



Higher Education in the News

SADC Ministerial Summit

[Higher education trends, challenges and recommendations](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 6 June 2012

Southern African countries must urgently develop and implement higher education policies aimed at expanding student enrolments, strengthening quality and the qualifications of academics, at least doubling the production of postgraduates, developing research capability and changing how universities work including improving governance and planning.

[Committee to develop higher education strategy for SADC](#)

SOURCE: Engineering News, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has established a technical committee, comprising of senior officials in the region, to focus on revival strategies for higher education and training. The technical committee would develop a higher education and training plan for the region, based on work undertaken by the Southern African University Association (Sarua), South African Deputy Higher Education and Training Minister Professor **Hlengiwe Mkhize** said on Tuesday.

[SADC higher education ministers meet](#)

SOURCE: IOL, Posted to the web 6 June 2012

Southern African Development Community (SADC) higher education ministers discussed how to develop a joint plan for the region at a meeting in Johannesburg on Tuesday. "The ultimate objective is to develop a higher education and training plan for the region through discussions on the status and challenges of the sector..." said Education Minister Blade Nzimande's spokeswoman, Vuyelwa Qinga. At the meeting, the Southern African Regional University Association (SARUA) submitted a presentation on access and participation rates, including the role of private institutions.

[SADC faces shortage of tertiary institutions](#)

SOURCE: BUA News, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

Despite the number of new public and private institutions that have been built over the last two decades in Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries, the region still faces a shortage of higher learning institutions. Addressing the extraordinary SADC Meeting of Ministers of Higher Education on Tuesday, Deputy Minister of Higher Education and Training, Professor Hlengiwe Mkhize, said the higher education system in the region was not growing sufficiently in either size or capacity in order to meet the demand of a growing population of youth.



[Higher education looks to ICT for transformation](#)

SOURCE: BUA News, Posted to the web 6 June 2012

Scaling up and modernising the higher education system through ICT infrastructure and increased effectiveness of higher education planning, were some of the recommendations made in a report which was presented to Ministers of Higher Education and Training from the Southern African Development Community (SADC) at an extra-ordinary meeting on Tuesday.

Global

[AfDB records 36 per cent increase in loan and grant commitments](#)

SOURCE: IPP Media, Posted to the web 1 June 2012

The African Development Bank (AfDB) Group made approvals of almost USD 8.5 billion in 2011, which represented a 36-percent increase on 2010 approvals which totalled approximately USD 6.2 billion. As for higher education, technology and vocational training, the Bank's treasurer said there had been five approvals in 2011 totalling USD 79 million. He highlighted the USD 21 million Bamako Digital Complex project in Mali, the Alternative Learning Project in Tanzania with funding of USD 23 million, and the Technical and Vocational Education and Training project in in Eritrea with finance of USD 18 million.

[The changing role of leadership in international education](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 10 June 2012

Over the past year several conferences, reports, documents and articles have addressed the changing role of internationalisation in higher education and the need to rethink the why, how and what of it. One aspect has been receiving little attention in this debate: how the change impacts on the role of leaders in international education. The recently published [call for action](#) by the International Association of Universities (IAU), "Affirming Academic Values in Internationalisation of Higher Education", describes the changes in internationalisation clearly. It states among other things:

Science and Technology

[SADC countries adopt strategies for RIO+20](#)

SOURCE: Sunday Standard, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

Southern African countries have adopted regional priorities and plans for RIO+20 conference coming this month, after the one day multi-stakeholder discussion, which was held in Gaborone last Thursday. The dialogue on climate change gave the Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states an opportunity to reach a common ground and develop a regional policy on issues of environment and development.



[Bandwidth a constraint to e-learning](#)

SOURCE: Biz Tech Africa, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

The eLearning Africa report, which surveyed stakeholders in 41 countries across Africa, has found that bandwidth is the biggest constraint to e-learning. The report was presented by Max Ahouéké, minister of communication and information and communication technologies of Benin, at the opening session of the eLearning Africa Conference.

Angola

[Ministerial Meeting Promotes Concert of Policies](#)

SOURCE: Angola Press, Posted to the web 9 June 2012

The meeting gathering ministers of Higher Education, Science and Technology of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) will promote political concert among member States on matters relating the development of the sector. According to an official, the meeting will set out specific tools for developing and coordinating and monitoring of the actions outlined by Higher Education, Science and Technology in the member States of CPLP.

[Education Ministry, Unitel, Huawei Create Joint Internet Project](#)

SOURCE: Angola Press, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

The Ministry of Education (Med), the mobile operators "Unitel" and Huawei launched Tuesday in Luanda a joint project intended to provide countrywide a free access to Internet for 2nd cycle students of higher education for academic research and social interaction.

