

# Higher Education in the News



## Africa

### COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Climate change programme

The East African Community (EAC), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have already initiated discussions towards the establishment of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Climate change programme to facilitate their long-term vision of working together. The COMESA-EAC-SADC tripartite initiative was lauded by the meeting as being in line with the overall AMCEN vision that seeks to have the whole of Africa speak with one voice at Climate change fora.

SOURCE: iNamibia

Posted to the web 30 September 2011

<http://www.inamibia.co.na/news-and-weather/15-africa/2528-comesa-eac-sadc-tripartite-climate-change-programme.html>

### Move to harmonise SADC education sector

A MEETING of education and training ministers of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) in Windhoek last week said progress has been made in regionally identified areas. These areas include early childhood care and development, curriculum development, gender and culture, education management information systems, teacher development, higher education, technical and vocational education and training, teaching and learning materials, and quality management.

SOURCE: The Namibian

Posted to the web 27 September 2011

<http://www.namibian.com.na/news/full-story/archive/2011/september/article/move-to-harmonise-sadc-education-sector/>

### Science, technology key to Africa's development

Modern industrial development requires know-how and capacity to adopt, development is the lowest compared to other regions of the world. This is a reflection of the comparatively low scientific knowledge, technical skills and means to provide sustainable access and use of technology on the continent. The paper summarises the status of Africa's science and technology on a least developed. However, the disparities among these regions are smaller compared to those between Africa and other regions of the world hence this paper will treat Africa as a region on its own.

SOURCE: The Herald

Posted to the web 18 September 2011

<http://www.herald.co.zw>

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## Science and Technology

### Support local governance to get research into policy

To see the research they fund in action, donors should work with good local governance, not informal networks. Researchers who work in developing countries are increasingly being asked by funders to demonstrate that their findings are being taken up in [policy](#) and practice.

It is certainly reasonable that donor agencies want to see the impact of research they fund — they too face demands from their backers, including taxpayers and philanthropists.

SOURCE: SciDev.Net

Posted to the web 22 September 2011

<http://www.scidev.net/en/sub-suharan-africa/opinions/support-local-governance-to-get-research-into-policy-1.html>

### New scoreboard for research and innovation

Although research efforts by universities and private organisations are increasing across the globe, most research remains highly concentrated in a small number of US universities, according to a just-published OECD study that uses a new measure of research impact. Across disciplines, however, "a more diverse picture emerges".

SOURCE: University World News

Posted to the web 25 September 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110923214608973>

### South Africa, Mauritius agree to build telescope

South Africa and Mauritius have agreed to jointly construct a low-frequency array telescope. Science and Technology Minister Naledi Pandor met with her counterpart from Mauritius, Rajesh Jeetah, and agreed that the two countries would construct a radio telescope array in preparation for the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) bid. A final decision of the country to host the [SKA](#) is expected by March 2012 and the MeerKAT is expected to go online by 2016.

SOURCE: Le Matinal

Posted to the web 20 September 2011

<http://www.lematinal.com/technologie/13845-South-Africa-Mauritius-agree-to-build-telescope.html>

See Also: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201109200959.html>

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## Angola

### Minister Recommends More Investment in Engineering

The minister of Geology and Mining and Industry, Joaquim Duarte David, Tuesday in Luanda recommended the Angolan universities to invest more in training in engineering, sciences and public administration. Joaquim David was speaking on the fringes of the ongoing 15th Techno-Scientific Events sponsored by the Eduardo dos Santos Foundation (FESA).

SOURCE: Angola Press

Posted to the web 20 September 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201109210161.html>

## Botswana

### Decision soon on stalled new university

The future of the Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) at Palapye, 260 kilometres northeast of the capital Gaborone, will be known in early October. The potential of this high-profile project to contribute to meeting the country's human resources needs has been wrapped in controversy and subject to the whims of contending interests for years. Botswana's planning for its second public university goes back to 2004.

SOURCE: University World News

Posted to the web 24 September 2011

<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110924204137467>

## Mozambique

### Researchers Urged Improve Productivity in Agriculture

The permanent secretary of the Ministry of Science and Technology, Evaristo Baquete, on Wednesday challenged African researchers to work harder to improve the productivity of agriculture. Baquete laid down this challenge during the opening of a two-day international workshop in Maputo on innovation in research for African development, which brought together more than 40 researchers from Mozambique, Ghana, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)

Posted to the web 28 September 2011

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201109290096.html>

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## Mauritius

### Huge demand for medical training

Demand for places in the University of Namibia's two-year old School of Medicine and the recently introduced pharmacy degree far outstrips the number of places available, it has emerged. When the school opened, there were 500 mature student applicants for just two places. Founding dean of the School of Medicine, Professor Peter Nyarango, told *University World News* that there was also very high demand from school-leavers, locally and from abroad, for admission into the MBChB and BPharm programmes.

SOURCE: University World News  
Posted to the web 25 September 2011  
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110923212837324>

## Seychelles

### UniSey to start civic education

The University of Seychelles (UniSey) is introducing a compulsory course in civic education so as to enable students to have a better and more profound impact on society. UniSey will also be launching a Diploma in youth studies, in partnership with the University of South Africa. Speaking at the official opening of Unisey's academic year 2011-2012. Dr Payet said other courses will also be introduced such as the development of our very own undergraduate programme in environmental science.

