

AAUN Education Session

Chika Sehoole

University of Pretoria

Context

- Africa - 1.033 billion (2013), 54 countries
- 2,450 post-secondary institutions, 7% of the world's total (Okebukola, 2015).
- Over 65% of institutions - universities (UNESCO, 2013).
- SADC students the most mobile worldwide; 6 out of every 100 studying abroad
- 50%, taking place intra regionally

Challenges

- **Research capacity: Facilities; dissemination, funding**
- **Expenditure 0.5% GDP on research**
- **Global annual share of publications 1% (ADEA, 2015)**
- **Shortage of research expertise and experienced supervisors (Mutula 2009)**
- **Collaborative research - 66% of the continent's research**

Challenges

- Youth unemployment
- Relationship between higher education and industry
- Concern about the low quality of academic standard and skills displayed at work
- Universities are not providing students with adequate opportunities to develop the skills required to realise these aspirations (self employment)

Opportunities



• Africa is the youngest continent in the world with a large

Opportunities

- 40% of its working age population is between the ages of 15 and 24, youngest in the world
- 200 million youth in Africa – double in 2045
- Urbanisation and growing cities
- Soon: 80 cities with more than 1 million people each
- Megacities, Kinshasa, Lagos and Cairo, Johannesburg, with more than 10 million residents

Where to, and How?

- **Partnerships and Collaborations**
- **Research and knowledge generation**
- **Centres of Excellence**
- **Bridge the gap between universities and industry**
- **Skills development programmes for youth development**
- **Formal programmes and community outreach programmes**