

All African GLOBELICS Seminar on Innovation and Economic Development



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The plans for Lalics

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AGENDA

- The first steps to create the network
- Rationality of a long term program
- Key ideas/activities of the program
- Lessons for Africalics

The first steps to create the network

- Previous links between scholars
- Meeting in Globelics China, 2004
 - Brainstorming
 - Difficulties to move forwards: other commitments
- Informal interactions between many scholars over time
- A boost on this initiative came from a young group of PhD Latin American students participating in the Globelics Academy, 2011 (PRO-Lalics)
- Meeting in Globelics Buenos Aires:
 - The decision was taken
 - The nomination of the Board and the coordinator
 - The decision to set an office: Mexico
 - Potential interest of IDRC and IDB to fund some of the network activities
- The elaboration of the program

Rationality of a long term program

- A general diagnosis
 - Limited influence of scholars on building innovation capabilities within the region
 - Limited influence on formulating public policies
 - Scarce use of the existing knowledge for the solution of economic and social problems
 - Shortages of the existing analytical framework to understand the problems of the region
- Definition of who is LALICS
 - LALICS is the Latin American regional network within GLOBELICS
 - Include those interested in a set of key concerns:
 - Learning and capacity building in formal and informal sectors
 - Importance of local capabilities
 - Inclusive development driven by innovation
 - Broad definition of innovation, including technical, institutional, and social dimensions, and new and existing knowledge

Rationality of a long term program

- Formulation of a long term program including all those activities that are required to strengthen the network
- The over all-purpose is to advance our understanding of the ways in which innovation can be transformed in an effective tool for inclusive development in Latin America
- Specific objectives:
 - Integrating individuals, working groups and existing networks on the topic in a regional network,
 - Progress in the systematization of an analytical framework on Innovation and Development from the Latin American perspective,
 - Contribute to research capacity building in the field of Innovation and Economic Development in all countries of the region,
 - Generate a greater impact on policy-making in STI and on Development Policies.
 - Increase interaction with other networks in the South in these subjects (Asialics, Africalics, Chinalics, Indialics), learn from their experiences and generate spillovers for them

Rationality of a long term program

- Definition of stages of the program and a one-year project
- Inclusiveness
 - Who can be members of Latics?:
 - Living in Latin America, working on Latin America, etc.
 - Central America and the Caribbean: small countries with small academic communities
 - Other existing networks on related issues
- The integration of the board
 - Researchers and PhD students
 - Different countries
 - Diaspora
- The decision to set an office to support the coordination of, and foster the interaction within the network

Key ideas/activities of the program

- Research agenda
 - Workshops to systematize the evidence and thoughts on specific issues in which there is already a base of knowledge in the region.
 - Research projects for strengthening the research capacities in topics where the knowledge is still insufficient
 - Lalics Scholars Database: who is who?
 - Building database of tools in policy making to encourage policy learning regarding STI
- Academies
 - PhD and master students
- Policy training in STI and Development
- Communication: research to policy
 - Research for exploring mechanisms for facilitating the dialogue between research and policy
 - Webpage for facilitating communication and diffusion
 - Diffusion of the network products within the STI community, the policy makers and the funding agencies (executive documents & working papers)

Key ideas/activities of the program

- Networking
 - Biannual Conference
 - Monitoring, channelling and coordination of the activities
- Support for developing skills for networking
 - Network design and management
 - Communication strategies
 - Fund raising strategies
 - Leadership

- Concern for inclusiveness along all the activities:
 - Location of the activities along the region
 - Integration of researchers from small countries

Lessons for Africalics

- The importance of defining the rationality
 - A diagnosis
 - Definition of who is Africalics
 - Formulation of a long term program, with stages
 - Inclusiveness: the different Africas
 - English, French, Arab, Portuguese, Diaspora
 - Network of each segment
 - Africalics: as a network of Networks
- Activities of a long term program:
 - Mapping of individuals, groups and networks
 - Identification of specific issues in which there is already a base of knowledge in the region
 - Definition of research projects for strengthening the research capacities in topics where the knowledge is still insufficient
 - Academies according to the human resources we mostly have
 - PhD, Master & BA

Lessons for Africalics

- Integration of the board + Coordinator
 - Researchers and PhD students
 - The different Africas
 - Different countries
 - Diaspora
 - Coordinator
- Webpage in different language from the beginning:
 - English, French, Arab and Portuguese
- An office?