



Windhoek, ... April 2012

ACP-EU Cooperation Programme in Higher Education (EDULINK II)

Publication of call for proposals

In addition to its continued support to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), namely Universal Primary Education, the European Union is committed to support higher education at ACP-wide level as a complement to each country's specific assistance.

EDULINK is part of the EU-ACP strategy to boost higher education and research in ACP countries, together with initiatives such as Intra-ACP Mobility or ACP Science and Technology. The long-term objective of EDULINK II is the establishment of sustainable, collaborative partnerships between participating institutions and the promotion of networking between academic communities. Through these partnerships Higher Education Institutions will be able to share experiences and develop innovative approaches to reinforce capacities at institutional, administrative and academic level.

The Call for Proposals for EDULINK II, the second chapter of the ACP-EU Cooperation Programme in Higher Education, is launched: The deadline for submission of proposals is 30 July 2012. This new call with an amount of **23 M€ will finance more than **50 projects**, that will benefit around **150 higher education institutions**.**

The programme guidelines, application form and annexes may be downloaded from the ACP-EDULINK website:

<http://www.acp-edulink.eu/> or from the ACP Secretariat web site: <http://www.acp.int/>

EDULINK II is open to public or private Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), networks of HEIs and Regional Institutions of Higher Education.

In line with the EU 'Agenda for Change' and the ACP Group of States priorities for development, EDULINK II specifically focuses on strengthening HEIs in the fields of **energy access and efficiency, as well as agriculture and food security**, both essential for sustainable development. The programme particularly aims to strengthen the capacity of ACP HEIs at management and administration, as well as at academic levels.

3 Calls for Proposals have been launched since 2007. **66 projects** could be financed for a total amount of **Euro 30 million**. **340 Higher Education Institutions** have already benefited from EDULINK Programme and **260 out of them are from ACP countries**.

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