

AFRICAN STRATEGY FOR FUNDAMENTAL AND APPLIED PHYSICS

Physics Education Working Group



Conveners

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Presentation Outline

- **Teacher training in Africa**
- **Development of 21st century skills and competencies**
- **4IR: Coding and Robotics**
- **Attraction and retention of students in Physics**



Strengthening Teacher Training in Africa

Harnessing SAIP Teacher Development Project Model





CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

THIS CERTIFICATE IS PRESENTED TO:

SOUTH AFRICAN INSTITUTE OF PHYSICS

THIS AWARD IS TO ACKNOWLEDGE EXCELLENCE IN THE CATEGORY OF
SCIENCE AND INNOVATION

FOR THE PROJECT "PHYSICAL SCIENCE TEACHER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT"

AS SUPPORTED BY THE UNITED KINGDOM'S PROSPERITY FUND, AND THE BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION
SOUTH AFRICA, 2015-2016.

DATE: *07 September 2016*



SIGNATURE:

Judith Macgregor
DAME JUDITH MACGREGOR
BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER

Coordination of teacher education in Africa

- **Coordination of teacher professional development workshops in partnership with African universities**
- **Monitoring quality of pre-service and in-service teacher professional training**
- **Provision of accredited Short Learning Programs**
- **Peer learning initiatives**
- **Establishment of sustainable communities of practice and professional learning communities**



e-Learning

- **Creation of Open-Source Platform**
- **Broadening educational pathways to STEM education through virtual digital platforms**
- **Embracing digital transformation**
- **Learning Management System Implementation Plan**
- **Team Leaders**
- **Quality Standards**
- **Risk Management Guidelines**
- **Training Schedule**
- **Communication and Promotion Strategy**

