

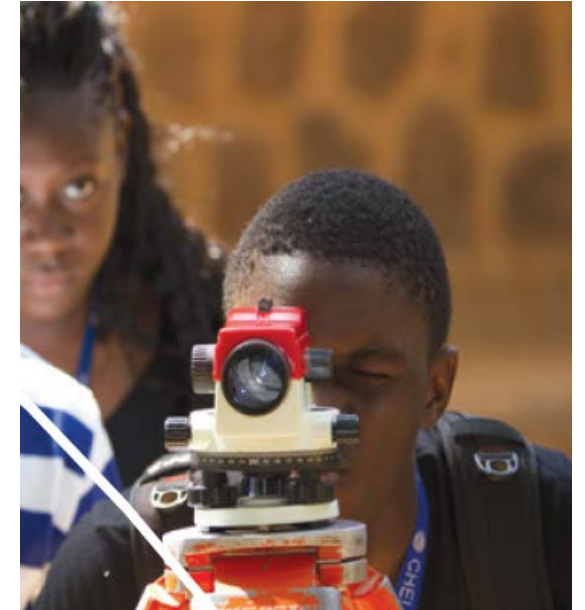
The World Bank and the Africa Centers of Excellence (ACE) projects

ACE Impact

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Outline

- The World Bank
- ACE Impact Project
- Participation of Countries
- Partnerships
- Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF)



The World Bank

- Twin Goals
 - End Extreme Poverty
 - Promote Shared Prosperity
- Systematic Country Diagnostic (SCD)
- Country Partnership Framework (CPF)
- Loans to national governments

World Bank Organization

- Matrix Structure
 - Global Practices (Topical)
 - Regional Approach (Geographical)
- World Bank Headquarters
- Country Offices
- Education is one of the Global Practices at the World Bank
 - Basic, Secondary, TVET, Tertiary
 - Africa Centers of Excellence Program – postgraduate education and applied research

Issues for Consideration

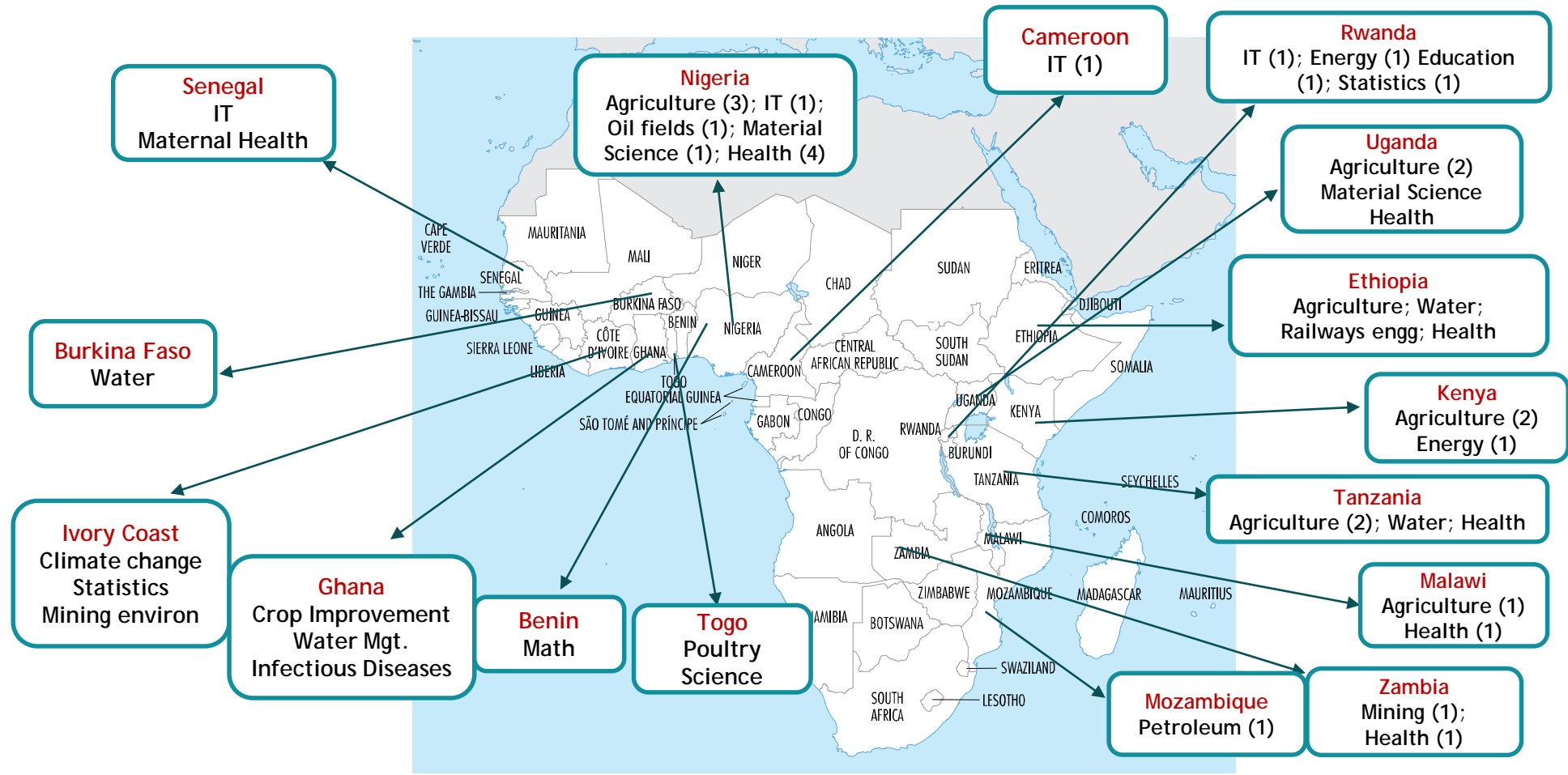
- Limited resources
 - Regional Centers
- Keep talented students in Africa
 - Regional students
 - Programs must have International Quality
- Training must be relevant
 - Advisory Boards
 - Sectoral Stakeholders
 - Partnerships can add value
- Skills gap – in particular in STEM disciplines
 - Who hires the graduates?
 - 50% STEM (Engineering) focused
- Approximately 30% of faculty have PhD
- Transform programs AND institutions
 - Within national context – systems

