

AFRICAN RESEARCH NETWORK FOR EDUCATIONAL RESILIENCE (ARNER)
UNIVERSITY OF BENIN, BENIN CITY, NIGERIA
ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES
PROJECT TIMELINE (APRIL 30TH, 2021- APRIL 30TH 2024)

Some of the Activities to be undertaken by ARNER include the Following:

1. **Inception Meetings and Development of the Network Work Plan:** We will organize a series of start-up meetings to bring together all network members to discuss and agree on specific terms of reference. The avenue will also be used to develop a work plan of planned activities and related timetable. This activity will be carried out during the second quarter of the first year.
2. **Review of Work Plan by Network Members:** The draft work plan will be subjected to further review by all network members and agreed timelines set for each activity. The revised work plan will then be forwarded to WERA in the second quarter of the first year.
3. **Development and Writing of Synthesis Paper:** The network members will conduct systematic research and develop a synthesis paper that covers worldwide knowledge of the network's proposed topic. We will specifically focus on elucidating the global knowledge on the practices and resilience adopted by educational institutions at times of pandemics such as were posed by COVID-19. The paper will draw its information and data from a systematic review of the literature, and also possibly from key informant interviews conducted with institutional heads from various parts of the world. The first draft of the synthesis paper will be completed by the third quarter of the first year.
4. **Post Synthesis Stakeholders' Workshop:** This aim of the workshop is to identify components of the synthesis paper that can be developed into a resilience model/package for educational institutions. Relevant stakeholders in education, including policymakers, educational planners, and members of the network will be involved in the workshop. We would also use the opportunity to get feedback from network members on the synthesis paper and identify interventions that need to be undertaken to address the gaps in educational delivery at the times of emergencies and pandemics. The workshop will be hybrid so as to accommodate more regional and international stakeholders. The workshop will be conducted in the third quarter of the first year.
5. **Develop Resilience/Synthesis Package for Institutions:** This will be done at the end of the third quarter of the project's year.

6. **Publications of Synthesis Research Papers and Presentation in Conferences:** The network members will publish the synthesis paper in a high-impact journal and will also present the paper in WERA-IRN conferences and meetings for possible publications.
7. **Conduct 5 days Capacity Building Workshop per Semester:** The network will strengthen the capacity of its members and other members of the participating institutions during the five days workshop. The avenue will be used to disseminate research findings on educational resilience. Skills such as development of teaching and learning as well as the use of Information, Communication, Technology (ICT) at times of emergencies will be emphasized. The workshops will be conducted once every six months throughout the life of the project.
8. **Research Agenda Setting Workshop:** The network will use the avenue of a research agenda workshop to identify new areas of research and develop plans for research in the field of educational improvement and resilience in various settings. The plan will be developed at the beginning of the 4th quarter of year 1 of the project, and will guide all proposed research that will be conducted by the network members.
9. **Rotational Monthly Webinars Amongst Network Members:** The webinars will be used to discuss and share experiences of members of the network on institutional resilience. It will also feature proposed or on-going research on education by member institutions, with focus on the theme of resilience. The webinars will be conducted on a rotational monthly basis by members of the network. A timetable for this will be developed, shared and agreed to by all members at the beginning of the 4th quarter of Year 1 of the project.
10. **Meetings of Network Members:** The network secretariat at the University of Benin will organize periodic meetings of the network. Such meetings will initially be held virtually, but if funds become available, we would also hold annual face to face physical meetings. The periodicity will initially be every month (virtually), and we will transit to bimonthly and quarterly in the second and third years as soon as the network becomes more consolidated.
11. **Resource Mobilization Activities:** The network members will identify all revenue yielding streams including proposal writing and fund-raising activities to expand its scope for innovation and ground-breaking research.
12. **Project Implementation in Other Institutions to Field Best Practices:** The Network will identify at least 5 African countries in which to initiate the project. We would also identify project leaders in specific institutions in these countries in which to launch the project. Thereafter, we will conduct needs assessment in these institutions to understand the context of educational delivery, pedagogy and research in the institutions. Both qualitative and quantitative research methods will be used for the

assessment. The needs assessment will identify the gaps that need to be overcome. The results will include empirical data that the network would use for publication and advocacy.

13. **Implementation of Intervention Research in Participating Universities:** From the list of possible interventions identified from the resilience package, the Network will design and implement relevant multi-disciplinary, multi-country, and multi-institutional interventional research to test the effectiveness of the interventions in promoting resilience in tertiary institutions. We will use empirical research protocols to implement the interventions in order to provide credibility and integrity for the use of the data throughout the African continent. This activity will start from quarter four of the first year and run throughout the life of the project.
14. **Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Activities:** We will identify three Committee members and staff of the Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI), University of Benin, a World Bank funded project who will form an M&E sub-committee on M&E. We will agree on specific process and outcome indicators for measuring research grants' success; these will be developed into an M&E protocol to be used by the network members. Protocols will be completed quarterly and returned to CERHI.
15. **Research Publications:** The network will support her members to conduct multidisciplinary quality research on related topics and publish such in high impact journals. ARNER members will be supported to attend national, regional and international conferences to present papers.
16. **Knowledge Transfer Workshops:** The Network will use these workshops to disseminate research findings and encourage all team members to field project processes and outcomes on their institutions' websites and social media outlets (Facebook, Twitter, etc.). The network will field research processes and outcomes on their websites and social media platforms. We will constitute a WhatsApp group for research group stakeholders; project events will be reported on an e-newsletter. We will ensure all project related research publications will be published on open access basis and will develop summaries of results for use on social media, as well as policy briefs and media reports. We would also develop specific network activities to enable members in African countries to link up with those in more developed parts of the world, so they can exchange experiences on building of resilience for tertiary institutions.
17. **Submission of Final Synthesis Report:** A final detailed narrative report including success stories will be submitted to WERA-IRN at project end.