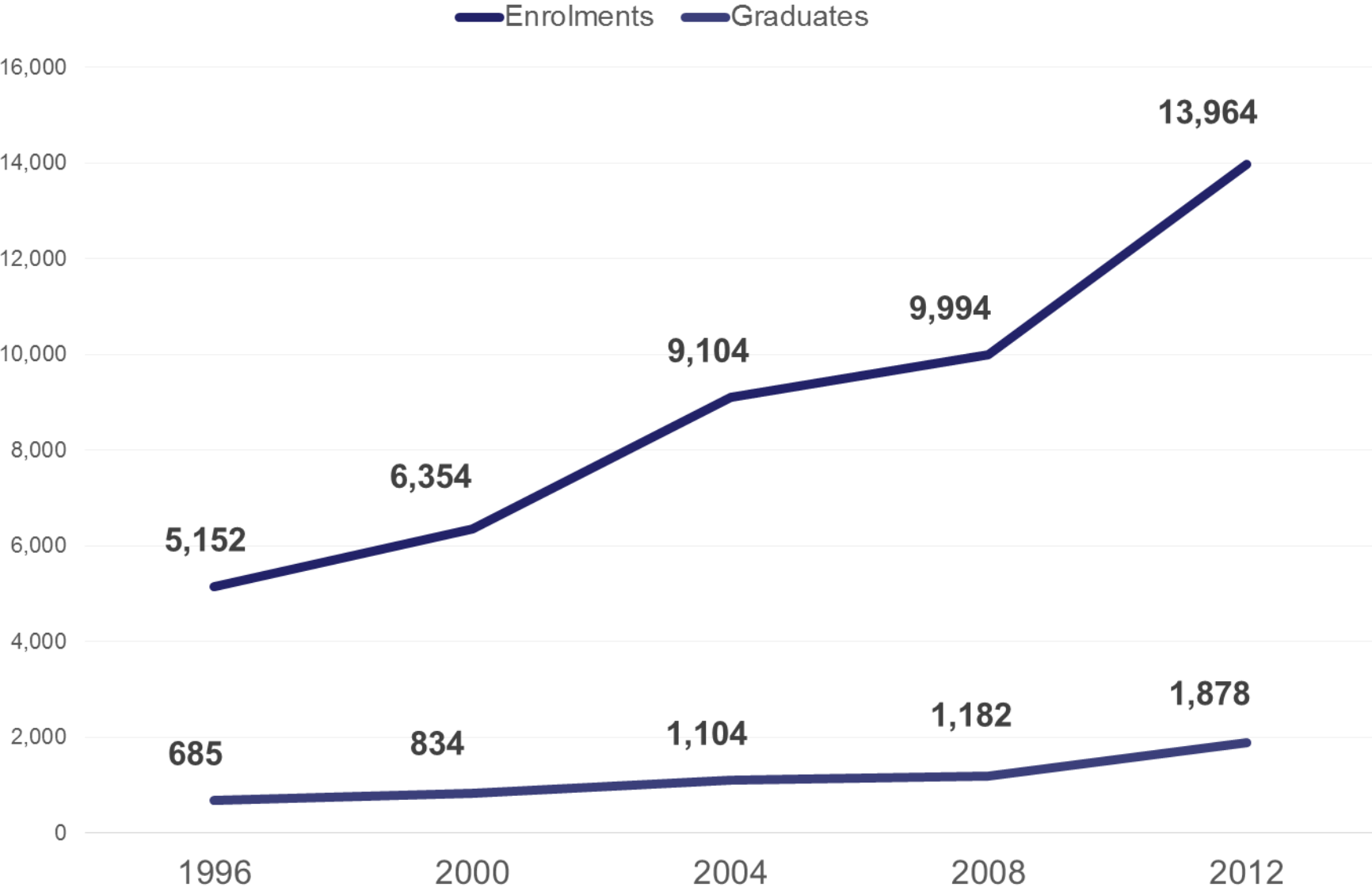


Teaching and Learning Material

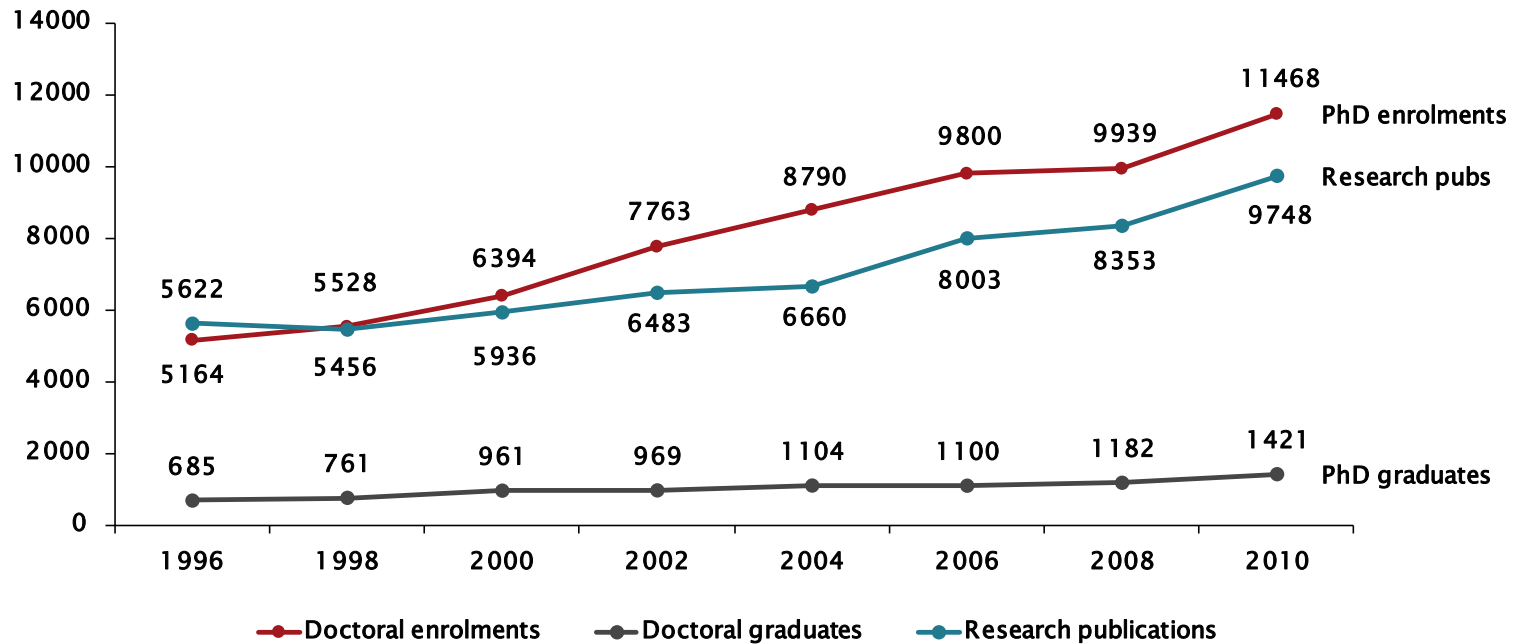
- **Coherent planning and development of teaching and learning material**
- **Strategies for effective use of teaching and learning material**
- **Identifying resources for making teaching and learning material**
- **Evaluation and revision of teaching and learning material**



