the new frontier for Internationalization*
- We have also organized sessions and side events in conferences of other organizations



<https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=20191022090556753>

<https://www.universityworldnews.com/post.php?story=2019102911592612>

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<https://thepienews.com/news/internationalisation-in-africa-hindered-by-fear-of-losing-autonomy/>

Partnerships

Our strength lies in the relationships we have formed with other organizations globally

- Association of African Universities (**AAU**)
- Association for the Development of Education in Africa (**ADEA**)
- International Education Association of South Africa (**IEASA**)
- Inter University Council for East Africa (**IUCEA**)
- International Association of Universities (**IAU**)
- Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)
- Periperi U
- Open Education Resources (OER) Africa
- African Council for Distance Education (**ACDE**)
- British Council
- German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
- Netherlands Universities Foundation for International Cooperation (NUFFIC)
- European Association for International Education (EAIE)
- European University Association (EUA)
- Institute for International Education (IIE)
- Norwegian Centre for International Cooperation in Education (SIU)
- Association of Studies in International Education (ASIE)
- Austria.....APPEAR...
- Scholars at Risk (SAR)

Challenges

- Managing Expectations
- Size and diversity of Africa
- Language issues- different regions of Africa
- Funding- we are too specialized
- Inadequate capacities in the continent
- Disparities amongst countries
- Lack of data- institutions, ministries etc
- Membership still concentrated in certain key countries
- Communication/travel within Africa
- Lack of policy frameworks
- **But there are so many opportunities for ANIE/institutions/individuals**