

PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

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# INTERNATIONALISING HIGHER EDUCATION

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA



# PARTNERS FOR CHANGE

The British Council works with governments, education and training institutions, industries, academics and international donors to provide international education opportunities and improve the quality of higher education across Sub-Saharan Africa. By sharing international best practice and creating opportunities for dialogue, collaboration, research, exchange and mobility, we help to improve learning and employability outcomes for students, scholars, researchers and academics.

## OUR WORK

### INTERNATIONAL STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

We promote and support exchanges and international study opportunities for students, scholars and academics to support **access** to an internationalised higher education.

### THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AND POLICY DIALOGUE

Through debate, discussion and research in the UK and globally we help to shape and enhance the **quality** of internationalised higher education. We bring together policy makers and professionals from different countries to learn from leading global practice and to shape future reforms for Sub-Saharan Africa.

### PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

We promote and support collaboration and partnerships between universities, industry and governments to maximise **success** through the internationalisation of higher education.



### KEY FACTS

More than **430,000** international students choose the UK as a study destination each year, including many from Africa (*Higher Education Statistics Agency*).

**500,000** overseas students study for a UK qualification overseas through transnational education partnerships.

**200** institutional partnerships have been established under the Development Partnerships in Higher Education programme since 2006.

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‘Globalisation gives an international dimension to all aspects of our lives... In higher education, it has led to intensified mobility of ideas, students and academic staff and to expanded possibilities for collaboration and global dissemination of knowledge.’

*International Association of Universities*

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## OUR TRACK RECORD

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# INTERNATIONAL STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

### Supporting exchanges and international study opportunities for students, scholars and academics

#### Scholarships

In partnership with leading oil and gas companies, we work to address skills gaps in Sub-Saharan Africa by providing scholarships for vocational studies, technical training and postgraduate degrees in the UK.

With **Tullow Oil** we offer scholarships to individuals in Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Ivory Coast and Uganda. Since the partnership began in 2011, the scheme has grown from supporting 24 students in Ghana, to supporting 110 students from 11 countries worldwide. Phase 2 of the partnership was launched in 2014. (Phase 1: 2011–13; Phase 2: 2014–16)

In Nigeria, we partner with **Nigeria Liquefied Natural Gas Ltd** to offer a postgraduate scholarship scheme for students to study at universities in the UK. The scheme supported ten students in 2013. (£775,000, 2012–15)

In Tanzania, we work with **British Gas** to support 34 scholars to study in UK universities. (£1.5 million, 2013–17)

#### New projects

In 2015, we plan to commence the implementation of the following projects:

In Nigeria, the **Elano Scholarship Programme** will support scholars to study at UK universities.

In Botswana, the **Debswana Scholarship Programme** will provide scholarships for postgraduate students to study abroad, including in the UK.

The **East African Development Bank Scholarships** programme will offer scholarships to study at universities in the UK.

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The British Council will manage over **200** scholarships from countries in Sub-Saharan Africa in 2015–16.

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## OUR TRACK RECORD

# THOUGHT LEADERSHIP AND POLICY DIALOGUE

### Shaping and driving international higher education through debate, discussion and research

#### Going Global

Our annual Going Global conference offers an open forum for global leaders of international education to discuss issues facing the international education community. The event is the largest of its kind and attracts over 1,000 delegates from more than 80 countries, including many from Sub-Saharan Africa.

#### Education World Forum

The Education World Forum is a ministerial education seminar held annually in the UK, where ministers from Sub-Saharan Africa and around the world gather to debate future practice in education. The event attracts more than 300 participants from over 70 countries.



#### Global Education Dialogues

Our Global Education Dialogues bring together governments, universities and industry leaders to reflect on and debate the challenges and opportunities facing international higher education.

Fresh contributions are put forward from our network of leading thinkers, and the debates are disseminated through digital platforms to a global audience.

#### Education Intelligence

Our Education Intelligence service provides UK clients with cutting-edge data, analysis and knowledge about international higher education, specialising in student insights, student mobility trends and partnership development. This enables clients to optimise their marketing and recruitment strategies to attract students, including those from Sub-Saharan Africa.

#### Universities, Employability and Inclusive Development Research and Advocacy Project

We are working with the Institute of Education at the University of London on research that will provide policy makers with compelling evidence on how they can build stronger links between the higher education sector and the labour market. These links will be imperative to ensure young graduates have the skills to generate the growth Africa needs to release its potential. (£750,000, 2012–15)

#### Skills for employability

We work to develop high-quality vocational and higher technical education and training, professional education and enterprise skills training to better meet the needs of industry and help young people to prosper.

Working with the Department of Higher Education and Training in South Africa we have helped to establish an Association of Colleges for South Africa and are facilitating direct partnerships between South African colleges and colleges in the UK to strengthen curriculum design, lecturer professional development and employer engagement. A partnership agreement has been signed with the National Business Initiative, an organisation supported by over 100 businesses operating in South Africa, to establish a network of like-minded and mutually supportive organisations. (£209,000, 2009–15)



## OUR TRACK RECORD

# PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATION

**Shaping and driving international higher education through debate, discussion and research**

### Partnership for African Social and Governance Research

This independent organisation, which we established through a DFID-funded programme, now works to increase the capacity of African universities and researchers and supports the wider African social and political science research community. The innovative Master of Research and Public Policy programme, a collaboration of 12 universities across seven African countries, is Africa's first graduate programme focused on public policy. Each university offers the two-year degree based on a common curriculum and course content. (DFID, £8.5 million, 2009–14)

### Services for International Education Marketing

Our global Services for International Education Marketing programme supports UK education institutions to attract international students. Operating in 65 countries, the programme provides services for international student recruitment, and market intelligence,



and enables the development of working relationships between institutions in the UK and other countries. In Sub-Saharan Africa, we work with UK education providers in Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Mauritius.

### International Higher Education Partnership Programme

Building on the Government of Ethiopia's progress in improving access to higher education and its ambition to have an industry-led economy, we work in partnership with the Federal Ministry

of Education in Ethiopia to improve the quality of postgraduate education in the areas of engineering and technology.

New postgraduate programmes at master's and PhD levels are now offered at selected Ethiopian universities in partnership with 16 international universities from four different continents. We also work to improve the quality and relevance of teaching in engineering and technology, working closely with academic staff at universities. (£2.6 million, 2015–17)

### The Newton Fund

Through the Newton Fund we are supporting professional development and technical training in the science and innovation sector. By facilitating partnerships with the UK, the fund seeks to stimulate the economic development and welfare of developing countries. The fund supports the professional development of researchers to build their skills in areas such as communication and research management, as well as supporting good research governance and community and policy maker engagement. It also supports employability through workforce planning and the

development of technical and vocational training in the research and innovation sector. (£16 million, 2014–19)

### Researcher Links

Through Researcher Links, run as part of the Newton Fund, we help to build the capacity of early-career researchers from the UK and countries in Sub-Saharan Africa through fully funded workshops and travel grants. International research collaboration is essential for the global knowledge economy, and it has been shown that internationally mobile researchers tend to be more productive. (2013–17)

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A shared research interest can help to build trust and relationships between people from very different backgrounds and cultures.

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The British Council creates opportunities for people worldwide by helping societies achieve change in education, skills, enterprise, civil society and justice. Working closely with governments, donors and businesses, we deliver value-for-money international development solutions that are both effective and sustainable.

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