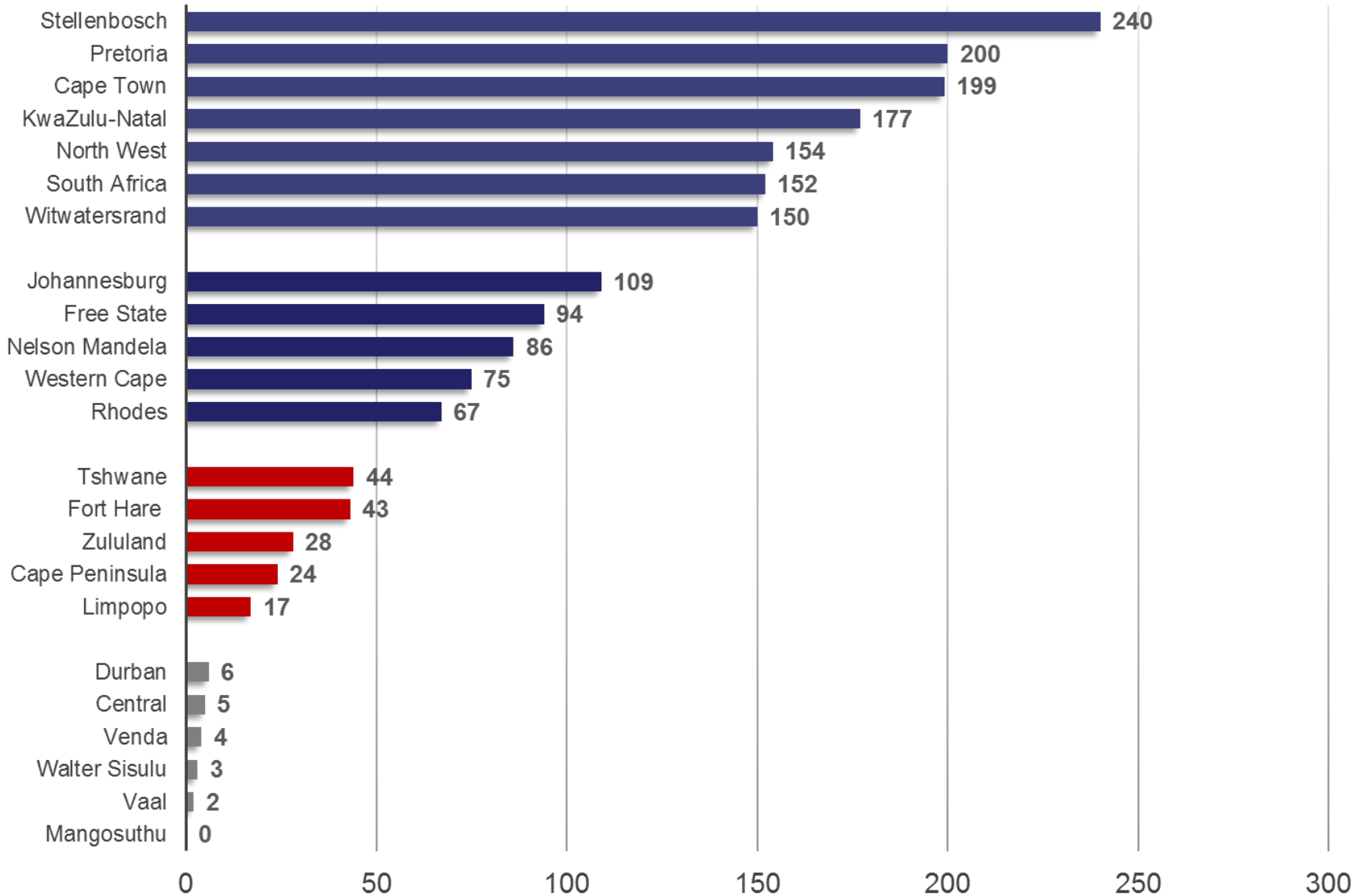
PhD enrolments and graduates in SA: 1996-2012 [Source: DHET (2013)]



