

# **CENTRE FOR EXCELLENCE IN REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INNOVATION (CERHI)**

## **UNIVERSITY OF BENIN**



**Leading a Regional Hub of Excellence in  
Reproductive Health Innovation through CERHI**

**THE CERHI TEAM  
PRESENTATION TO THE VICE-CHANCELLOR**



# Background



- In August 2013, the World Bank in collaboration with the Association of African Universities (AAU) and the National Universities Commission (NUC) called for proposals for establishment of centres of excellence in West African Universities in Science disciplines – Agriculture, Engineering, Mathematics and Medicine
- This was to address the current absence of African Universities in high ranking of Universities around the world.

# Background



- The University of Benin submitted a proposal titled: “Establishing a Centre of Excellence in Reproductive Health Innovation (CERHI)”
- The proposal was one of 20 proposals from West African Universities approved for funding by the World Bank
- Approved proposals include 10 from other Nigerian Universities

# Expected Funding



- A total of \$8 million (eight million dollars) is expected to be disbursed to the University over 4 years for the project implementation
- This could be more depending on how the project is implemented – there are several incentives embedded in it.

# Project Goal



To build capacity within West Africa's tertiary educational system for implementing high quality training and applied research for reproductive health professions to tackle policies and programmes for reducing the region's high burden of fertility, unsafe abortion, maternal mortality and HIV/AIDS.



# Project Specific Objectives



- Training of students and technical experts/policymakers through short courses in reproductive health policy topics in the region.
- Masters in Reproductive Health, Public Health, Health Economics and Nursing.
- Ph.D in Reproductive Health, Public Health, and Nursing.
- Develop regional laboratory capacity to support HIV/AIDS and other reproductive health related problems.

# Methodology



- Short term courses, Masters and Ph.D in Reproductive Health, Nursing, Public Health and Health Economics
- Applied research involving relevant departments of the University
- High profile service delivery in reproductive health

# Project Leadership



<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Centre Leader</b>	Prof. Friday Okonofua
<b>Deputy Centre Leader</b>	Prof. Obehi Okojie
<b>Project Coordinator</b>	Prof. Joseph Onakewhor
<b>University Representative (temporary desk officer)</b>	Barr. Richmond Omagbemi
<b>Desk Officer</b>	To be hired
<b>Obstetrics and Gynaecology (HOD)</b>	Prof. Joseph Onakewhor
<b>Community Medicine (HOD)</b>	Dr. Vivian Omuemu
<b>Nursing (HOD)</b>	Dr (Mrs) Mabel Osifo
<b>Health Economic (HOD)</b>	Dr. Austin Monye
<b>Financial Officer</b>	Kingsley Enobakhare
<b>Internal Auditor</b>	Mr. Osifo Osagie
<b>Procurement Officer</b>	Mr. Idehen Imafidon
<b>M &amp; E Officer</b>	Dr. (Mrs.) Esohe Ogboghodo
<b>Legal Officer</b>	Barr. B. Bazuaye
<b>Project Webmaster/ICT Officer</b>	Mr. Chijioke Mokogwu
<b>Project Librarian</b>	Mr. David Ofili



# Regional Partnerships



<b>Partner Institution</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>University of Ibadan, UI</b>	Prof. A. Oladokun
<b>Ahmadu Bello University, ABU</b>	Dr. (Mrs.) Nana Madugu
<b>National Institute Medical Research, NIMR</b>	Dr. A.G. Ohihoin
<b>University of Ghana, UG</b>	Prof. Richard Adanu
<b>University of Benin Contonou, UNB</b>	To be determined
<b>University Abdou Moumouni Niamey Niger, UAM</b>	To be determined

# International Partnerships



<b>International Partner Institution</b>	<b>Partner Leader</b>
<b>University of Aberdeen</b>	Julia Hussein PhD, FRCOG
<b>Harvard School of Public Health</b>	Anna Langer PhD
<b>University of Maryland at Baltimore</b>	Manhattan Charurrat PhD
<b>University of California Berkley</b>	Malcom Potts PhD, FRCOG
<b>University of Toronto</b>	Rebecca Cooke CM, JD, FRSC
<b>University of Alabama at Birmingham</b>	Andrzej Kulczycki MD, PhD
<b>University of Ottawa</b>	Ben Tsang PhD
<b>University of Washington Seattle</b>	Jeremy Shiffman PhD
<b>Karolinska Institute Sweden</b>	Staffan Bergstrom PhD, FRCOG



# Some Project Key Activities



- Curricular development and review
- Recruitment of students, especially from other West African countries (and women)
- Building of a modern e-learning centre, auditorium and seminar rooms
- Purchase of a project vehicle and bus for students' field-trips
- Collaboration with industry partners

# Implementation: Disbursement Linked Indicators



- WB has indicated that disbursement of funds will be based on achievement of specific indicators – called Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLI)
- DLIs have been mapped out for all projects in the implementation plans
- For example, before the initial 10% will be disbursed, DLI 1 will have to be achieved by the University.



# DLI 1: \$800,000



DLR 1.1: Signing of MoUs

DLR 1.2: Establishment of CERHI International Advisory Board (IAB)

DLR 1.3: Creation of CERHI designated accounts

DLR 1.4: Approved financial management and procurement procedures and capacity

DLR 1.5: Establishing CERHI operational Office

DLR 1.6: Initiation of project staff recruitment

DLR 1.7: Inauguration meeting with all project partners



# Other DLIs



**DLI2:** Excellence in Education and Research capacity and Development Impact

**DLI3:** Excellence in Financial Management

# CEHRI Core Values and Principles



- Collaborative Partnership and Joint Project Ownership
- Transparency and Accountability
- “Can Do Spirit” as epitomized by timely results reporting
- Forward-looking commitment



# Supporting Documents: To be presented to the VC



- Detailed Implementation Plan (IP)
- Letter of Award from AAU



# Existing University Support



- Support for an implementation workshop – December 2013
- Staff deployment to CERHI and establishment of working imprest
- Approval for CERHI staff to attend 2 project workshops in Abuja
- Approval and support for CERHI staff to attend workshop in Yaounde, Cameroon
- Approval for on-going renovation of CERHI project office at the College of Medical Sciences
- Ongoing curricular review- completed by APPC, now with the PG School



# New Requests



- Development and signing MOUs with project partners
- Opening of bank accounts using World Bank standards
- Identify site for building e-learning centre and classrooms
- Approval of new curricular by Senate
- General support and ownership of the project

# CERHI: New Flagship for University Development



Mr. Vice-Chancellor, we thank you for your attention, and look forward to working with you on this important project.