

Award of Professor Hannah Akuffo



Honorary Doctor of Science
of Makerere University

Professor Hannah Akuffo, Bsc, MSc, PhD, from the Department of Partnership and Innovations Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) Stockholm, Sweden. She is a Swedish National born in Ghana.

Hannah's passion has been and remains in research capacity strengthening in low income countries. In this regard, Hannah has served in various capacities in key programmes that support developing countries such as:

- a) European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) – chairperson for 4 years
- b) European Malaria Vaccine Initiative (EMVI) – Chairperson
- c) Tropical Disease Research and Training (TDR) 11 years including - Chairperson of the governing organ, the Joint Coordinating Board.
- d) Training Health Researchers into Vocational Excellence in East Africa (THRiVE)
- e) Makerere University - UVRi research programme Infection & Immunity (MUII)
- f) German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF)
- g) German Research Foundation (GRF)

Contribution to Makerere University and Uganda – through Sida

Hannah had the privilege to start the research cooperation between Sida and Makerere University in 1999 when the University was trying to emerge from a major crisis after many years of political turmoil.

Sida: The biggest staff development programme on the African continent.

Sida is the biggest programme in staff development and research that Makerere has ever had in its entire history

Impact of the Sida support:

To date there have been Four consecutive research agreements:

- Phase I (2002-2005)
- Phase II (2005-2009)
- Phase III (2010-2015)
- Phase IV (2015-2020)

Total support of SEK 756 million (USD100 million).

➤ **Generosity of the Royal Government of Sweden**

Has supported facilities:

- ❖ The sida supported IT facilities at Makerere University - the best in the continent outside South Africa.
- ❖ Cross-cutting laboratory at CHS that provided modern training
- ❖ Demographic Surveillance Site (DSS) in Iganga and Mayuge districts
- ❖ Geographical Information System (GIS) lab
- ❖ Library resources and Services.

Sida has been monumental and critical to the realisation of our core functions of teaching and learning, research and innovations, and partnerships and networking:

A towering number of our staff have received PhD and Masters training through Sida funding:

- ✓ Since 2000 when the cooperation began, over 300 staff have completed PhDs
- ✓ Over 200 have completed masters degrees.
- ✓ We will have trained 450 PhDs by the time the programme ends.
- ✓ More than 60% of our staff now have PhDs.
- ✓ By the end of the program, 80% of our staff will have PhDs and everybody else will have a Masters

Sida has made a huge contribution to reviving and pushing Makerere higher.

Therefore, I present Prof. Hannah Akuffo for the award of the honorary Doctorate of Science of Makerere University