Doctoral enrolments, doctoral graduates and research publications in SA

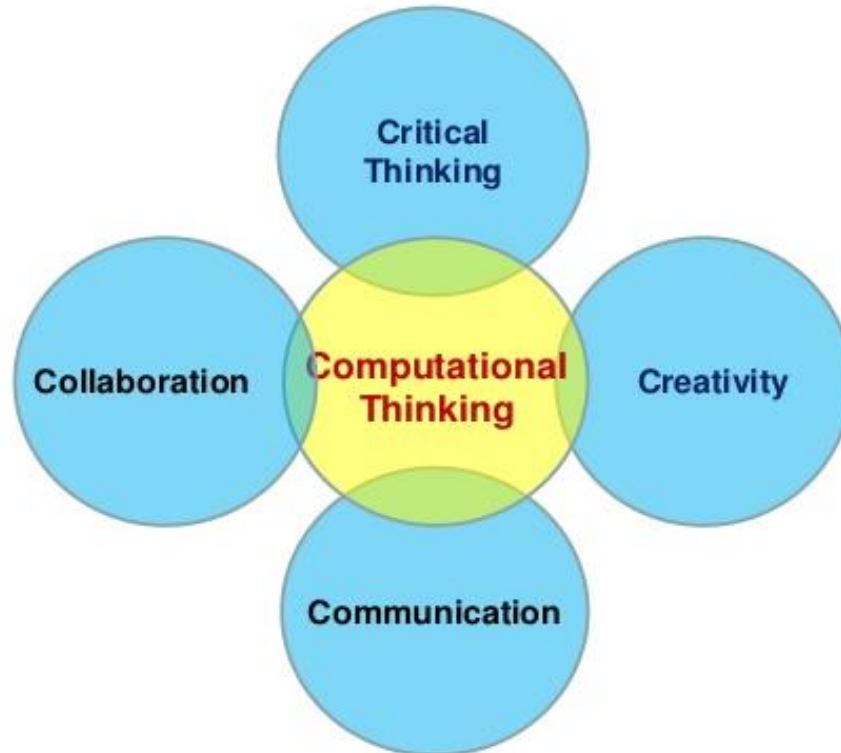


Doctoral graduates produced by SA universities in 2012



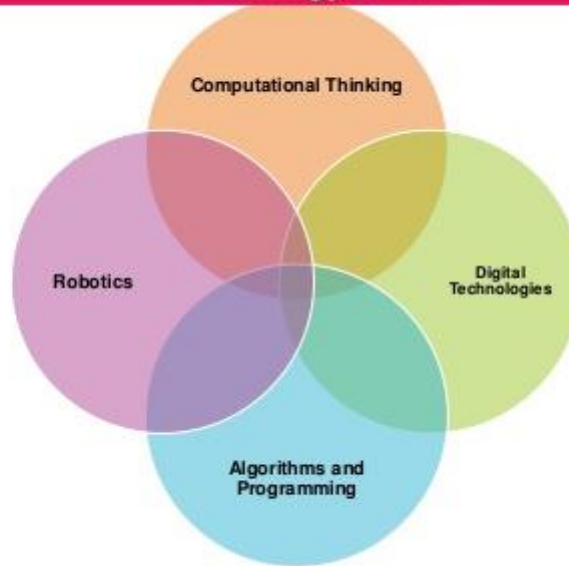


21st Century Competencies & Skills



Coding and Robotics

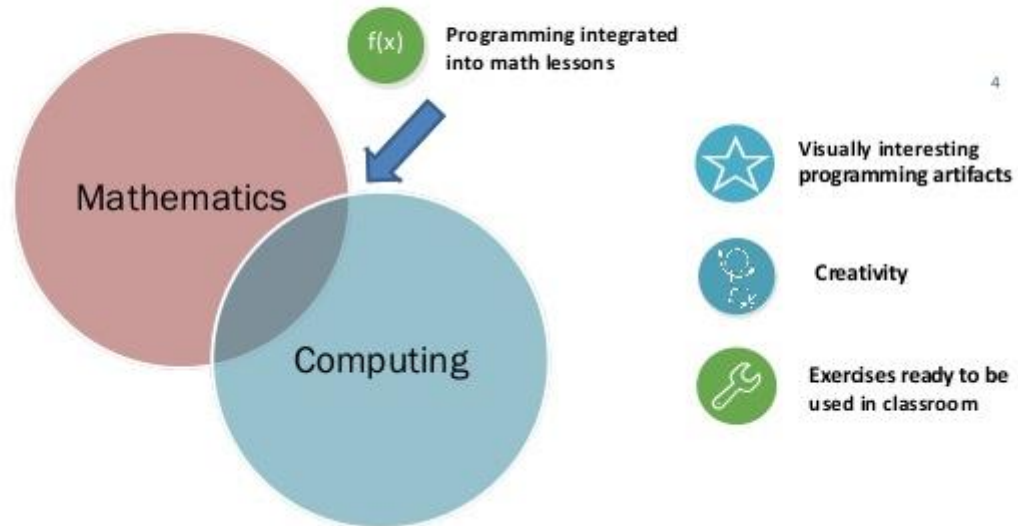
Computational Thinking, Programming and Robotics:
A Strategy to Learn



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Design targets



Programming for Physics Experiments and Simulations

- Design and implementation of Physics virtual laboratories
- Teaching Physics using simulations
- Virtual Reality and Augmented Virtual Reality
- Innovative use of multimedia technology in Physics teaching and learning
- Remote laboratory activities and experiences





