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Raising a new Generation of Leaders

# **BUILDING A REPUTATION OF RESEARCH EXCELLENCE THROUGH GRANTSMANSHIP AND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS**

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# Outline

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1. Introduction
2. Research Excellence Framework
3. Lessons from ACE
4. Grantsmanship & Industry Partnership
5. Concluding Remarks



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# Introduction



# Introduction

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- Research Excellence/Reputation is a vital component of THE Ranking parameters:
  - ✓ Teaching (the learning environment) – 30%
  - ✓ Research (volume, income and reputation) – 30%
  - ✓ Citations (research influence) – 30%
  - ✓ International outlook (staff, students and research) – 7.5%
  - ✓ Industry income (knowledge transfer) – 2.5%

# Introduction

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- Research Component is further broken down to:
  - ✓ Research Reputation – 18%
    - A measure of Research excellence among peers (Survey)
  - ✓ Research Income and reputation) – 6%
    - Research Income per staff
  - ✓ Research Reputation – 6%
    - No of papers published per scholar indexed by Scopus



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# Research Excellence Framework



# REF

- ✓ Every nation of the world formulates a Framework for Measuring Excellence in Research

## The British Model

- *It used to be known as Research Excellence Assessment (REA)*
- REF is the current system for assessing Research Quality among the British Higher Education Institutions



# REF Cont'd

✓ REF is responsible for:

- Selective allocation of Research Funds  
HEI
- Establishing Reputation yardsticks as well as benchmarking parameters





# REF – Criteria for Ranking

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1. Quality of research outputs
2. Impact of research (beyond the University)
3. Vitality of the research environment



# REF – Criteria for Ranking

Panels judged the overall quality of each submission

65%

Quality of research  
outputs

Publications and  
equivalent. Maximum  
of 4 outputs per  
member of staff

20%

Impact of research  
on society

Impact case studies  
and impact template.  
One case study per  
ten members of staff.

15%

The research  
environment

E.g. Research  
strategy, support for  
staff, research  
income, infrastructure

# REF – Criteria for Grading

- **Four star:** Quality that is world-leading in originality, significance and rigour.
- **Three star:** Quality that is internationally excellent in originality, significance and rigour but which falls short of the highest standards of excellence.
- **Two star:** Quality that is recognised internationally in originality, significance and rigour.



# REF – Criteria for Grading Cont'd

- **One star:** Quality that is recognised nationally in originality, significance and rigour.
- **Unclassified Quality:** that falls below the standard of nationally recognised work.



# Self Appraisal

- What's the quality of our research as an institution?
- What impact have we made or are we making on global issues?
  - Food Security, global warming etc
  - Diseases and Control (HIV/Aids, Ebola, Malaria etc)
- Any National, Continental and Global recognitions?





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# Lessons from the: African Centres of Excellence



# ACE - Objectives

- To promote regional specialization among participating universities within areas that address regional development challenges; and
- To strengthen the capacities of these universities to deliver high quality training and applied research.



# ACE - Overview

## Scope:

- CoE on a specific development challenge
- Science, Tech, Eng, Math, Agriculture, and Health Sciences
- 15 CoE grants @ max US\$ 8 million
- Regional competitive selection
- Bottom-up approach – university led

## Center Activities:

- **Outreach** and impact on society
- Build **education** capacity
- Build **research** capacity
- **Partnerships** academic and industry
- Improve **governance** and management of the institution

## Results: Increase

- Regional post-graduate students
- Regional Faculty qualifications
- Meet international quality standards of education
- Research publications
- Internships and industry linkages
- External Revenue Generation
- Improve learning resources
- Institutional Fiduciary capacity and governance





# Selected institutions

Center Challenge / Development challenge	Institution	Discipline
Genomics of Infectious Diseases	Redeemers University, Ogun State, Nigeria	Health
PAN African Materials Institute	African University of Science and Technology, Abuja, Nigeria	STEM
Sciences et Technologies de l'Eau, l'Energie et l'Environnement	Institut International d'Ingénierie de l'Eau et de l'Environnement (2iE)	Agriculture
Centre for Agricultural Development and Sustainable Environment	Federal University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, Nigeria	Agriculture
West African Center for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens	University of Ghana	Health
Neglected Tropical Diseases and Forensic Biotechnology	Ahmadu Bello University, Zaria, Nigeria	Health
Training plant breeders, seed scientists and seed technologists	University of Ghana, Legon, Ghana	Agriculture
Sciences Mathématiques et Applications	Université d'Abomey – Calavi (UAC), Bénin	STEM
Centre for Oil Field Chemicals	University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria	STEM
Water and Environmental Sanitation	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, Ghana	STEM
Technologies de l'information et de la Communication, TIC	l'Université de Yaoundé I, Cameroon	STEM



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# GRANTSMANSHIP AND INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

# GIP

## We have laid foundations for:

- ✓ *Grants proposal writing*
- ✓ *Industry partnership already launched*
- ✓ *Research partnership (thru our Visiting Profs.)*

**THE QUESTION IS WHERE ARE WE????**



# GIP Cont'd

## ACE Awardees:

✓ *ABU, UI, FUNAAB, UG, KNUST, ...*

➤ Public, older, experienced in research, and recognised.

✓ *RUNs and AUST ..*

➤ Private and young.

➤ What played out is collaboration, focus and partnership



# GIP Cont'd

## The way forward:

✓ *More partnership with experts*

◆ *Profs. Mbarika, Ogi, Ogunfunmi, Odedina, Ikhide etc*

✓ *Build more capacity in our areas of Niche*

◆ *Bio. Scs, CIS, ICT, Engineerin, Eco & Soc/Pysch.*

✓ *A few are ongoing with Harvard, Cornel, etc.*



# GIP Cont'd

✓ --*Recognitions:*

-- *Bio Sciences: Dr. Eni, Adebayo, etc*

-- *CIS: Prof. Adebisi*

-- *Eco: Dr. Evans, Okodua, etc*

-- *Other ones not known to me.*



# Concluding Remarks

## Lessons from the UNESCO Chairs

✓ *Requirements include:*

-- *Objectives and Scopes*

-- *Collaborations with Industry and Academia*

-- *Schedules and Cost*



# Concluding Remarks Cont'd

## Lessons from the UNESCO Chairs

- ✓ *The submissions could be Templates for the future*
- ✓ *After 3 months of submission, you will discover a lot of errors and inconsistencies*
- ✓ *Heads of units should be more committed to quality*
- ✓ *All clusters should get their PG students involved in the activities of the cluster*





# Concluding Remarks Cont'd

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*The quality of our research and impact,  
partnership with Industry/Government and  
Researchers will qualify us for super Grants  
as well as International recognitions*





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**Thank you For  
Listening**

