



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

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WORLD, AFRICA, KENYA





UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI- MAIN CAMPUS



UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI FACTS



**No. 1 in
East and
Central
Africa**

**Top 3%
Universities
worldwide**

**Over
84,000
Students**

**188,000
Alumni/
Graduates**

**Over 450
Professors**

**Kshs. 4.5B
Annual
Research
Fund**





INTRODUCTION



- ❖ Universities and institutions of higher learning are key actors in development.
- Universities make significant contribution to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- They educate, train, research, and generate data relevant for supporting design and implementation of development programmes.





DEFINING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



- * World Commission on Environment and Development (WCED) of 1987 defines sustainable development as ***‘development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of the future generation to meet their own needs’***





DEFINING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CONT.



* The entire education system, what is popularly referred to as Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) is important for discussion on SDGs.'





HIGHER EDUCATION, RESEARCH & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



- * Universities have a responsibility to lead society towards a sustainable future through:

Raising awareness among young people about sustainable development; and

Giving them skills to put sustainable development in practice.





HIGHER EDUCATION & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



- * A prerequisite to effective participation in higher education and SDGs is

Access to resources for higher education and research





PERIODIC REVIEW OF HIGHER EDUCATION CURRICULUM



- * Learning = reflexive process which requires knowledge of a subject and continual re-examination of what is being offered in curriculum
- * Engaging in an intellectual effort to develop an agreed vision and shared understanding of any subject is important for curriculum development





RE-ORIENTING RESEARCH PROGRAMMES



Higher education in Africa like other continents is engaged in research and teaching which are contributing towards sustainable development





Enhancing Partnerships, Collaboration & Setting Research Agenda



- * Development of literacy programmes,
- * Developing partnerships among universities as well as industry and government,
- * Engaging in outreach initiatives,
- * Encouraging sustainable research; and
- * Development of more sustainable physical operations within universities.



SUPPORTING INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENTS



- * Higher education must be in touch with industry and government, including having clarity of vision of governments and related plans.

- * Nurturing viable partnerships and collaboration is a pre-requisite in supporting governments and industry



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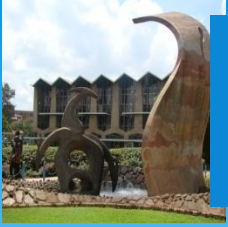


Embedding Student Internships into Industry



- Internships, projects, problem based learning and service learning are important models for sustainable development. Through internships,
- Students are able to appreciate the relationship between science, technology, innovation and development, and to be sensitive to societal needs;
- Internships expose students to practitioners in respective





Challenges of Incorporating SDGs in Higher Education & Research



- * Disciplinary organisational structure which hinders integrative thinking and interdisciplinary cooperation and learning,
- * Perception of sustainable development as an `add on` and not in-built in higher education;
- * Lack of vision and prioritisation /leadership for sustainable development;
- * Perceived lack of scientific basis for sustainability;
- * Confusion about sustainable development;
- * Broadness of sustainable development;





Challenges of Incorporating SDGs in Higher Education & Research



- * Lack of coordination and vision to change sustainability policies and education at government level;
- * Change in curriculum are translated into budget claims;
- * Overcrowded curriculum,
- * Lack of financial resources and uncertainty about required efforts/resources to engage and implement sustainability, and
- * Threat to academic credibility of scholars and teachers





* Higher education and research provide a bedrock for sustainable development which the African governments with support of partners must dedicate resources to, for effective implementation of SDGs.

* **Thank you**