The Africa Centers of Excellence Program

- To support excellence in postgraduate education and research
 - Train MS and PhD students to address the Skills Gap
 - Provide midcareer Short Courses
 - Applied Research
- Focus on Development Challenges
- Regional (rather than national) Focus
- Partnering:
 - Sectoral Stakeholders
 - Global Excellence
- Competitive Selection Process
- Government Ownership

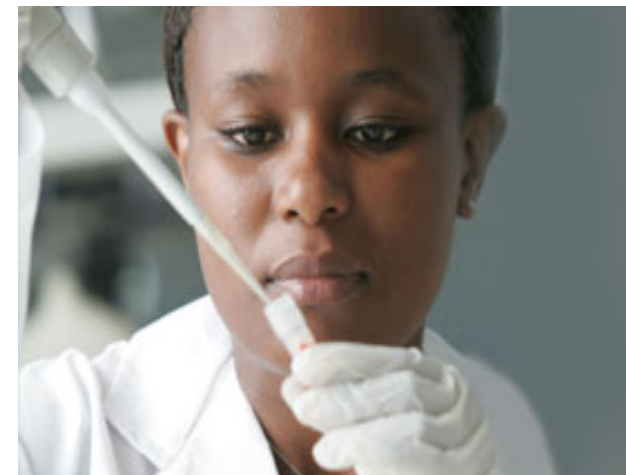
Current Africa Centers of Excellence (ACE I & II)

Distribution by Country: 46 Centers in 16 Countries



ACE 1 - Lessons Learned and Numbers

- Prior institutional and ministerial buy-in
 - Regional engagement
 - Institutional impact
 - Sector engagement and **upfront** commitment
 - Sectoral Advisory Board
 - Networking and Partnerships
 - Gender
 - Plan for sustainability
-
- 22 Centers in 8 West and Central African countries
 - 1600 PhD students
 - 6500 MS students
 - 16000 short-course students (midcareer)



Objective of the ACE Impact Project

- To increase **quantity**, **quality** and **development relevance** of post-graduate education in selected universities through regional specialization
 - ❖ **Increase the number** of enrolled students (ultimately graduates) in post-graduate programs (Master's, PhDs)
 - ❖ **Enhance the quality** of post-graduate programs such that students acquire the necessary theoretical knowledge and applied skills upon graduating
 - ❖ **Improve development Impact** such that the knowledge and skills acquired by graduates are closely linked to development challenges
- Project duration – 4 to 5 years
- Total budget - \$250 - \$350 million

