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Networking Africa

How do we strengthen academic
collaboration in a huge continent?

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UNICA – Santander Group – Compostela Group Workshop

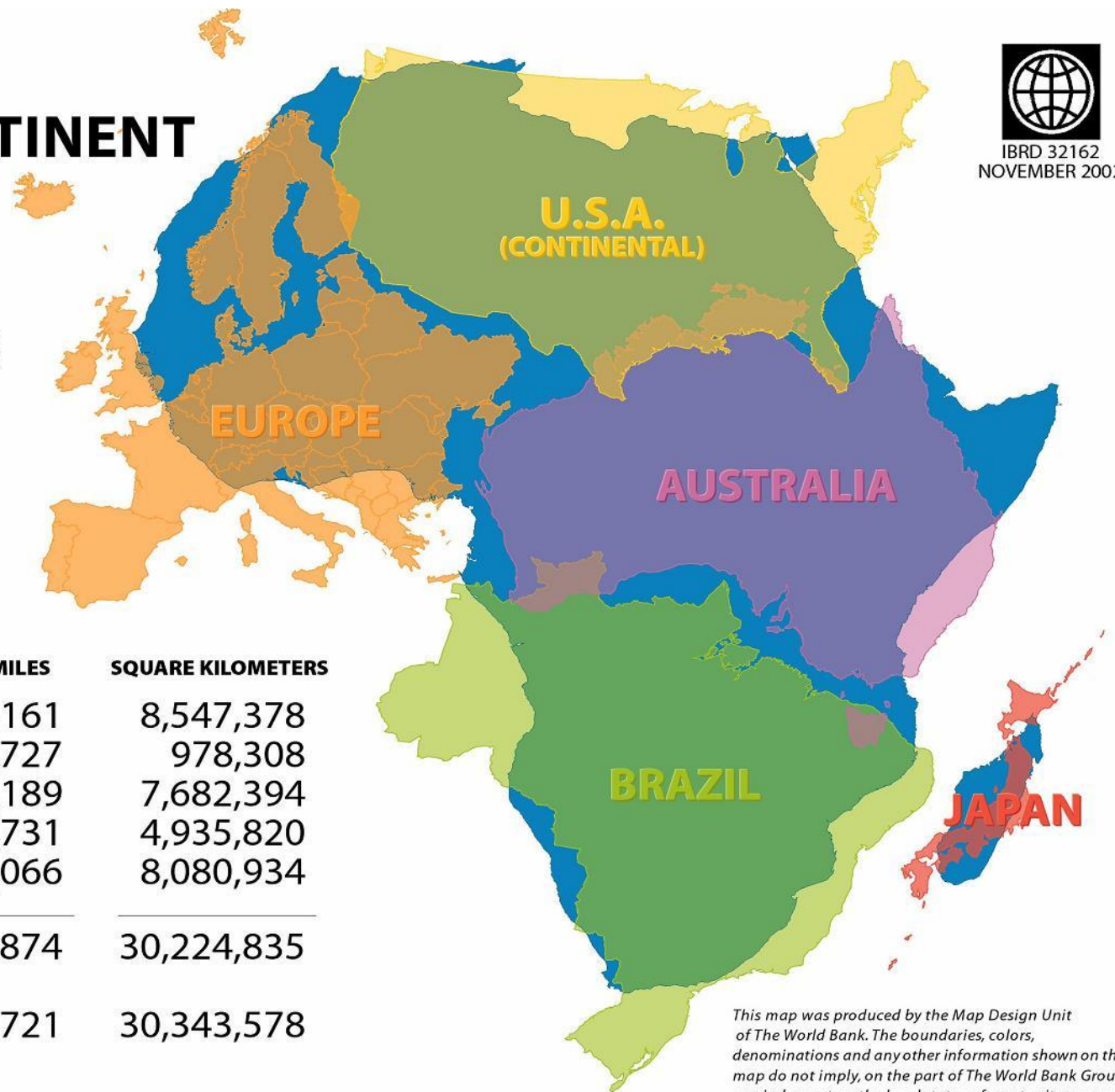
4 June 2013, Brussels



SIZE OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT COMPARED TO OTHER LAND MASSES



IBRD 32162
NOVEMBER 2002



	SQUARE MILES	SQUARE KILOMETERS
BRAZIL	3,300,161	8,547,378
JAPAN	377,727	978,308
AUSTRALIA	2,966,189	7,682,394
EUROPE	1,905,731	4,935,820
U.S.A. (Continental)	3,120,066	8,080,934
TOTAL	11,669,874	30,224,835
AFRICA (including MADAGASCAR)	11,715,721	30,343,578

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INSIDE THIS WEEK: TECHNOLOGY QUARTERLY

The Economist

DECEMBER 3RD - 9TH 2011

Economist.com

President Newt? Brace yourselves

Britain's coming recession

Why India needs Walmart

France tries to stay AAA

The science of ethical foie gras

Africa rising





Africa is growing!