Attraction and Retention of Students in Physics

- **Quality of students entering African universities**
- **Articulation gap between school and higher education**
- **The state of undergraduate physics teaching and learning**
- **Develop a set of standards for Physics training in Africa**
- **Assess levels of commonality and diversity of the physics programmes**
- **Assess range, scope and effectiveness of current teaching and learning practices in Physics at African universities**
- **Develop a set of contextually appropriate recommendations aimed at improving the effectiveness of Physics teaching at African universities**



Innovating Education in Africa Initiative

- **Established in 2018 by the African Union (AU)**
- **Aimed at identifying, promoting and supporting the systemic adoption and replication of education innovations in all aspects of education and training in Africa**
- **Policy dialogues with policy makers and development stakeholders to make the case for embedding innovation in education systems in Africa**
- **Endorsing the implementation of the continental programme**



AU Agenda 2063 Goals

- **A high standard of living, quality of life and well-being for all citizens**
- **Well educated citizens and skills revolution underpinned by science, technology and innovation**
- **Healthy and well-nourished citizens**
- **Transformed economies**



Promotion of Active Learning in Africa

- **Scaffolding**
- **Contemporary innovative strategies**
- **Modelling of instruction**
- **Performance feedback**
- **Periodic reviews**



Envisaged Strategies for Promotion of Active Learning in Africa

- **Inquiry-based learning**
- **Problem-based learning**
- **Project-based learning**
- **Self-directed learning**
- **Technology-enhanced learning**

Mobility

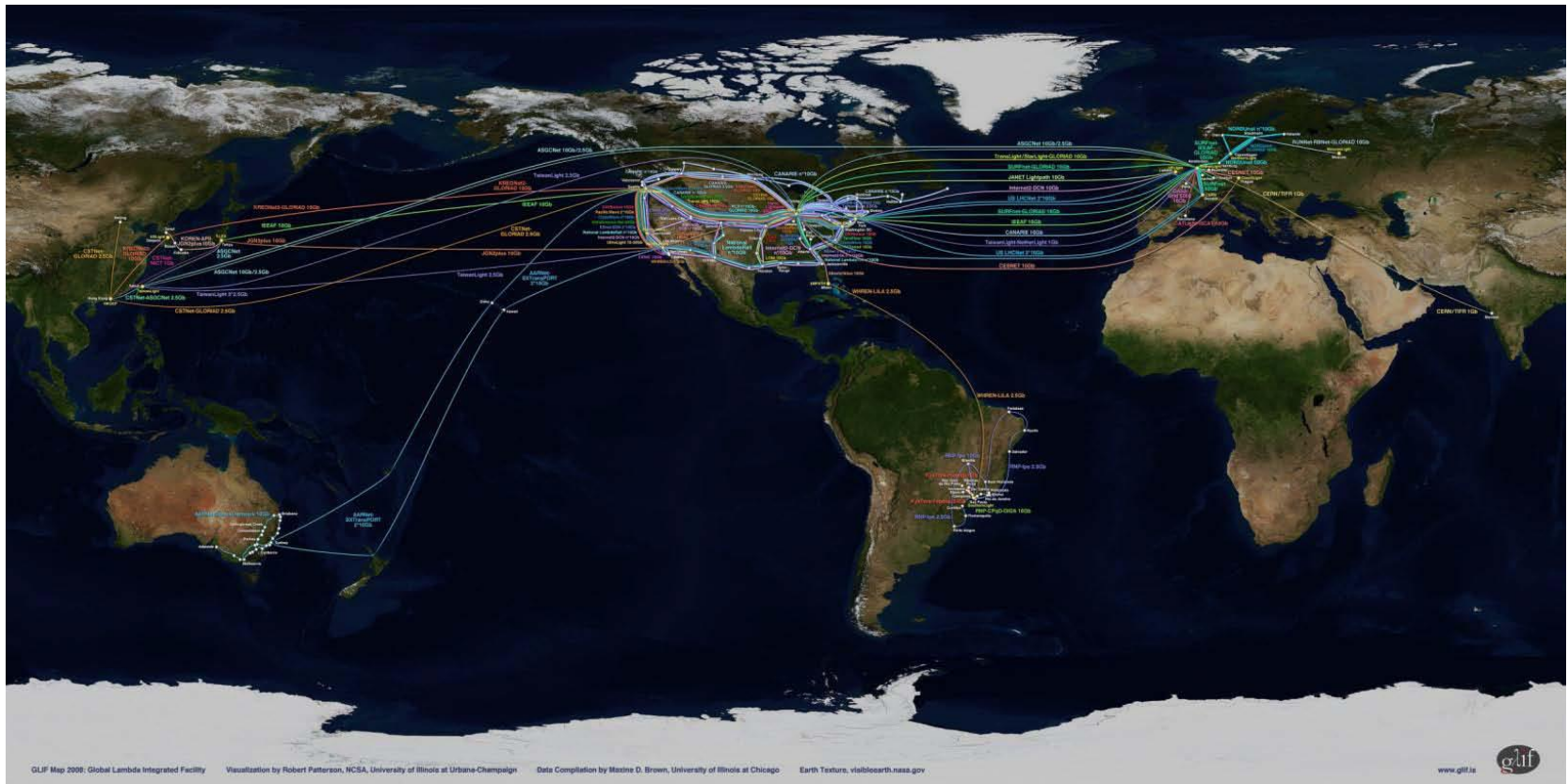
- **Sharing best practices**
- **Collaboration**
- **Skills transfer**
- **Skills development**
- **Pedagogic innovation**



