

Difficulties of the regional co-operation in Africa: study case of university co-operation and research "

Pr. Alfred S. TRAORE
University of Ouagadougou
Centre of Research in Biological Sciences, Food and Nutrition
(CRSBAN)
Tel: (+226 70 40 15 58; +226 50 36 48 41)
E-mail: astraore@gmail.com; astraore@univ-ouaga.bf;
astraore@yahoo.fr

*International Conference of Networks, funded by ISP/IPICS
1-5 September 2009, Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia.*

Abstract:

The countries of Africa, more particularly those of Sub-Saharan Africa face many difficulties in the construction of their development. The poverty of the households does not allow a food balanced of the populations nor a sufficient medical cover to enable them to have a productive labour force of richnesses, able to support a high level of education at university. As it is recognized nowadays, "Without higher educational establishments and research adequate, no country can secure an authentic endogenous and sustainable development....", it is thus forced the African States to organize their educational systems of higher education and research from the point of view which they are useful and utility for the society.

Each State, taken individually, will spend a lot of time to make a success of this bet because of the weakness of the means of which it has and the low capacity in terms of qualified human resources, controlling an expertise sufficient to face the great challenges of the development, having for names: poverty, diseases, the malnutrition and the insufficiency of the control of technology. But while gathering, to reach critical masses of people or States, it is possible to obtain more convincing results. Such regroupings raise from the constitution of scientific communities of development, materialized by networks of research and academic formation. For a full and effective functionality, the constitution of such networks depends on the organization of a field of effective regional university co-operation, forgetting any idea of border. This co-operation will be guided by the research of the only satisfaction of the interests of regional groups: fight against endemic diseases, organization of training of high level of excellence, etc.

But the difficulties are numerous to achieve this result. The difficulties related to the harmonization of the academic courses are preconditions to overcome to facilitate academic

exchanges of the students like teachers. Any co-operation must be supported by financial and human resources for its viability. Logistics must be available: communication facilities, equipment and infrastructures of regional formation and research.

Finally there is no profitable regional co-operation without a firm contract on behalf of the partners and a clear comprehension of the need for the union to gain together.

Through the text below, we will analyze the situation in West Africa which suffers from a lack of a scope of true university co-operation, maintained by the recipients themselves, at the moment when universalization creates conditions more favorable to the birth of supranational common lobbys.