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AIFSHE Report

University University of Ouagadougou

Department UFR/SVT, Department of Biochemistry/Microbiology

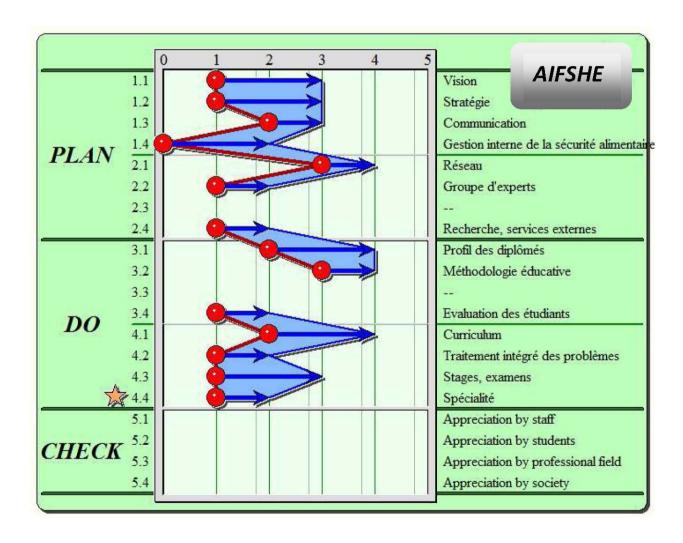
Auditor BELLO Olivier

Internal coordinator DICKO Mamoudou Hama

Number of participants 16

Secretary DIBALA I. Crépin Date of evaluation 26 April 2013

Date of last evaluation None
Date of desired situation June 2014



The five stages of AIFSHE are:

Stage 1: Activity oriented

Stage 2: Process oriented

Stage 3: System oriented

Stage 4: Chain oriented

Stage 5: Society oriented

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=== *STRATEGY* ===

1. Vision and strategy

Criterion: 1.1. Vision

Present situation: Stage 1

No document clearly defining food security exists in UFR/SVT's Research and Training Unit. Laboratories conduct parallel activities in a separate manner without any prior vision as defined by the management.

Desired situation: Stage 3

The Scientific Council of the University of Ouagadougou must put forward a document addressing the vision on food security to the authorities. The aim is to establish a mission statement within the UFR/SVT, define a common vision for food security and mobilise and galvanise all stakeholders in the field of food security at the UFR/SVT.

Criterion: 1.2. Policy

Present situation: Stage 1

The University plays a leading role in food security, but its strategy towards food security is implicite. It's all about 'What it's in the name?'. A difference can be made by using terms related to foos security in order to attract the attention of external partners and staff of the university.

Desired situation: Stage 3

The group suggests that since the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security was specifically created in Burkina Faso in January 2013, there is a clear policy to address food security at the national level. This Ministry is the largest employer of engineers and Master's students from our University. The creation of this Ministry is a blessing; lecturers at UFR/SVT must therefore clearly integrate food security into the content of training programmes. They will need to seek the support of institutions to reach Stage 3. Lecturers and students must also participate in the process, whereby funds must be made available within 3 to 4 years in order to reach phase 3. In terms of vision as well as in terms of strategy, the group is in favour of the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security's name. However, concerns were raised in relation to the implementation of a strategy for the university based on such a name.

Criterion: 1.3. Communication

Present situation: Stage 2

Academics do not talk enough about their work that focuses on food security. Since 1999, there have been at least four international conferences on food science organised at the University in the Department of Biochemistry/Microbiology. These workshops, without clearly indicating in the title the concept of food security, were deeply focused on food security. However, it should be noted that the theme for the workshop that took place from 9 to 11 April 2007 was clearly: 'Applying chemistry in food science and nutrition to improve food and nutritional security in Africa'. However, officials from different department do not communicate enough about the vision for food security; only the content of training programmes and themes from different laboratories seem to be the focus of communication.