Benchmarking

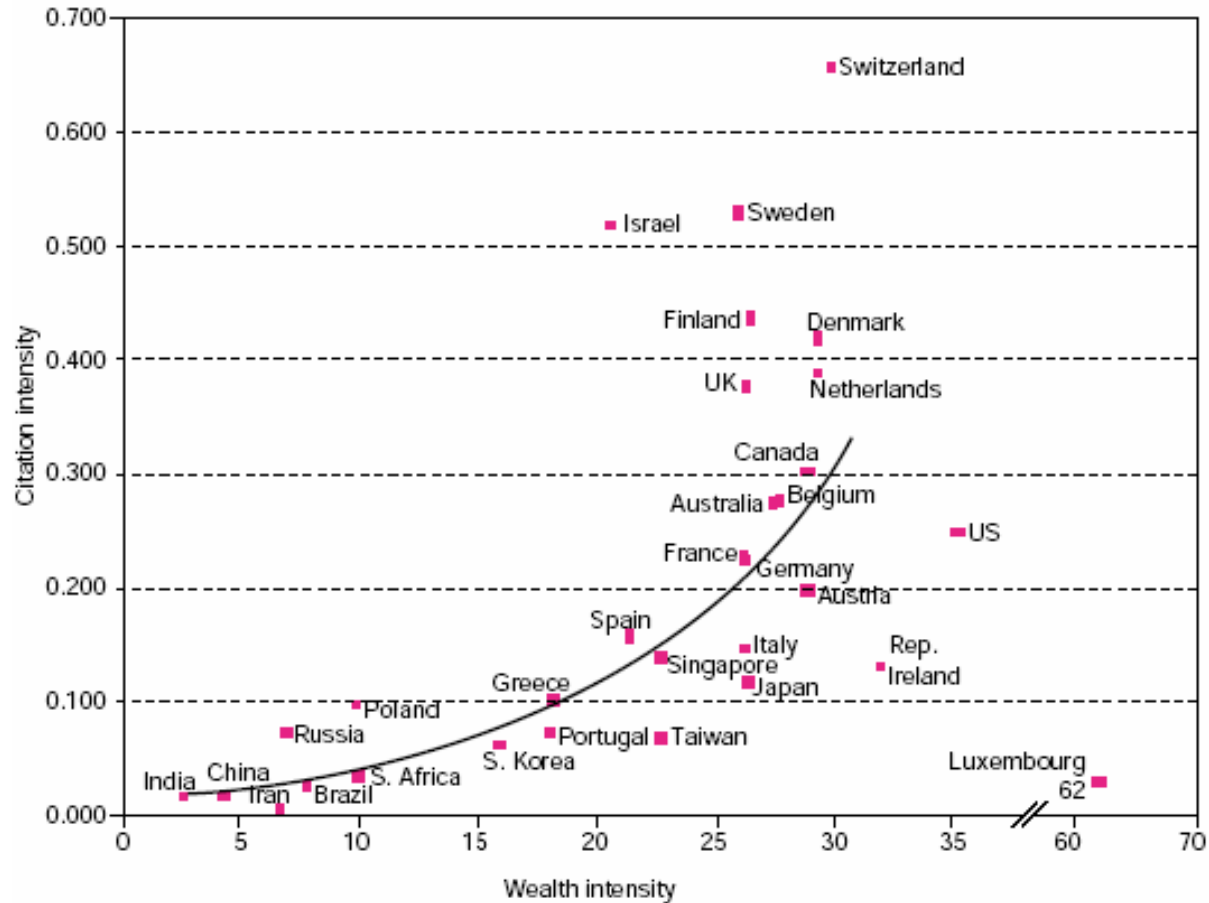


High Speed Internet Without Africa

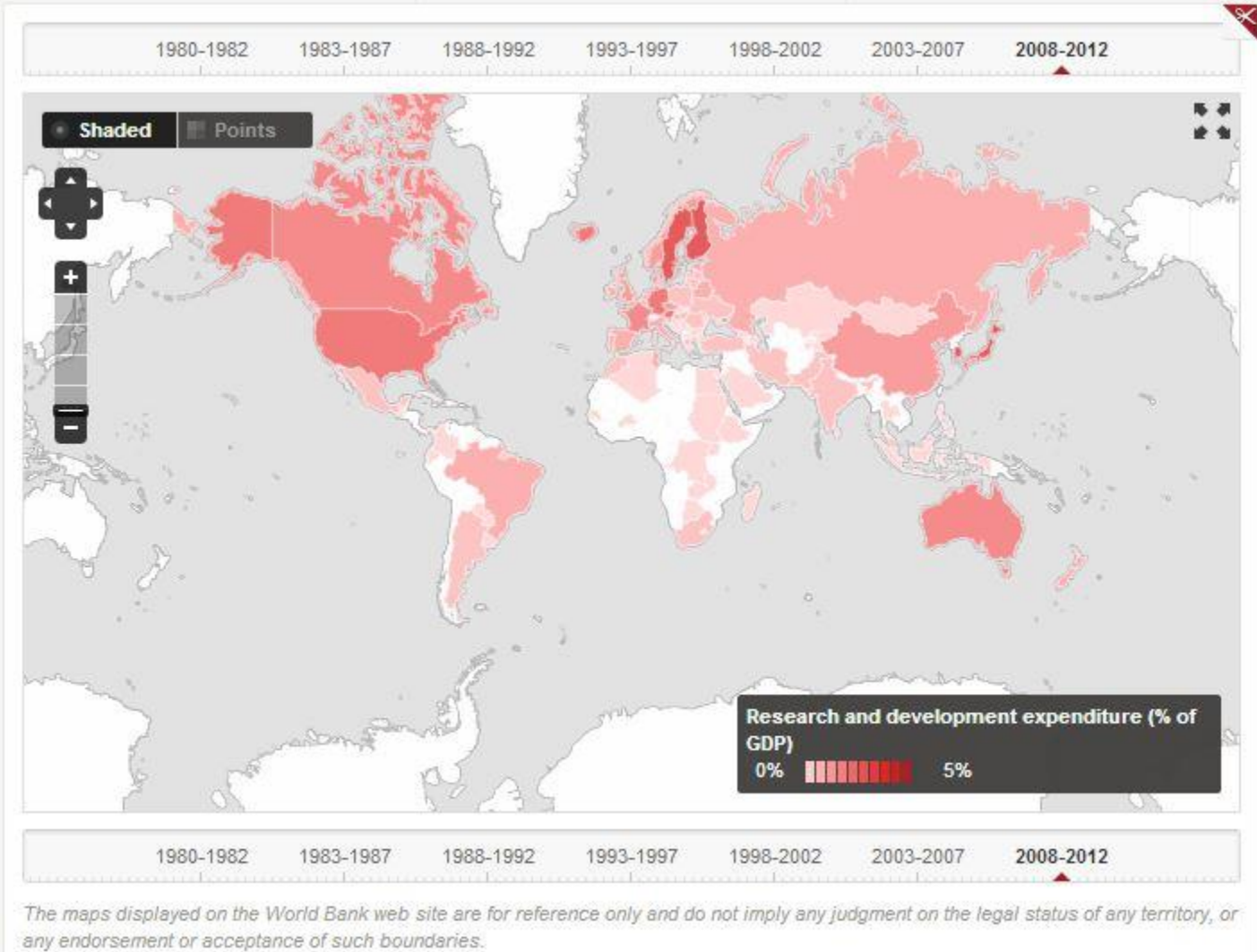


Link between citation and wealth intensities

(Sources: Thomson ISI, OECD and the World Bank)



Research & Development Expenditure as % GDP [Source: World Bank]