- How can HEI's benefit from this growth?
 1. to capitalise on the enormous developmental potential of the continent -
 - universities must participate in well supported and well coordinated **academic networks** incorporating public and private partners throughout the continent and elsewhere
 2. to raise the share of African scientific output -
 - the marginality of African academia needs to be addressed by increasing **opportunities for collaboration**
 - “collaboration enhances the quality of scientific research, improves the efficiency and effectiveness of that research, and is increasingly necessary, as the scale of both budgets and research challenges grow” (Royal Society)





SU Strategy for Networks & Collaboration



- **The Goal of International Academic Networks**
 - To nurture academic networks as **scholarship communities** that span the continent and the global south and north across regional and language boundaries
 - which will enhance the **diversity** of Africa's intellectual resources, stem the **brain drain** from Africa, and harness the continent's massive economic and social **growth potential** in coming decades
- **Knowledge coalitions**
 - Multi-partner south-south-north consortia with well-defined themes, often applied to development challenges
 - Involves academics and administrators, often supported by multiple donors
 - Student & staff exchanges, joint supervision/degrees, research themes, workshops, joint presentations/publications



Why collaborate?



- Complexity of new global challenges
- Added value for all partners
- S-S-N: Addressing development (relates to values and knowledge systems)
- Balancing the triangle of Innovative Research-Capacity Development-Impact in Society

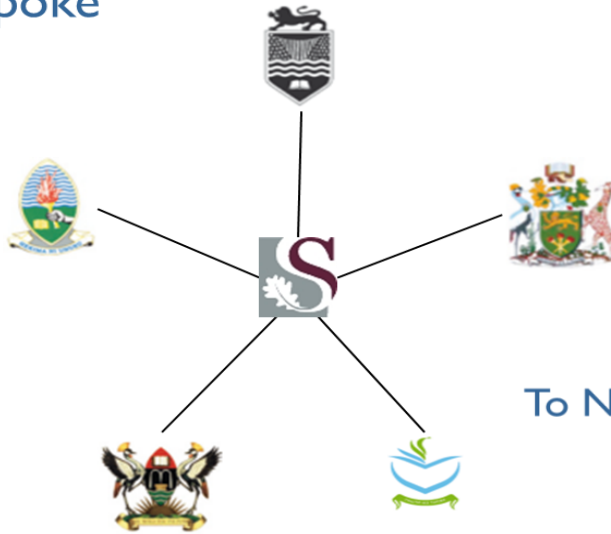


Three networks (1)

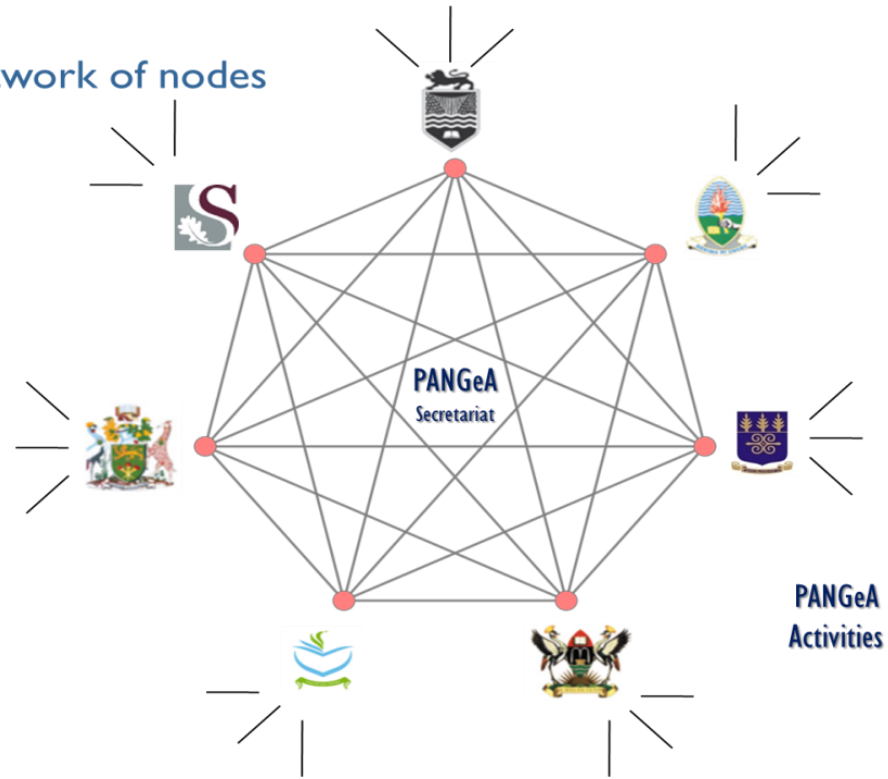


- **PANGeA: Partnership for Africa's Next Generation of Academics**
 - Universities of Botswana, Dar es Salaam, Makerere, Malawi, Stellenbosch, Nairobi and Ghana
 - Humanities & social sciences, fast-tracking PhD training
 - Home-grown network, SU funding (HOPE Project)
 - Enrolled over 80 PhDs in four years; first cohort graduating
 - Fairly **centralised** management to date, with high level of consultation on goals, values, outputs
 - Identified need to decentralise: from 'hub & spoke' to 'network of nodes'

