



### INTRODUCTION

Most tertiary Institutions in West Africa lack Offices of Research Support which is evidenced by the dearth of successful grant awards. The Noguchi Memorial Institute for Medical Research, Ghana in collaboration with Yale University's Office of Sponsored Research successfully applied to NIH for a G11 capacity building grant to address this issue initially in three Ghanaian Tertiary Institutions. A second application to build upon the successes of the first project and seek support for the establishment of research management offices in three selected Institutes in Africa. This led to the award of the project titled

### OVERALL GOAL

The main aim of the project titled "Capacity Building for Enhanced Research Administration in Africa- CaBERA-II" Was to expand on the success of the CaBERA-1 to include institutions in the sub-region.

### METHODOLOGY

Three Institutions in Ghana and one in Sierra Leone were the selected beneficiaries for this project. (Figure 1)The processes that were followed are illustrated in Figure 2. Briefly, needs assessment surveys were carried out, staff were recruited and trained, advocacy meetings held for scientists and senior members of the Institutions, registration of institutions with funding agencies e.g. NIH, and introduction to Agencies' portals training workshops for ORS staff, etc.

### OUTCOMES

The project's activities have resulted in has set up grant administration offices and systems as shown in Fig 3. It has also led to the inculcation of ORS in the Institution's overall administration structures, thus making them sustainable entities. To ensure sustainability, a rewarding system for successful grant awards to scientists in the institution was also proposed and accepted. .

### Beneficiaries (Fig 1)

Methodist University College, Ghana

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research-Water Research Institute

University of Energy and Natural Resources

University of Sierra Leone

### METHODOLOGY (Fig 2)

1.Needs assessment surveys conducted to identify available resources and needs

2.Registration of institutions with major international funding agencies for grants submission

3.Recruitment and training of staff for research support offices

4.Training of Research faculty in proposal writing and grant applications

5.System for circulation of grants application calls to scientists, established

6.Development of grant management policies; financial, compliance etc.

### OUTCOMES AND SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES (Fig 3)

Research support offices fully set up and functioning with staff on payroll

Mentoring of staff and regular visits to the office

Metric systems for Grant applications

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