Process

- Project Development
- Country Interest
- Project Signoff
 - World Bank
 - Participating Countries
- Call for Proposals
- Evaluation Process
 - International standards for peer review
 - Panel Evaluation
 - On-site Evaluation

Process

- Selection by Project Steering Committee
- Negotiations with Institutions and National Governments
- Project Approval at World Bank
- Project launch
- Dispersal of funding based on achievement of pre-determined results
- **Strong Supervision**
 - **Financial**
 - **Academic**

Components

Component 1 (US\$ 170 – 215 million)

- **Subcomponent 1.1:**
Support to establish new centers of excellence
- **Subcomponent 1.2:**
Support to scale-up well performing centers of excellence
- Additional financing for institutions with Component 1 Engineering focused centers

Component 2 (US\$ 75 – 95 million)

- Support to emerging centers of excellence for networking, regional TA and improving learning environment

Component 3 (US\$ 15 – 30 million)

- **Component 3:** Support for:
 - Regional Higher Education policymaking and collaboration
 - Regional project facilitation (including M&E)

Prioritization for New Centers

For each sector, through consultations with experts, governments, industry and development partners, the project identified:

- **Pre-identified Thematic Sectors** focusing on areas such as water, ICT, power, housing, urban design, coastal degradation, education, environment etc..
- **Scope/area** within each of the pre-identified thematic sectors that apply to
 - Current skills gap within this area in West and Central Africa
 - Applied research needs for industry
- **Key partners** (national, regional and international)
- The best proposal within the pre-identified sectors will be selected

Component 1: Expected Results

- International quality post-graduate education
- Targeted research in response to development challenges
- Stronger sectoral engagement
- Increased strategic/ functional regional and international partnerships
- Strengthened Institutional-level Impact
- Improved student support and welfare
- Increased enrollment and better retention of women

Component 1: Disbursement Linked Indicators (DLIs)

- Institutional Readiness
- Development Impact of ACE Center
- Number of Students Enrolled
 - Gender
 - MS/PhD
 - Regional
- Quality of Education Activities
- Quality of Research Activities
- Relevance of Education and Research
- Fiduciary Enhancement
- Institutional Impact

Participating Countries

- Benin
- Burkina Faso
- Cameroon
- Cote d'Ivoire
- Djibouti
- Ghana
- Guinea
- Niger
- Nigeria
- Senegal
- The Gambia
- Togo



Partners

- French Development Agency Co-Financing
- France: ANR, CIRAD, CNRS, IRD
- Germany: DAAD, DFG, DLR/BMBF
- UK: UK Research Councils
- US: NSF

- Universities
- Sectoral stakeholders
 - Industry
 - Public stakeholders

The Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences Engineering and Technology (PASET)

PASET aims to:

- **Support African countries to build a skilled labor force** by focusing on the continuum of skills from foundational skills to upper secondary/technical/vocational training as well as higher education, scientific research and innovation.
- **Target skills in Applied Science, Engineering and Technology (ASET) for specific priority sectors** to complement and maximize returns from domestic and foreign investment in these sectors.
- **Promote strategic partnerships** between African governments, businesses & partner countries to invest in skills in ASET fields.
- **Strengthen mechanisms that promote regional institutional collaboration** in specific ASET programs & areas.
- **Strengthen African ASET systems and institutions**, including through improved policies, systems, standards and mechanisms to assure quality and relevance; to monitor progress and to ensure focus on results; and
- **Enable the systematic sharing of knowledge and experience** among **Sub-Saharan African (SSA)** countries and between SSA and Partner countries in building ASET capacity to promote development.

Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF)

- Contribute to enlarge the stock of **highly skilled scientists, professionals and innovators in Applied Sciences, Engineering & Technology (ASET) areas.**
- Identify and nurture young Africans who demonstrate academic talent and wish to further their studies in ASET fields.
- Address imbalances in the number of women and disadvantaged groups in ASET fields in Africa
- **Build capacity in Africa to provide relevant ASET training** and to ensure continued investment in scaling up ASET education and workforce

RSIF Funding

- Goal: Raise US\$100million in seed funds and ultimately make the fund sustainable
- Initial seed funding commitment of US \$10 million:
 - \$2million each from 5 African countries (Cote d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Senegal)
 - Kenya has already transferred \$2million, Rwanda has transferred \$1.5 million and Cote d'Ivoire is in the process of transferring \$1 million
 - More African countries have expressed interest to join.
- Samsung Dream Foundation will provide a stipend for select students who will be studying in Korea.
- World Bank Regional Grant and Korean Trust Fund

Thank You!

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