From Hub & Spoke



To Network of nodes





Three networks (2)



- **Periperi U:** Partners Enhancing Resilience to People Exposed to Risks – University network
 - Algeria, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mozambique, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda
 - African response to disaster risk management
 - Training new professionals via short-course and Master's programme development (13 new master's programmes)
 - Funded by USAID, secretariat at SU, but completely **decentralised** governance model: each institution moves at own pace according to own capacities
 - Invited to showcase African capabilities at *UN Global Platform for Disaster Reduction* (UNISDR)
 - www.riskreductionafrica.org





Three networks (3)



- **TRECCAfrica:** Transdisciplinary Training for Resource Efficiency and Climate Change Adaptation in Africa
 - Existing group of researchers on Climate Change (OSF funding); Intra-ACP Academic Mobility Programme (EU) provided some glue to network
 - Six universities: Dar es Salaam, Ghana, Mekelle (Ethiopia), Nairobi, Nigeria-Nsukka and Stellenbosch
 - Masters & PhD training/*mobility*; transdisciplinary method
 - Modelled on Erasmus Mundus; predetermined list of activities strictly monitored: “**externally-centralised**”
 - www.treccafrica.com



**INTRA-ACP
MOBILITY**



TRECCAAFRICA 



Trends in African HE co-operation



- Brain drain remains critical:
 - recognition that African collaboration can address it
 - Internationalisation of PhD (maintain link to home university)
- Harmonisation/tuning processes (many systems)
- Increasing access to research material
 - Open Access initiatives
- Greater national priority to research & graduate education (to enhance growth)
 - Governments committed 1% of GDP for S&T (but few do it)
 - How to ensure a research career path (post docs, research subsidy)
- More International Offices:
 - mobility still one way and Intra-African mobility still limited



SU Bilateral Partnerships



1. Makerere University www.makerere.ac.ug
2. University of Dar es Salaam www.udsm.ac.tz
3. University of Botswana www.ub.bw
4. University of Namibia www.unam.na
5. Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (Ghana) www.knust.edu.gh
6. University of Zimbabwe www.uz.ac.zw
7. University of Nairobi www.uonbi.ac.ke
8. Université Eduardo Mondlane www.uem.mz
9. Kenyatta University www.ku.ac.ke
10. Université de Antananarivo www.univ-antananarivo.mg
11. University of Ghana www.ug.edu.gh
12. Université de Yaoundé I www.uy1.uninet.cm



Some key organisations in African HE



- AAU – Association of African Universities
- ADEA - Association for the Development of Education in Africa (WGHE)
- AUF – Agende Universitaire de la Francophonie
- ANIE (EAIE), IEASA
- SARIMA (INORMS, ACU), WARIMA, EARIMA
- AU – HRST & PAU
- NEPAD-ST (CPA)
- SA Dept of S&T (Brussels Rep), SKA
- CODESRIA & OSSREA
- ANAFE (CGIAR)
- ANSTI (UNESCO)
- AAS & TWAS
- Research-Africa & RPLFA
- HERANA (Higher Education Research and Advocacy Network in Africa)
- INHEA



