

## Strategic Plan 2015-2017

The Australia Africa Universities Network (AAUN), as the only consortium of universities spanning Australia and Africa, has established itself to inject new vigour into the academic relationships between the two continents.

With the purpose of working together to find innovative, long lasting, solutions for critical issues concerning both continents, the consortium has identified six areas of focus:

**Food Security, Water, Mining, Public Sector Reform, Public Health, and Education.**

AAUN is establishing select, high calibre partnerships in research and academia and has begun mutual research capacity building in order to bring positive improvements to our areas of focus.

AAUN has secured vital relationships and teamwork with international agencies and business to help propel us to achieve our mission. As a means of further **engagement with these strategic associations, and in order to cultivate new ones**, AAUN has set to work on a comprehensive knowledge sharing portal via its website that offers intelligence and advisory services for government institutions, the corporate sector and media on Africa-Australia relationships and research.

### Vision

High impact, strategic educational and research partnerships providing sustainable solutions to challenges jointly facing Australia and Africa.

### Mission

To enhance targeted Africa-Australia partnerships through a network of collaborative research and education initiatives. AAUN improves the capacity and connectivity of academic talent across the two continents. Through working with research institutions, business and government, AAUN delivers sustainable solutions to our joint challenges.

### Values

Driving the Australian African Universities Network's functions and future directions are the following values

Innovation	Collaboration	Equity	Sustainability
The AAUN is committed to growing and supporting a culture of innovation within its network.	The AAUN is committed to fostering open and supportive collaborations for the benefit of our global community.	The AAUN is committed to promoting equal partnerships between African and Australian research institutions.	The AAUN is committed to being a leading advisory and advocate on sustainable solutions for issues affecting Australia and Africa.

### Why Africa and Australia

To enhance targeted Africa-Australia partnerships through a network of collaborative research and education initiatives. AAUN improves the capacity and connectivity of academic talent across the two continents. Through working with research institutions, business and government, AAUN delivers sustainable solutions to our joint challenges.

Objectives	Strategies
<p><b>Scale up Africa-Australia institutional research partnerships</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Convene two major annual Africa Fora, one on each continent, to drive Australia-Africa research and education priorities.</li> <li>- Host or hold joint targeted strategic workshops and conferences on our six key areas of engagement.</li> <li>- Expand the Partnerships &amp; Research Development Fund and attract new resources from governments and agencies.</li> <li>- Introduce an Africa-Australia mobility fund to fuel the development of new research partnerships.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strengthen the academic and leadership capacity of our network's partners</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Introduce a two-way research capacity building and training program.</li> <li>- Promote and engage in the Australia Awards Africa scholarship programs.</li> <li>- Provide support for African graduates or Awardees returning from international training or research programs, including supporting Australia-Africa alumni networks.</li> <li>- Host an annual Presidents' Forum to drive actions that enhance our educational leadership capacity.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Be an influential voice in policy making across the critical issues affecting Australia and Africa</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Produce a series of policy position papers on our six key areas of engagement.</li> <li>- Engage with industry, government and civil society through conferences and events on joint Australia-Africa challenges.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Provide an intelligence and advisory portal for expertise on Australia-Africa issues</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Create a 'one-stop-shop' intelligence and advisory portal for government institutions, the corporate sector, and media on Africa.</li> <li>- Introduce Australia-Africa e-News letter</li> </ul>

