

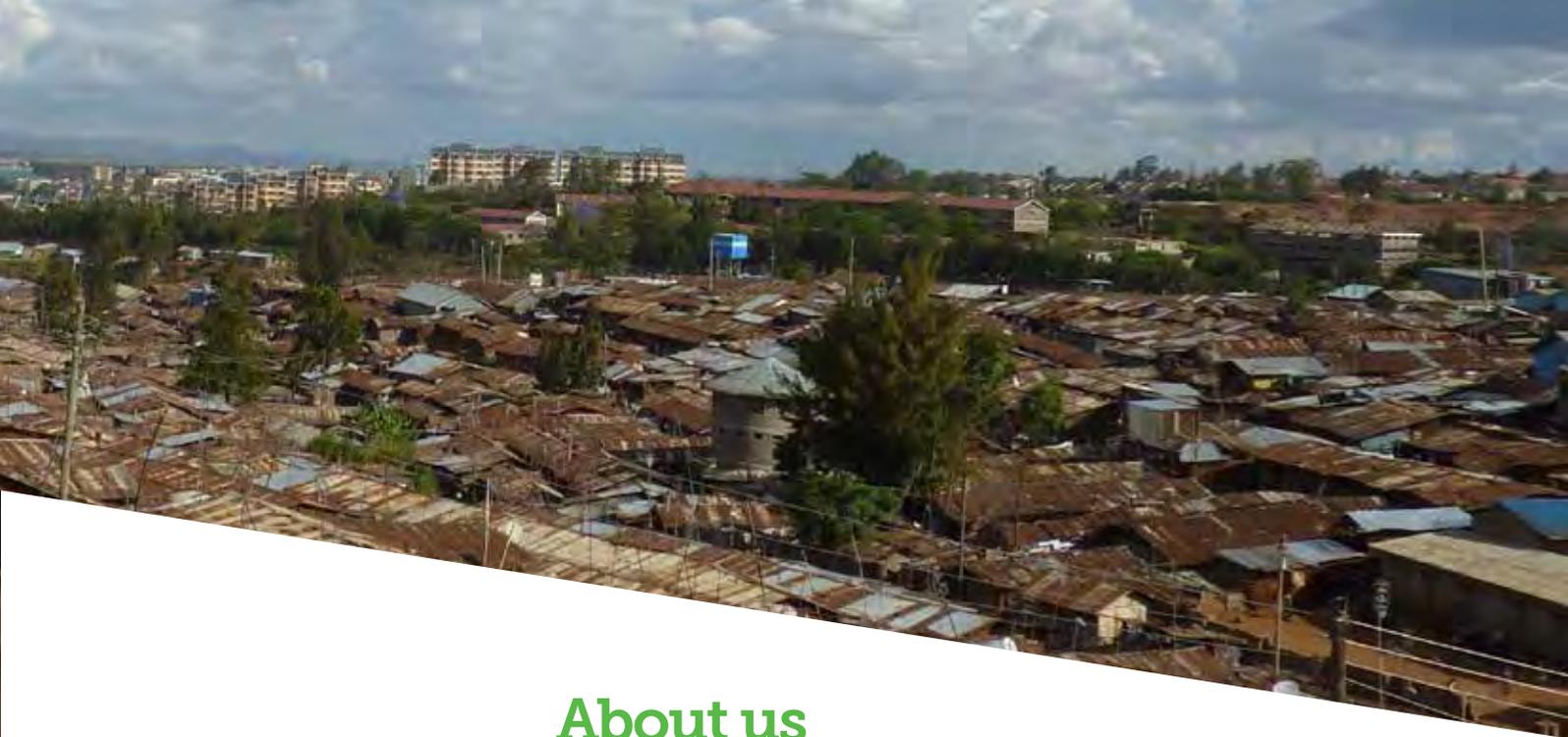


The Royal Society of Chemistry

Pan Africa Chemistry Network

We connect the global community
to build capacity and enable excellence
in the chemical sciences across Africa..





About us

The Royal Society of Chemistry is the world's leading chemistry community, advancing excellence in the chemical sciences. Our 51,000 members come from 114 countries and all areas of science, academia and industry.

A not-for-profit organisation with a 170-year heritage, we have an ambitious international vision. We use our influence and expertise to ensure educational and professional standards remain exemplary and a skilled workforce evolves to face the future.

