Reshaping Higher Education in East Africa: Global trends and reflections from EAC’s Agenda 2050

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IUCEA, September 23rd 2020
East African Community
Vision 2050
Arusha August 2015

African Union
Agenda 2063
“Transformed Continent”
April 2015
The Aligned Ambitions

• A **prosperous** Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development
• An **integrated and politically united continent**
• An Africa of **good governance**, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law
• A **peaceful and secure** Africa
• An Africa with a **strong cultural identity**, common heritage, shared values and ethics
• An Africa whose development is **people-driven**, relying on the potential of African people, especially its women and youth, and caring for children
• Africa as a strong, united and influential **global player** and partner
Dealing with Change
2050 - 30 years ahead

- International Competition
- 4th Industrial Revolution / New Technologies / Artificial Intelligence
- New forms of work
- Cultural Identity
- Potential of Women and Youth
- Good governance
High Quality Universities

• Central to everything
• More than other institutions
  • People, identification with youth
  • Economy
  • Public services
  • Communities and Wider Society
  • Values
  • Energy and Entrepreneurship

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University of the Future
Annex 3 of EAC Vision 2050

• Virtual university education

• **Teaching**, moving focus to learning – Lifelong

• **Research**, moving focus to development, and innovation – practical

• **Community** service to Community engagement

• Specialization and Centres of Excellence
The University Challenge

• Understanding and interpreting the process of change

• Offering approaches that would harness the process of change for general benefit

• Educating and training to high quality the specialist workers whose skills are necessary to address change properly

• Creating a general intellectually engaging climate and culture across societies that promotes the virtues of understanding and science
Research: Understanding and Interpreting

The East African narrative of university contribution to progress

Asserting the African dimension in world context

- Economy
- Work
- Society
- Culture and History
Research
Harnessing for General Benefit

• Focus on problem solving and knowledge about how to address change

• Strong relationships with employers, public and private
  • Analysis of necessary skills
  • Local research and knowledge transfer

• University contribution to public and governmental ambitions, eg EAC 2050

• Promote research networks in the EAC
Education and Training
High Quality

• Flexibility in offering new modes of study, structure of courses and modes of delivery
• Agreement of a system of accreditation with relevant professional bodies
• Retraining/updating/continuous professional development
• Pastoral care
• Access and pre-university courses
Creating strong intellectual climate

• Leadership and governance

• Diverse and respectful university communities

• Local civic and community engagement

• Develop clear local community strategy, industry plus civic
Resources
Paying for it all

• State

• Individual Student

• Employer

• Philanthropy

• International support, money and in kind
Universities and their Partners

- Understanding change in East Africa
- Charting the challenges of the future
- Providing the skills of the future
- Creativity and Intelligence
- Resilience, Resourcefulness and Innovation
- Promoting the values of a strong society
Reaching East Africa 2050

- Future not Past
- Consistent Focus and Leadership
- Wide Support and Engagement
- Partnerships