

# Developing capacity in Africa



**UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN**  
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

## Carnegie Project: Growing the Next Generation of Academics for Africa

This extensive programme runs at UCT, University of the Witwatersrand, Makerere University (Uganda) and University of Ghana and aims to train a community of future academics.

**120** early-career researchers trained at UCT between 2011 and 2016:

96 PhD students; 24 postdoctoral fellows

39 from South Africa; 81 from the rest of Africa

## The MasterCard Foundation Scholars Program

The MasterCard Foundation (MCF) Scholars Program allows UCT to recruit, educate and mentor talented students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds in Africa.

**338** students will enroll at UCT over 10 years

68 undergraduates and 270 postgraduates

## The Africa Regional International Staff/Student Exchange: Food Security and Sustainable Human Wellbeing (ARISE)

ARISE aims to increase access to quality education in Africa by promoting postgraduate studies, student retention in the region and staff mobility, while increasing the competitiveness and attractiveness of the institutions themselves.

ARISE will offer **100** mobility opportunities

## Structured Training for African Researchers (STARS)

This online programme for early career researchers - developed by the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU) and funded by the Robert Bosch Stiftung - focused on generic skills and knowledge and was authored by experts from across Africa.

**12** universities across Africa

**7** African countries

**12** researchers per university

## LSE-Africa Consortium

The London School of Economics and UCT have run an intensive two-week summer school at UCT on social issues in the 21st century, with specific relevance to Africa's role in the global world.

**105** students from five continents took part in 2016

## H3ABioNet

H3ABioNet is a Pan-African bioinformatics network, led by Prof Nicky Mulder at the Computational Biology Group, that supports H3Africa researchers and their projects while developing bioinformatics capacity within Africa.

**34** research groups

**15** African countries

**700** participants trained at workshops across Africa

## Universities Science, Humanities, Law and Engineering Partnerships in Africa (USHEPiA)

USHEPiA promotes collaboration among established African researchers in the generation and dissemination of knowledge, and builds institutional and human capacity in African universities.

**83** full degree fellowships awarded since 1996

**11** cohorts generated

**56** degrees conferred

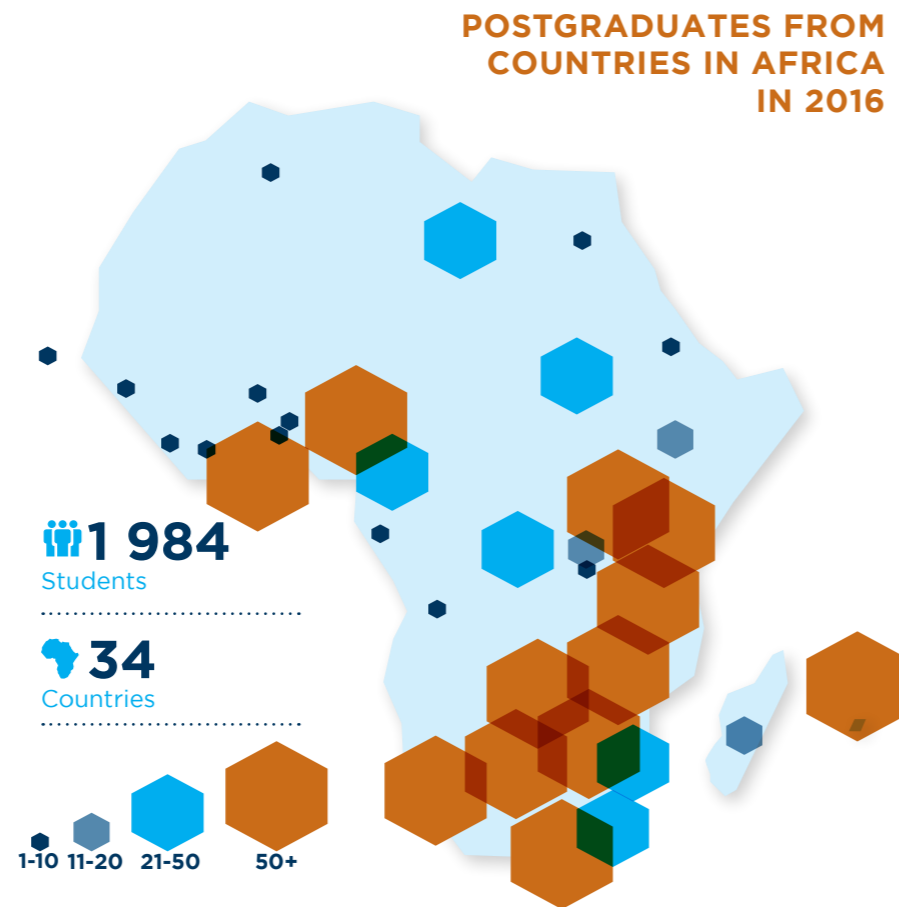


A snapshot of  
research in Africa

# Partners in Africa

The creation of new knowledge has become a global project, but one in which the voice of Africa is often missing. If it is to take control of its own future, Africa must generate its own knowledge and, in doing so, contribute to global knowledge. Taking advantage of its geographical location and position as one of the leading universities in Africa, UCT can play a vital role in connecting institutions in the global north with its extensive networks across Africa, to draw international expertise to the continent and to ensure that an African voice is present in global debates.

