

Organisational

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Developing a professional research management office

Association of Commonwealth Universities Professional Networks

The Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) offer several networks which allow members to share knowledge and best practice, and provide for debate and discussion on key policy and operational issues.

Current networks include:

- [graduate employment](#)
- [human resource management](#)
- [libraries and information](#)
- [PR, marketing and communications](#)
- [research management](#)
- [university extension](#)

Association of Commonwealth Universities Research Management Programme

The Association of Commonwealth Universities' Research Management Programme works with universities to improve their ability to maximise the impact of their research activity. It includes a range of projects that provide assistance in identifying new sources of funds, presenting research applications and advice on costing projects and negotiating contracts with external sponsors.

Developing a communications capability

Development Research Uptake in Sub-Saharan Africa (DRUSSA)

This programme aims to improve the accessibility, uptake and utilisation of locally contextualised development research evidence on climate change and environment, health, information, education, governance, food security, livelihoods for children, women and men in Africa, to inform Sub-Saharan and global development policy and practice.

The initiative also aims to strengthen the capacity of 24 research-intensive universities in a number of countries in Sub-Saharan Africa by strengthening their research uptake management capacity, and by strengthening their participation in the international development scientific research system.

For more information, please see [R4D](#).

International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications

[International Networks for the availability of Scientific Publications](#) (INASP) works with partners to support global research communication through innovation, networking and capacity strengthening, focusing on the needs of developing and emerging countries.

INASP work with countries to address their national priorities for:

- access to national and international scholarly information and knowledge
- use, creation, management and uptake of scholarly information and knowledge via appropriate ICTs
- national, regional and international cooperation, networking and knowledge exchange

INASP also advise and advocate for improved policy and practice in achieving sustainable and equitable development through effective communication, knowledge and networks.

For more information on INASP's programmes visit their [website](#)

Developing Knowledge exchange capacity

British Council Africa Knowledge Transfer Partnerships

The [Africa Knowledge Transfer Partnerships](#) (AKTP) are partnerships between private sector organisations and higher education institutions in Sub Saharan Africa and the UK. They leverage research, scientific knowledge and skills through innovation.

The programme is designed to help businesses improve their productivity and competitiveness using the scientific knowledge, technology and skills available from the higher education Institutions through collaborative projects between the institutions and the private sector.

Project Objectives

- to facilitate the transfer of knowledge and the spread of technical and business skills, through innovative projects undertaken by high calibre, recently qualified graduates with the joint supervision of the company and university.
- provide company-based training for graduates in order to enhance their business and specialist skills within the context of the project.
- increase the extent of interactions by businesses with the universities and their awareness of the contribution of higher education Institutions can make to business development and growth.

For further information, visit the [AKTP website](#).

Developing peer review mechanisms for internal allocations of funding

Health Research Capacity Strengthening in Kenya and Malawi

The Wellcome Trust is working with DFID and the IDRC to enhance the capacity for new health research in Kenya and Malawi.

The [Health Research Capacity Strengthening \(HRCS\)](#) initiative aims to strengthen the capacity for generating new health research knowledge within Kenya and Malawi, and to improve its use in evidence-based decision making, policy formulation and implementation.

This will be achieved by strengthening key academic research and health policy-making institutions, and facilitating the collaborative engagement of national representatives.

The Wellcome Trust and the UK Department for International Development (DFID) committed £10 million each towards health research capacity strengthening in Africa. The International Development Research Centre, Canada (IDRC) joined the initiative as an implementing partner with experience in health research programmes in East Africa, and as a funder.

For more information, visit the [website](#).

Wellcome Trust African Institutions Initiative

The [Wellcome Trust's African Institutions Initiative](#) aims to develop institutional capacity to support and conduct health-related research vital to enhancing people's health, lives and livelihoods.

More than 50 institutions from 18 African countries are partnered in seven international and pan-African consortia. Each is led by an African institution and includes research and higher education partners as well as research institutes from Europe, the US and Australia.

For more information, visit the [African Institutions Initiative website](#).

Developing research policies and strategies

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Improving ICT systems (for staff and students)

African Economic Research Consortium

The [African Economic Research Consortium](#) (AERC) provides an evidence base for policy making in Africa.

It's objective is to "strengthen local capacity for conducting independent, rigorous inquiry into problems pertinent to the management of economies in sub-Saharan Africa."