Botswana

[USA/Botswana to sign agreements on education](#)

SOURCE: Botswana Gazette, Posted to the web 6 June 2012

The Botswana Embassy in the United States (US) has facilitated contact between several US universities and institutions of higher learning in Botswana through the education mission it undertook in February, 2012. Botswana's Ambassador to the US, Tebelelo Seretse, said that currently the institutions are negotiating several Memoranda of Understanding to formalize partnerships for Botswana students to pursue their studies at several universities in the US..

[Government should introduce Space Science Technology](#)

SOURCE: Botswana Gazette, Posted to the web 6 June 2012

Space exploration is more of a blessing than disadvantage because many things that cannot be operated on earth like satellite applications operate on space environment. The government of Botswana should take advantage of Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST) to introduce the technology at a tertiary level to promote science and research projects that addresses the needs of the country.



Namibia

[SADC supports Namibia's bid to host Green Climate Fund](#)

SOURCE: The Namibian, Posted to the web 14 June 2012

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) has endorsed a bid by Namibia to host the secretariat for the Green Climate Fund. The fund, established in December 2011 at Durban, South Africa during the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), seeks to support climate change mitigation and adaptation actions in developing countries.

Mauritius

[Indian institutes of technology to open branch campus](#)

SOURCE: University World News, Posted to the web 6 June 2012

Indian institutes of technology have announced the opening next year of a branch campus in Mauritius. The Indian Ocean island had sought the help of the prestigious institutes to set up a research-oriented academy of international standard. The new institution, to be called International Institute of Technology and funded by a US\$20 million investment, will initially be mentored by the Indian Institute of Technology (ITT) – Delhi, as an IIT campus with a global outlook.

Mauritius

[Further Details Emerge Over the Country's Role in SKA Telescope](#)

SOURCE: Club of Mozambique, Posted to the web 4 June 2012

Mozambique is to host two sites for the world's largest and most powerful telescope, the Square Kilometre Array (SKA). The British based organisation SKA on Monday decided to build the world's largest ever telescope in southern Africa and Australasia, with Mozambique hosting part of the telescope at the Science and Technology Park in Maluana, Maputo province. South Africa will lead most of the project, which will be centred in the Karoo and extend out into Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia.

South Africa

[From aliens to natives: Nzimande's higher education demands](#)

SOURCE: Mail and Guardian, Posted to the web 1 June 2012

Every university must have a dining hall, every university student should have an email address, and the provision of laptops to certain students would be explored, Minister Blade Nzimande told a dialogue series convened by the ANC at the University of Johannesburg's Soweto campus on Thursday at an event, which is part of an ongoing series of engagements with all sectors leading up to the party's policy conference in June. Nzimande also addressed the burning issue of capacity at higher education institutions.



[CUT reveals plan to be 'isle of innovation'](#)

SOURCE: The New Age, Posted to the web 4 June 2012

The Central University of Technology (CUT) has officially launched its Vision 2020 plan to position itself as a new-generation institution committed to the socioeconomic development agenda of the region. The vice-chancellor and principal, Prof Thandwa Mthembu, who officially launched the programme, said CUT was becoming an "isle of innovation".

[UJ introduces online application system](#)

SOURCE: My Broadband, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

The University of Johannesburg has introduced online applications and a toll-free number for people wishing to apply for admission. UJ spokesman Herman Esterhuizen said students could use the toll-free number (0861 00 00 85) to seek advice if they were struggling with their online applications. Earlier this year UJ was flooded with thousands of late applicants. There were several incidents, including a stampede during which the mother of a prospective student died.

[Timely boost to TUT prowess in research](#)

SOURCE: IOL, Posted to the web 11 June 2012

Mulimillion-rand, state-of-the-art engineering equipment has been installed at the Tshwane University of Technology's faculty of engineering to propel the institution's capabilities in the research arena. The two pieces of equipment cost R8.5 million and are the first of their kind in the country. Of the total, R6.8m was a grant from the National Research Foundation.

Zimbabwe

[New Science Policy](#)

SOURCE: The Herald Online, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

GOVERNMENT has crafted a new policy to improve science in the country, a parliamentary portfolio committee heard yesterday. Science and Technology Development Minister Heneri Dzinotyiwei said the new policy will replace the old one. He said this while giving oral evidence before a parliamentary portfolio committee on Higher Education, Science and Technology in Harare yesterday.

[Zim gets US\\$11m ACBF grants](#)

SOURCE: The Herald Online, Posted to the web 5 June 2012

THE Africa Capacity Building Foundation yesterday advanced US\$10,8 million in grants to Zimbabwe for various capacity development programmes. South Sudan also received US\$2,25 million from the foundation to build its human and institutional capacities, bringing the total grants signed to US\$13,3 million. ACBF has invested about US\$26,4 million in Zimbabwe since 1992. ACBF executive secretary Dr Frannie Leatier said the grants were a reflection of the foundation's strong support for programmes promoting social and political stability.