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Desired situation: Stage 3

More effort needs to be made with regards to communication, despite the fact that the University of Ouagadougou belongs to a network on food security, including various West African universities. Visibility of the term 'food security' must also be increased in emails, so as to get the message across to others.

Criterion: 1.4. Internal management of food security

Present situation: Stage 0

The link does not exist. The group notes some reluctance on the part of officials.

Desired situation: Stage 2

The group recommends the establishment of 'quality control' on the food prepared by University restaurants. Teachers and academic authorities and those in charge of social welfare must take responsibility regarding this situation.

2. Expertise

Criterion: 2.1. Network

Present situation: Stage 3

A training module on food security exists within the Department of Biochemistry/Microbiology. Experts from the Department of Nutrition at the Ministry of Health as well as those responsible for the management of food security at the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security are involved in implementing lessons in the Department of Biochemistry/Microbiology. Food security is mentioned in the Master's training programme (MAGPA), which is also supported by a project to develop local oils and process food products.

Desired situation: Stage 4

Introduce food security concepts in the curricula of secondary schools.

Criterion: 2.2. Expert group

Present situation: Stage 1

Expertise exists within the University of Ouagadougou, but it is poorly exploited due to a lack of communication between the University and various local companies. The existing structure is under the responsibility of the vice presidency, but it does not function efficiently because of budgetary and communication constraints.

Desired situation: Stage 2

The existing structure within the University must be consolidated to make it more efficient and to increase awareness of its existence to external partners needing academic expertise in the field of food security.

Criterion: 2.3. Research, internal services

This criterion will be removed from the instrument, as it has no direct relationship with the theme of food security (part of the fine tuning of AIFSHE within this pilot phase).

Criterion: 2.4. Research, external services

Present situation: Stage 1

Desired situation: Stage 2

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3. Educational objectives

Criterion: 3.1. Profile of the graduate

Present situation: Stage 2

The training profile of students includes aspects related to food security and is developed by teachers. However, the group noted that not all elements of Stage 1 are met.

Desired situation: Stage 4

Students must get involved in developing the content of the training programme.

Criterion: 3.2. Educational methodology

Present situation: Stage 3

Students have the opportunity to develop or work on topics that encourage them to reflect. In the training programme, the section 'student personal hours' exists and includes time for training courses.

Desired situation: Stage 4

In the development of assessment topics, learning and training outcomes should be taken into account. In other words, all achievements should be valued and exploited.

Criterion: 3.3.

This criterion will be removed from the instrument, as it has no direct relationship with the theme of food security (part of the fine tuning of AIFSHE within this pilot phase).

Criterion: 3.4. Student examination

Present situation: Stage 1

The assessment explicitly takes into account the four main aspects of food security.

Desired situation: Stage 2

All possible definitions of all different aspects of food security must be taken into account.

4. Educational content

Criterion: 4.1. Curriculum

Present situation: Stage 2

Basic knowledge about food security is integrated into the curriculum.

Desired situation: Stage 4

Regular use of professional expertise will be needed to enhance the curriculum.

Criterion: 4.2. Integrated problem handling

Present situation: Stage 1

Initiatives implemented by lecturers to adjust the programme content call attention to some practical aspects.

Desired situation: Stage 2

There must be cohesion in the development of evaluation topics.

Criterion: 4.3. Traineeships, graduation

Present situation: Stage 1

Certain aspects of food security are taken into account in the programme content.

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Desired situation: Stage 3

Food security must be included in an exhaustive manner in the development of workshop themes.

Criterion: 4.4. Speciality

Present situation: Stage 1

Students can choose an optional module related to food safety.

Desired situation: Stage 2 High Priority

A series of modules that specifically address food security must be offered. The University should offer a range of optional modules addressing food security in various ways in terms of food production, nutritional quality, hygien and ethics. Students should be able to obtain specific diplomas or certificates in food safety.

=== CHECK === This category is outside the scope of the experiment.