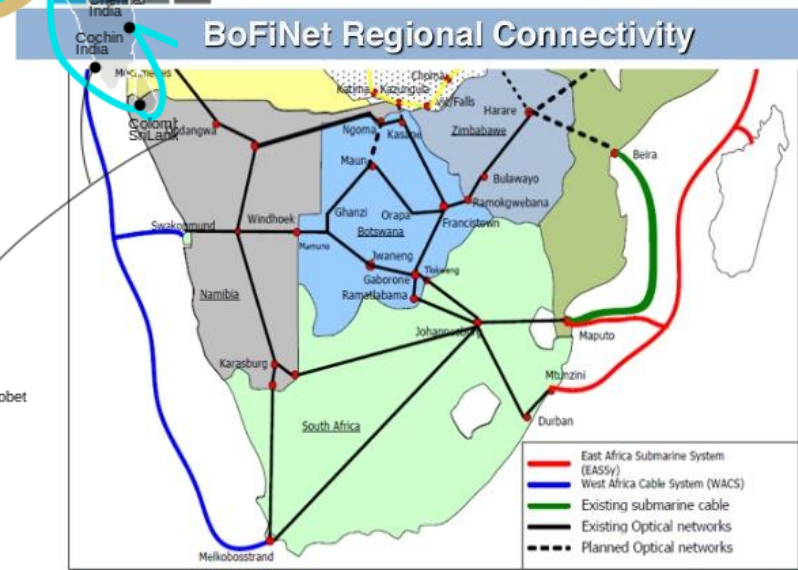
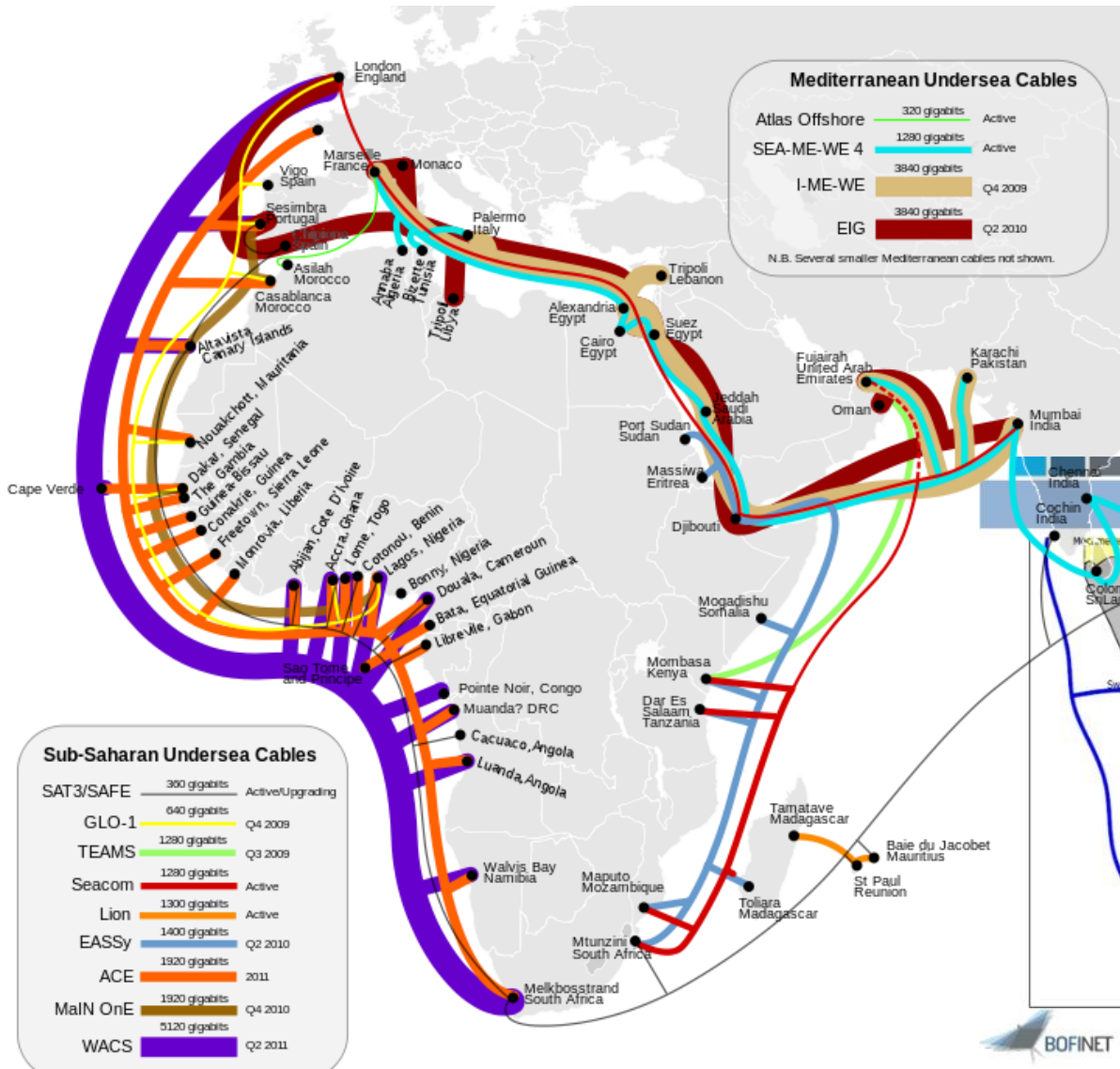


Networking and Collaboration Between Universities

- **Facilitate sharing of resources between African universities**
- **Collaborative research projects**
- **Inbound-outbound student engagement**
- **Student exchange programs**
- **Joint Webinars**



Enhancement of Continental, Regional and National Connectivity



- **Letters of intent**
- **Wide solicitation**





Thank You