

Globelics

Background, Purpose, Activities

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Globelics – www.globelics.org

- **Global network on the**
- **economics of**
- **learning,**
- **innovation and**
- **competence building**
- **systems**

The origin

- Initiated around 2000 by scholars coming from Innovation Studies and evolutionary economics (Freeman, Nelson, Soete and myself)
- Joining forces with scholars from the south (Cassiolato, Gu, Muchie and Joseph)
- 2000 the first ideas were developed – Africa First seminar as inspiration - 2002 the first meeting in Aalborg was organized – 2003 the first conference in Rio.
- Gradually bringing in scholars from development studies.

The purpose

- To contribute to academic capacity building in the South linking the field Innovation and competence building systems to economic development.
- To contribute to knowledge based development strategies linking innovation to economic development.
- A platform for South-South collaboration.
- A MODEL for low-cost Capacity Building – platform building – cf. Cicalics.

Activities

- Annual conference
- Annual Academy with research training
- Regional meetings and academies in Asia, China, Russia, India, Latin America.
- Meeting place for major projects on:
 - **Catching-up** (Nelson),
 - **Brics-project** (Cassiolato),
 - **Unidev-project** (Brundenius)
 - **Innovating out of Poverty** (Djeflat)

Mode of operation

- Low cost and informal structure – the scientific board and the secretariat.
- Big names who come as speakers find their own funding for travel to conferences – attractive gatherings – idealistic element.
- Local and regional funding gives commitment!! Support for specific projects (IDRC) and travel from the South (Sida).
- Seed money to inspire local platforms to become self-sustained.

Impact

- Affecting the research agenda locally
- Exploiting synergies globally and regionally
- 500 full papers every year on innovation, competence building and economic development.
- Annually 100 Ph.D. students at global and regional academies
- Affecting the policy agenda (President in Senegal and the Vice President in Argentina)

Building AfricaLics

- Grant from Sida aiming at strengthening activities especially in Africa since autumn 2011 + support from IDRC and Aalborg University.
- Build research capacity in Africa with strong links to users – including policy makers and private sector
- Establish AfricaLics as an open network similar to CicaLics in China.
- Annual conferences and Academies – the Globelics conference 2014 in Africa.
- Better access to publications both as users and producers – mentoring schemes.
- Initiating the platform for African thinkers and doers to be made sustainable by local support.

- **Thanks for your attention**