ACTIVITIES AND TIMELINES FOR THE AFRICAN RESEARCH NETWORK FOR EDUCATIONAL RESILIENCE

S/N	ACTIVITIES	BUDGET (\$)	PROJECT PERIOD (APRIL 30 TH 2021-APRIL 30 TH 2024)												Expect Outcomes
			YEAR 1 (APR-DEC 2021)			YEAR 2 (JAN-DEC 2022)				YEAR 3 (JAN-DEC 2023)				YEAR 4 (JAN-MARCH 2024)	
			Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	
1	Inception meetings and development of workplan	1,000													Inception meeting held and work plan developed
2	Review of workplan by network members	-													Work Plan Reviewed
3	Development and writing of synthesis paper	-													Synthesis paper developed and written
4	Post synthesis stakeholders workshop	3,000													Post Synthesis stakeholders workshop conducted
5	Develop resilience/synthesis package for institutions	-													Resilience/synthesis package for institutions developed
6	Publications of synthesis research papers and presentation in conferences	5,000													Synthesis research papers published and presented
7	Conduct 5 days capacity building workshop per semester	5,000													5 days capacity building workshop conducted
8	Research agenda setting workshop	5,000													Research agenda set
9	Rotational monthly capacity building webinars amongst network members	-													Capacity building webinars amongst

															network members rotated
10	Monthly meetings of network members (first year)	-													Network members meetings organized and conducted
11	Bi-monthly meeting of network members (starting from the second year)	-													Bi-monthly meetings of network members held
12	Resource mobilization activities	-													All revenue yielding streams identified
13	Learning visits to other IRN institutions for best practices	30,000													Other African Countries and their project leaders identified
14	Implementation of intervention research in participating universities	30,000													Intervention research in participating universities implemented
15	Monitoring and evaluation activities	10,000													M & E protocols developed
16	Research publications	10,000													ARNER members attend conferences and their papers published
17	Knowledge transfer workshops	5,000													Research findings are disseminated
18	Submission of final synthesis report	-													Final synthesis report submitted to WERA-IRN
	ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITIES														
1	Website development for the ARNER	15,000													WEB MASTER

2	Create and update social media handles for the ARNER	-															WEB MASTER
3	Secretariat support	20,000															CERHI, UNIBEN

PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

S/N	NAME	ADDRESS	EMAIL ADDRESS
	Nigeria		
1	Rev Sister Dr Paulette Ekejiuba	Department of Education Management, University of Benin	paulette.ekejiuba@uniben.edu
2	Professor (Mrs.) Lillian Salami	Vice Chancellor, University of Benin	lilian.salami@uniben.edu
3	Professor Friday Okonofua	Director of Grants and Research, Centre Leader, CERHI University of Benin	feokonofua@yahoo.co.uk
4	Dr. Kingsley C. Ukaoha	Department of Computer Science, University of Benin	kingsley.ukaoha@uniben.edu
5	Dr (Mrs.) Loretta Ntoimo	Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Federal University in Oye-Ekiti	ntoimo.lorretta@gmail.com
	Ghana		
6	Dr Eric Arthur	Department of Economics, University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana	earthur3@gmail.com
	Malawi		
7	Professor Adamson Muuler	Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health University of Malawi	amuula@medcol.mw
8	Prof. Sharon Pittman	Vice Chancellor, Malawi Adventist University	pittmans@mau.adventist.org
9	Professor DR Matekenya	Deputy Vice Chancellor, Malawi Adventist University	dennis.matekenya@adra.org.mw
	Guinea		
10	Professor Alexander	Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health	adelamou@cea-pcmt.org

	Delamou	University of Gamal Abdel Nasser, Conakry	
	CANADA		
11	Professor Sanni Yaya	Male Vice President, International affairs, Ottawa University	sanni.yaya@uottawa.ca
12	Dr. Ken Brien	Educational Administration and Leadership, Faculty of Education, University of New Brunswick	kbrien1@unb.ca
	UNITED KINGDOM		
13	Dr Aine Avertin	Vice Chancellor's Fellow, Queen's University, Belfast	a.avertin@qub.ac.uk
	USA		
14	Professor Joseph Balogun	Emeritus Professor, Chicago State University	jbalogun@unimed.edu.ng , jbalogun@csu.edu
15	Professor Kunle Odunsi	Professor and Director of Cancer Research Chicago University	kunleodunsi5@gmail.com
16	Professor Michael Reich	Professor of International Health and Policy, Harvard School of Public Health	reich@hsph.harvard.edu
17	Professor Anne Wallis	Professor and Director of Global Health, University of Louisville	anne.wallis@louisville.edu

NB: Hello WERA-IRN Colleague, we humbly request for the extension of the project timeline of the ARNER to be as from November 30th 2024 to November 30th 2026. And again for Financial support to continue the activities. We have on our own finished 1-3 activities as stated in the budget above.