SOURCE: Seychelles Nation  
Posted to the web 20 September 2011  
<http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=25014>

### Seychelles leads in key regional agriculture plan

Seychelles on Friday became the first Indian Ocean island nation to sign the important Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Plan (CAADP) Compact initialled by Vice-President Danny Faure on behalf of the government. CAADP encourages African governments to increase national budgetary allocation to the agriculture sector to at least 10% annually, to enable a minimum sectoral growth of 6% saying it has the potential to address some of the major challenges currently facing African agriculture.

SOURCE: Seychelles Nation  
Posted to the web 19 September 2011  
<http://www.nation.sc/index.php?art=24999>

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## South Africa

### Researcher rating boosts publication

Recent research indicates that the evaluation and rating system for individual researchers by the National Research Foundation (NRF) has had a positive impact on the publication profile of South Africa's researchers in the social sciences. A paper by Roula Inglesi-Lotz and Anastasious Pouris, published in the September edition (Volume 88, number 3) of *Scientometrics*, indicates that NRF rating of researchers increased by an estimated average of 24.5% the number of research articles produced by social scientists in the first five years after the rating system was opened up to social scientists in 2001.

SOURCE: University World News  
Posted to the web 25 September 2011  
<http://www.universityworldnews.com/article.php?story=20110923212317965>

### Info bill will compromise research - UJ

The senate of the University of Johannesburg has urged the legislature not to adopt the protection of state information bill in its present form. UJ deputy vice chancellor Prof [Adam Habib](#) said on Tuesday the bill did not address the concerns of citizens and had a negative impact on academic research.

SOURCE: South African Government Information  
Posted to the web 8 September 2011  
<http://www.info.gov.za/speech/DynamicAction?pageid=461&sid=21440&tid=42294>

### Wits library sharpens research management capabilities

The Wits Library and four other higher education institutions in Africa, have been awarded a grant of \$500 000 (more than R4 million) from the Carnegie Corporation of New York to assist with enhancing research performance measurement capabilities at African universities. The universities that co-submitted the proposal for the grant are Makerere University, the University of Cape Town, the University of Ghana and the University of Pretoria.

SOURCE: Wits University  
Posted to the web 28 September 2011  
[http://www.wits.ac.za/newsroom/newsitems/201109/13947/news\\_item\\_13947.html](http://www.wits.ac.za/newsroom/newsitems/201109/13947/news_item_13947.html)

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## Swaziland

### Over 1 400 UNISWA students to graduate

AT least 1 405 students are set to be conferred with degrees, diplomas, masters degrees and certificates in this year's graduation to be held at the University of Swaziland, Kwaluseni Campus. The graduation ceremony is slated for next Saturday. UNISWA Deputy Registrar and Corporate Affairs Ambrose Gama, said 738 graduands will be conferred with degrees, 359 with diplomas, 282 with certificates and 26 with masters degrees.

SOURCE: Swazi Observer  
Posted to the web 30 September 2011  
<http://www.observer.org.sz/index.php?news=30423>

## Tanzania

### Give Necessary Loans to Science Students

The fact that science and technology is crucial in shaping the modern world needs no emphasis. This is among the reasons the Tanzanian government gives special support to students pursuing science-oriented courses such as medicine and engineering. Students pursuing studies at diploma in engineering level have traditionally been sidelined but are to be included in the list of students getting HESLB support.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 26 September 2011  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201109270143.html>

### Dons gun for ICT development law

EXPERTS have stressed the need to have specific laws guiding the Information and Communication Technology (ICT) if the country is to attain real and sustainable development.

The challenge was made during a seminar on Law and ICT in Tanzania that was organised by the Faculty of Law of the Mzumbe University in collaboration with the University of Stockholm through the Swedish Law and Informatics Research Institute (IRI) held in Dar es Salaam recently.

SOURCE: Daily News Tanzania  
Posted to the web 30 September 2011  
<http://www.dailynews.co.tz/business/?n=24064>

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## Zambia

### ZICTA Donates \$60,000 Worth of Equipment

THE Zambia Information and Communications Technology Authority (ZICTA) has donated assistive equipments worth US\$60,000 to three higher learning institutions to facilitate the use of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for persons with disabilities at their respective institutions. ZICTA acting director general Clementina Simwanza said donation of equipments was in line with universal access programme it was implementing as mandated by ICT Act of 2009 to promote extension access of ICT services to all.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 26 September 2011  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201109270527.html>

## Zimbabwe

### Zimbabwe Government Threatens to Shut Down Under-funded Institutions

The Zimbabwean government has said it will close universities or university programs that are inadequately funded because they compromise the quality of education. Permanent Secretary Washington Mbizvo of the Ministry of Higher and Tertiary education told reporters recently that institutions with a critical shortage of lectures would close. Many university lecturers, like other Zimbabwean professionals, have left the country in droves to seek better paying jobs in neighboring countries.

SOURCE: Voice of America  
Posted to the web 26 September 2011  
<http://www.voanews.com/zimbabwe/news/Zimbabwe-Government-Threatens-to-Shut-Down-Under-funded-Institutions-130587668.html>

### UZ Agriculture Faculty Challenged to Adopt Practical Approach

UNIVERSITY of Zimbabwe Vice Chancellor, Professor Levi Nyagura has challenged the Faculty of Agriculture to shift from dwelling too much on theory and start infusing practical issues into their curriculum to influence the country's approach to farming. Speaking on the sidelines of a seminar by Chinese academics from Jiangsu Animal Husbandry and Veterinary College yesterday, Professor Nyagura said the Faculty of Agriculture was not impacting on development in the country because focus was centred too much on theory.

SOURCE: AllAfrica Global Media (allAfrica.com)  
Posted to the web 26 September 2011  
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201109270362.html>