

AAUN is a key enabler for cross-continental and intra-continental collaboration opportunities

PRDF grants have an average of

FOUR

collaborating partners



80% of teams from

completed PRDF projects have
CONTINUED COLLABORATING

HALF



of the PRDF grants include partners outside of AAUN expanding the network's reach on both continents

**43 EXCHANGES FUNDED
IN 18 PROJECTS**

19 exchanges of Australian researchers to Africa

15 intra-African exchanges

5 exchanges of African researchers to Australia

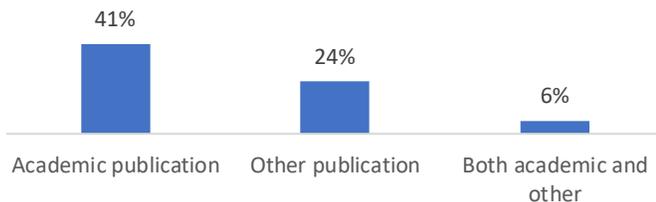


Participation in AAUN activities improved institution's and individual's strategic thinking, access to information, and awareness about Africa-Australia relations.

AAUN funded research has been widely disseminated in Australia and Africa

24 WRITTEN OUTPUTS PUBLISHED

on academic and non-academic platforms



75%

of research projects presented to at least one audience

66%

of research projects presented to audiences in Australia

70%

of research projects presented to audiences in Africa

MORE THAN 50 in progress in 2020.

PRDF seed grants have enabled several cross-continental research teams to leverage additional funding

AT LEAST 25% of grant holders **SUCCESSFUL** in additional collaborative funding applications.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING LEVERAGED

AUD \$492,000.00



US \$302,837.00

Ninety percent of PRDF grant holders were satisfied or very satisfied with their overall experience.

Highlights from the AAUN Assessment

The AAUN initiated an internal monitoring and assessment exercise in 2020. The purpose of the assessment was to understand what the AAUN has achieved in line with its intended purpose and strategy to inform the future strategic direction of the network.

The assessment focused on five broad areas: the network's profile and visibility, the relevance of the AAUN, the effectiveness and efficiency of the AAUN activities, the impact or change that the AAUN activities have enabled, and sustainability.

The assessment demonstrated several of the AAUN's key achievements, with notable successes in line with its strategic plan that have been accomplished with the relatively limited funding available.

The AAUN is considered unique in its focus and operational modalities, enabling it to create a platform for the development of equal partnerships. The AAUN is the only knowledge-focused, membership-based network that focuses exclusively on Australia-Africa relationships and research partnerships.

The AAUN has played an important role in creating opportunities for mobility and exchange, and is a significant enabler for cross-continental and intra-continental collaboration. Short-term opportunities for collaboration, made possible by the AAUN PRDF seed grants, have led to longer-term collaborations among research teams. At the institutional level, several AAUN members have successfully established new formal institutional level partnerships with other members of the AAUN since joining the network.

The PRDF seed grants have yielded several benefits for grant holders, and almost all are satisfied with their overall experience as grant holders. This network funded research has been widely presented on academic and non-academic platforms in both Australia and Africa. Several outputs have already been published, and many more are in progress. Several teams, who continued their collaboration after the grants, have secured additional funding to build on their work. The PRDF grants have helped build capacities within research teams at multiple levels across institutional partners and have been particularly effective in helping develop the capacity of early career researchers.

For member institutions, participation in AAUN had a positive impact on strategically positioning Africa-Australia relations within their institutions – improving strategic thinking, access to information, and awareness about Africa-Australia relations.

External stakeholders consulted viewed the AAUN as well-positioned to make a strategic contribution to establishing equal partnerships across sectors and continents, conducting research on global challenges, enabling early career researchers, and facilitating impact outside the academic sphere

Moving forward, the AAUN should build on its early successes – retaining its unique focus and ensuring continued relevance. In the next phase of its strategic growth, the AAUN should identify ways to leverage strategic opportunities to further expand its scale, reach and impact.