Session Plan

Topic: Testing the pulse of entrepreneurship ecosystems in African higher educational institutions: a proposed diagnostic model.

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Session Brief:

Higher educational institutions (HEIs) across the African continent have been teaching entrepreneurship and training entrepreneurs for decades. Different institutions have tackled this by creating renditions of entrepreneurship ecosystems that serve their needs, fit within the confines of their constraints, and help them achieve their entrepreneurial aspirations. Some of these HEIs know how to describe and diagnose their entrepreneurship ecosystems to arrive at interventions they need to implement to enhance their outcomes. Others over the years have struggled to do so. This research seeks to fill this gap and provide a learning opportunity for all HEIs on the continent. It does so by developing a three-tier diagnostic tool that will materialize into an e-playbook to aid HEIs on the continent "test the pulse" of their entrepreneurship ecosystems and with the support of a larger network, develop interventions to move them closer to their aspirations.

This session will present a proposed model that allows HEIs on the continent to describe their entrepreneurship ecosystem as the first step to diagnosing their status and developing appropriate interventions. Further, HEI entrepreneurship ecosystem actor participants will have the opportunity to try the tool by using it to describe their ecosystems, while other stakeholders and enabler participants will critique the model and work through collaboration recommendations to support HEI entrepreneurship ecosystems achieve their aspirations.

Schedule: Wed. Jun 15, 2022, 11:00 AM - 12:30 PM GMT Norton Motulsky, King Engineering Building

Session objectives:

1. To disseminate findings of the first phase of the EE project.
2. Participants describe the EE of HEIs from their perspectives, in a workshop.
3. To present the 'Descriptive model' with participants and discuss its applicability in HEI EEs.
4. To elicit critical feedback from the HEIs, EE actors and other stakeholders within the ecosystem.

Session Outline:

Time	Activities
11:00-11:10	Welcoming participants and provide stakeholder classification tags for ease of identification. **Icebreaker** – take a piece of paper, write your name and your spirit animal, and place it in a jar. Then pick a different piece of paper from the jar. The challenge is to try and find the person representing the spirit animal you pick.
11:10-11:20	**Presentation**: Brief introduction to the EE Project.

11:20-12:00	**Workshop**: Introduce the activity to participants who will be identified using a stakeholder classification tag based on their role: HEI EE actors, Government & policy makers; private sector & industry partners; NGOs & CSOs.
	
	Process:
	
	1. 4-6 individuals per group at a table.
	2. Groups work through the task sheet using the provided worksheet.
	3. This activity will involve:
	   - Identifying the **internal and external enablers**/ inputs needed for the development of EEs.
	   - Identifying the required **transformative activities within the HEI** EE and how they operationalize the enablers.
	   - Identifying the **EE aspirations** from the activities.
	4. Reporting back to the main group.
	
	Note: Use the printed descriptive model on the task sheet and the provided *post-it notes* (at least three colors) for participants to use, along with pens.

12:00-12:20	Groups report back - 2 minutes per group.
12:20-12:30	**Presentation:** Conclusion and way forward.
Requirements	1. Seating setup in circles for groups of 5 at a table. 2. Stakeholder classification tags 3. Hardcopy of the blank HEI EE Descriptive Model 10 A3 copies. 4. Post it sticky notes, at least three different colors, (10 sets of 3) 5. Writing Markers, or colored Pens.