In all our research endeavours, we are driven by the idea of UCT as a vibrant centre of knowledge production on African issues, with African and global partners, to the highest international standards.



## AFRICAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES ALLIANCE (ARUA)

ARUA, a partnership of research universities in Africa, was launched in early 2015 as a response to the growing challenges faced by African universities. The alliance will form a hub that supports centres of excellence in many other universities across the continent. The focus is on building indigenous research excellence to enable the continent to take control of its future and assert itself as a powerful global force.

### ARUA universities

- Ethiopia**  
Addis Ababa University
- Ghana**  
University of Ghana
- Kenya**  
University of Nairobi
- Nigeria**  
University of Lagos
- University of Ibadan  
Obafemi Awolowo University
- Rwanda**  
University of Rwanda
- Senegal**  
Université Cheikh Anta Diop
- South Africa**  
University of Cape Town  
University of KwaZulu-Natal  
University of Pretoria  
Rhodes University  
University of Stellenbosch  
University of the Witwatersrand
- Tanzania**  
University of Dar Es Salaam
- Uganda**  
Makerere University

# Research across Africa

UCT's research is centred on and grounded in Africa. We are committed to the mission of enabling Africa to solve our own, Africa-specific problems. To achieve this, many of our researchers have established extensive networks across Africa. Here are just a few.

<p><b>25</b> research projects in Africa</p> <p><b>29</b> countries with primary sites</p> <p><b>Human Heredity Health in Africa (H3Africa)</b></p> <p>Despite both the high disease burden and genetic diversity on the continent, genomic research is limited in Africa. H3Africa seeks to increase the number of African scientists in genomics and population-based research; establish collaborative networks of African investigators and grow the infrastructure to facilitate genomics research across the continent.</p>	<p><b>7</b> African partners</p> <p><b>Heart of Africa Study</b></p> <p>The Heart of Africa Study consists of a number of collaborative projects that examine the emergence of heart disease in African communities. The project's origin lies in the Heart of Soweto project, which investigated the prevalence, presentation and management of cardiac disease in an urban African population.</p>	<p><b>37</b> African countries</p> <p><b>227 000</b> African citizens surveyed</p> <p><b>Afrobarometer</b></p> <p>The Afrobarometer is an African-led, non-partisan research network that conducts regular public attitude surveys on democracy, governance and well being in Africa. Six rounds of surveys with more than 220 000 African citizens in 37 African countries have been conducted. The data from the surveys is used to contribute to the Index of African Governance compiled by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation.</p>	<p><b>7</b> African partners</p> <p><b>The Tombouctou Manuscripts Project</b></p> <p>This project researches and documents manuscript traditions across Africa. It was initially inspired by the written heritage of Timbuktu - historically, an important centre of commerce and learning and, in contemporary times, a key symbol of African literary heritage.</p>
<p><b>12</b> African partners</p> <p><b>The African Mining Legislation Atlas (AMLA)</b></p> <p>The NRF/DST SARCHI Research Chair: Mineral Law in Africa (MLiA) investigates and studies a number of key issues pertaining to mineral law and mineral resource management across the continent. Research areas are focused around sustainability, governance, extractive justice and business. The MLiA Chair also scrutinises the 'resource curse' in Africa by analysing and critiquing the continent's respective legal frameworks that govern mineral resources across 17 jurisdictions in Africa, proposing ways to strengthen these frameworks. The collaboration aims to foster capacity-building and high-impact dissemination of socially responsive scholarship.</p>	<p><b>7</b> African partners</p> <p><b>3</b> international partners</p> <p><b>Adaptation at Scale in Semi-Arid Regions (ASSAR)</b></p> <p>The semi-arid regions of Africa and Asia are particularly vulnerable to climate-related impacts and risks. Working in seven countries in these regions, ASSAR - led by the African Climate and Development Initiative - seeks to understand the factors that have prevented climate change adaptation from being more widespread and successful. It is also investigating the processes that can facilitate a shift from ad-hoc adaptation to large-scale adaptation.</p>	<p><b>9</b> African partners</p> <p><b>10</b> international partners</p> <p><b>Square Kilometre Array (SKA)</b></p> <p>The SKA project is an international effort to build the world's largest radio telescope. The telescope will be co-located in Africa and Australia. UCT is playing a leading role in a flagship program that will create data science capacity for leadership in the MeerKAT SKA precursor survey projects, other global precursor and pathfinder programs, and SKA key science.</p>	<p><b>2</b> African partners</p> <p><b>4</b> global south partners</p> <p><b>3</b> international partners</p> <p><b>Hungry Cities Research Programme</b></p> <p>This five-year international research programme comprises a comparative multi-city inquiry to promote inclusive growth in the informal food sector. It is led from the African Centre for Cities and aims to create enabling policy environments and support for entrepreneurship as well as decent formal and informal employment.</p>