It supports programmes in research, training and communications.

Visit the [AERC website](#)

International Network for the Availability for Scientific Publications - Bandwidth Management and Optimisation

Effective management and optimisation of bandwidth is a key feature of increasing bandwidth availability for research and education purposes. However, many research and educational institutions in developing countries struggle to manage their bandwidth. In many instances significant capacity development is required in this area.

INASP and a range of partners are actively involved in training and capacity development in the area of Bandwidth Management and Optimisation.

For more information, visit the [INASP website](#).

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Improving libraries – access and services

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INASP also advise and advocate for improved policy and practice in achieving sustainable and equitable development through effective communication, knowledge and networks.

For more information on INASP's programmes visit their [website](#)

Improving physical infrastructure for research

European & Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnerships

The [European and Developing Countries Clinical Trial Partnership](#) (EDCTP) aims to accelerate the development of new or improved drugs, vaccines and microbodies against HIV/AIDS, malaria, tuberculosis, with a focus on phase II and III clinical trials in sub-Saharan Africa.

EDCTP supports multicentre projects which combine clinical trials, capacity building and networking. The aim of integrating these three activities is to ensure that the developed capacity is optimally utilised to successfully conduct the clinical trials in a sustainable way.

It currently unites 14 participating European Union (EU) Member States plus Norway and Switzerland with sub-Saharan African countries.

For further information, visit the [EDCTP website](#).

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Strengthening capacity to review and develop curricula

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European Commission Erasmus Mundus - Scholarships and Academic Cooperation

Erasmus Mundus aims to enhance quality in higher education through scholarships and academic cooperation between Europe and the rest of the world.

The programme offers financial support for institutions and scholarships for individuals. Funding is available for:

- European joint [Masters](#) and [Doctorates](#) (including scholarships)
- [Partnerships](#) with non-European higher education institutions and scholarships for students and academics
- [Projects](#) to promote European higher education worldwide

For further information, visit the [Erasmus Mundus website](#).

Supporting partnerships between organisations N/S and S/S

Association of Commonwealth Universities Partnerships and Networking

[The Association of Commonwealth Universities](#) (ACU) supports new partnerships, facilitates the sharing of good practice and helps generate new opportunities for collaboration.

ACU has a range of programmes that bring researchers together from around the world. Programmes include:

- ACU professional networks
- Development Partnerships in Higher Education (DeLPHE) - supported by the [Department for International Development](#)
- CAAST-Net
- EuroAfriCa-ICT project - supported by [EU FP7](#)
- Conferences and Workshops

For more information, visit the [ACU website](#).

British Council Development Partnerships in Higher Education

The [British Council Development Partnerships in Higher Education](#) supports partnerships between higher education institutions in the UK and overseas finding new ways to fight global poverty.

The UK Government's Department for International Development (DfID) has invested up to £3 million a year in Development Partnerships in Higher Education (DeLPHE). The programme provides funding to support partnerships between Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) working on collaborative activity linked to the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The overall goal is to enable HEIs to act as catalysts for poverty reduction and sustainable

development. DeIPHE aims to achieve this by building and strengthening the capacity of HEIs to contribute towards the MDGs and promote science and technology related knowledge and skills.

For more information, visit the [DeIPHE website](#).

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For further information, visit the [Erasmus Mundus website](#).

Leverhulme-Royal Society Africa Award

The [Leverhulme-Royal Society Africa Award Scheme](#) is for scientists who want to develop a collaborative research project between the UK and research institutions in either Ghana or Tanzania.

It aims to help develop and maintain excellence in science in both countries and to strengthen the research and training capacity of the African institution.

The scheme provides 3 years funding towards research expenses and costs for mobility and equipment.

For more information, visit the [Royal Society website](#).

Royal Society Pfizer African Academies Programme

The [Royal Society Pfizer African Academies Programme](#) is a three year programme of mentoring, training and institutional support for national academies of science in Ghana, Tanzania and Ethiopia.

The aim of the programme is to extend the broader skills base within scientific academies whilst also building vital policy links and understanding between institutions, scientists and policy makers. The academies are able to draw on 'support packages' provided by the Royal Society and NASAC, which will help to elevate their profiles, develop strategic objectives, enable the academies to be more responsive and proactive, and link with relevant national and international stakeholders.

For more information, visit the [African Academies Programme website](#).

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