

World University Network (WUN) visit to CHS

A Delegation of WUN-Global Africa Group coordinators and researchers visited the college of health sciences on Tuesday 13 June 2017. Some of the priority areas discussed included;

- Environmental change and food security
- Public health
- Governance, inequality and social inclusion
- Higher education and research capacity
- Natural resources for inclusive growth and sustainable development

The Global Africa Group builds on the existing expertise and international partnerships amongst the Worldwide Universities Network's members, in Africa and abroad, to identify sustainable and equitable solutions to critical local, regional and global challenges of relevance to Africa.

WUN-Global Africa Group collaborative research program is designed to support sustainable development and capacity-building in Africa through providing the evidence-base for innovations and impacts in both the natural and social sciences.

WUN is a global network driving international research collaboration and developing research talent; Global Africa Group seeks to enhance the opportunities, build research collaborations, innovations and impact in supporting Africa's development agenda

In 2015 WUN formed a Global Africa Group to enhance the opportunities - enabled by our global network - to build research collaborations, innovations and impact in support of Africa's development agenda. The Global Africa Group builds on the existing expertise and international partnerships amongst the Worldwide Universities Network's members, in Africa and abroad, to identify sustainable and equitable solutions to critical local, regional and global challenges of relevance to Africa.

Our targeted collaborative research program is designed to support sustainable development and capacity-building in Africa through providing the evidence-base for innovations and impacts in both the natural and social sciences. Our five research priorities sit at the intersection of WUN's existing expertise and research collaborations, Africa's development agenda as outlined in the [African Union's Agenda 2063](#) and the [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#).

Our five research priorities:

- Environmental change and food security
- Public health
- Governance, inequality and social inclusion
- Higher education and research capacity
- Natural resources for inclusive growth and sustainable development

Using a regional research hubs model centred upon our African members, global-regional

collaboration and mobility are the cornerstones of our approach. Our comparative advantage is that we provide practical opportunities for international and African researchers to connect both across and beyond the continent. Through people-to-people links and mutually-developed research programs, the WUN Global Africa Group is building research capacity to harness Africa's vast potential with an African-centred research agenda.

The three-year **Strategic Plan 2016-18** for the WUN Global Africa Group aims to strengthen the depth of WUN's engagement with Africa around our five African-focused research priorities. We work to achieve our objectives through local, regional and international development partnerships.

Please get in touch if you would like to know more about the network and how to be involved. We look forward to hearing from you.

Prof. John Hearn,
Executive Director, Worldwide Universities Network

Prof. Maano Ramutsindela, University of Cape Town
Dr David Mickler, University of Western Australia
Co-Chairs, WUN Global Africa Group

Africa related WUN funded projects (RDF 2015):

- **A study of the role of governing boards in African higher education institutions**
- **Building sustainable mountain systems in sub-Saharan Africa: assessing the linkages between communities, ecosystem services, environment and health**
- **Community of Learning for African PhD fellows**
- **Non-market valuation of loss and damage under climate change**
- **Air Sensors Everywhere**
- **Exchanging mobility for intensification modes of livestock production in African pastoral systems: trade-offs and challenges for pastoralists' climate change adaptive capacity (PI Professor Nikolaus Kuhn, The University of Basel)**

Please consult **this overview** of **all active WUN Interdisciplinary Research Groups** for other potential partners, such as:

- **Dementia Prevalence and Impact in Low Income Areas in South Africa**
- **Adopting REDD+ for Conservation, Sustainable Community Livelihood and Climate Change Mitigation**
- **Resilient Pasts and Sustainable Futures? Designing Socially Significant Scenarios**
- **Impacts of future climate and land use changes on public health and food security in Sub-Saharan Africa and South East Asia**
- **Assessing how people adapt to climate change in deltas: case studies in Asia and Africa**