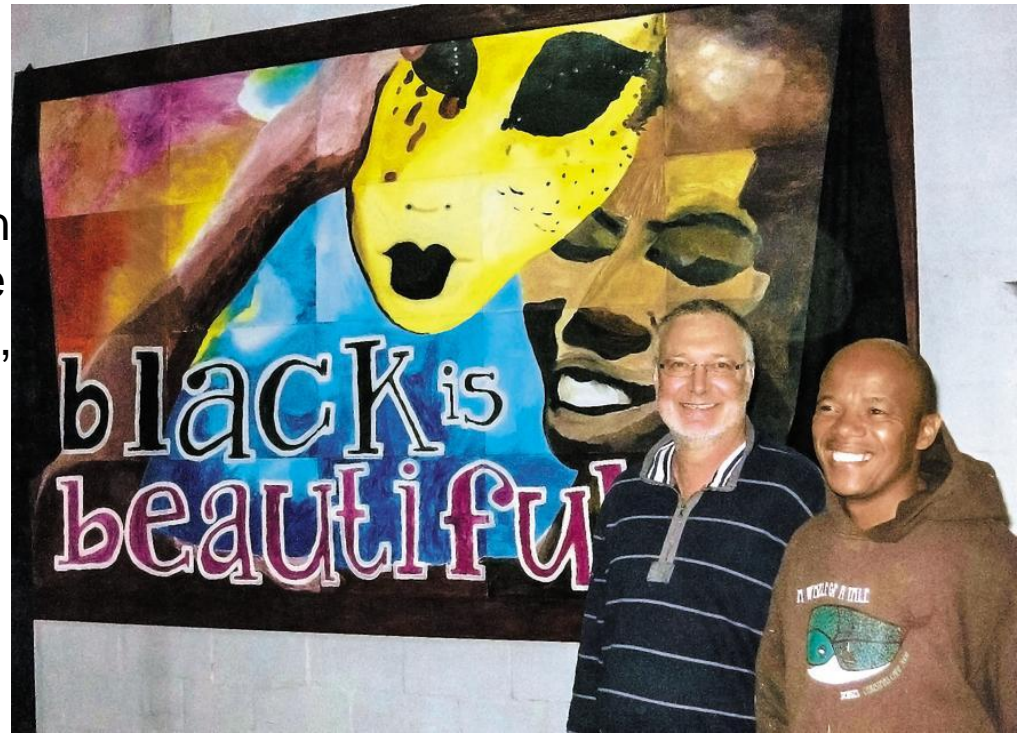
End Part 1



An ethics of collaboration



- Doing the right thing ... in the wrong way?
 - Ready-made programmes (“just add signature”)
- And in the right way
 - Listening to the expectations, ambitions, capacities, needs
 - Pastor Skosana’s first words to Revered Oosthuizen: “We don’t need you or your money”
 - Co-operation may never infringe human dignity: “do not come and take over; follow, do not lead.”





Charters of co-operation



Adapt Jacques Gaillard's (1994) "**Charter of North-South Partners**":

- The collaboration should be based on a **strong mutual interest and both partners should have something to gain from it (...also the coordinator)**.
- Project proposals should be **drafted jointly**
- Decisions on specific instrument purchases should be made jointly
- Provision should be made in the budget for a **training component**
- **Salaries** should be sufficient to ensure full-time commitment, or complemented by supplementary means (e.g. research/teaching honoraria) secured in the budget.
- **Transparency** should be a golden rule between the partners
- Each cooperating group should delegate a substantial number of researchers (at least three).
- Both parties should meet regularly to review ongoing work and plan future activities.
- Fast communication channels must be available
- Scientific **papers should be written jointly**, with the names of the authors from both sides appearing on the published papers.
- Collaborative programmes should be evaluated on a regular basis. Monitoring should **emphasize project outputs** rather than inputs.
- Mechanisms should be established so that the collaboration can continue after the collaborative programme is terminated to **ensure a long lifetime** to the collaborative partnership.



“Best Practices for International Partnerships in Africa”



1. Be **clear about goals** – What each has to give and to receive
2. Develop consortial linkages where possible
3. **Understand each other** – constraints and opportunities and communicate frequently
4. Jointly decide what activities to pursue and resources used with “mutually acceptable resolutions of inevitable differences of judgments and perceptions.”
5. **Build for the long-term** and not only “the project” (5-10 years)
6. Develop detailed written agreement after planning and consensus
7. Be constant in goals regardless of leadership change.
8. Develop clear agreements and procedures for addressing conflict
9. Be **transparent on funding** sources, amounts, and intended uses of funds and any representations to potential funders.
10. Be transparent on **issues of power** among the leaders and stakeholders



“Best Practices...” (cont.)



11. Provide **internal funding** from all partner institutions
12. Address inequalities of resources among partners
13. Seek broad support from university faculty and administration.
14. Seek to agree on ethical and human subjects guidelines
15. Abstain from military, intelligence, covert, or secret research.
16. Engage in proprietary research only with mutual agreement
17. Be inclusive and equitable - equal opportunity regardless of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender, age, or sexual orientation.
18. Credit and acknowledge all contributions
19. Celebrate partnerships

*Source: Prof Olufemi A. Bamiro, University of Ibadan,
“The challenge of conducting research and innovation in
African universities.” Joint ANIE/BC/NUC Conference,
September 2011, Nigeria*

<http://www.anienetwork.org/category/downloads/conferences>



KFPE (Switzerland)



- 11 Principles:
 - Set the agenda together
 - Interact with stakeholders
 - Clarify responsibilities
 - Account to beneficiaries (Upward & Downward accounting!)
 - Promote mutual learning
 - Enhance capacities
 - Share data and networks
 - Disseminate results
 - Pool profits and merits
 - Apply results
 - Secure outcomes

www.kfpe.ch



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THANK YOU