Partnering with industry and academia, we promote collaboration and open innovation. Our connections and resources help companies access the world's best scientific networks and the latest data. We support

corporate social responsibility agendas, helping solve problems and deliver projects that improve lives, while enhancing the holistic reputation of our industry partners.

By sharing the knowledge, skills and infrastructure that lead to the great advances in science, we help the world respond to its biggest challenges.

Be part of the solution. Work with us.
www.rsc.org



Introduction

Africa is a continent of great growth and great challenges. Despite having some of today's fastest growing economies, many African countries still face substantial challenges, such as ensuring food security, clean water and stopping the spread of disease.

African scientists and engineers do not always have the resources or capacity to use the latest scientific and technological advances to tackle these urgent issues. A sustainable science base, including strengths in chemistry, can help to address these challenges and we are working to support Africa in this development.

We want African scientists to be able to work with each other and with colleagues from other continents to find sustainable solutions to local problems. Through the Pan Africa Chemistry Network (PACN) we are already making a difference.

The PACN seeks to create a self-sustaining science base in Africa, to solve local challenges and contribute to global knowledge in the chemical sciences and related disciplines.

The PACN aims to:

- enhance collaboration between scientists, governments, universities, industry and communities;
- support the scientific community to attract students to scientific careers and promote public appreciation of the role of chemical science in Africa's future; and
- facilitate the development of 'Centres of Excellence' through the installation of modern analytical technologies and coordinated training.

Together with our partners we have invested over £1.5 million in the PACN since 2008 and we have collaborated with more than 35 different organisations on events and activities.



Chemistry is the discipline that makes everything work. Food production ... industrial chemicals ... cleaning the air we breathe and cleaning the water, we need chemistry. This brings chemists and policy makers together. We are working to influence policy direction and show the importance of chemistry in national development.

Professor Shem Wandiga,
University of Nairobi, Kenya

Vital networks: Connecting you to global experts

We offer opportunities to make global and local connections with Africa. Every year, we deliver a programme of events to bring together the brightest minds from academia and industry, and introduce the most promising young scientists.



2nd International Symposium on Natural Products in Cape Town, South Africa, September 2014

Following a successful meeting in China in 2012, this conference brought together over 150 Chinese, African and international scientists to discuss natural product research and the different approaches, techniques and applications from different areas of the world. This meeting was organised in partnership with the National Natural Science Foundation of China (NSFC).

PACN Congress 2014: Biodiversity and Global Challenges in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, December 2014

More than 150 people from across Africa and the globe came to discuss current research, new developments and crucial issues on the topic of biodiversity, covering water, food, energy, and healthcare.

RSC-P&G Symposium on Regulatory Harmonisation, Hygiene and Sustainability in Nairobi, Kenya, November 2014

This two-day symposium explored the opportunities for collaboration and sharing best practice between African academics and industry representatives from Procter & Gamble. It followed highly successful events in Nigeria in 2012 and 2013. At this event P&G announced their collaboration with the University of Nairobi, funding equipment and an internship, researching water quality.

For more information on our events visit www.rsc.org/conferencesandevents



It is a wonderful thing to see African scientists and experts from all over the world coming together in my country

H. E. Mr Alemagehu Tegenu, Minister of Water and Energy, Ethiopia



Community: A connected continent

The Pan Africa Chemistry Network is only as strong as its community links. We are building strong relationships with groups across Africa to ensure a coherent and connected science community.

African chemical societies

National chemical societies play a crucial role in our activities in Africa. We work closely with the Federation of African Societies of Chemistry (FASC), who connect chemical societies across Africa, to support the chemical communities. The PACN has supported many conferences in partnership with FASC and individual national chemical societies, such as the Nigerian Chemical Society meeting in 2015.

Working with our members

In addition to the PACN activities, we also have four Local Sections in Africa, two in South Africa (South and North) and newly established sections in Nigeria and Tunisia. The Sections provide a variety of activities, including networking opportunities, scientific meetings and educational and outreach work. We are working with the community in Africa to increase the number of Local Sections in the near future.

Access to research

We've made the entire online RSC Journals Archive (1841-2007) freely available to African countries and other developing regions. We believe this will make a major contribution towards building scientific capacity. And, thanks to support from Procter & Gamble and the late Montagu Hyams, universities and education institutes in Kenya, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Ghana can read the complete RSC eBook Collection. So students and staff can access chemical science content of the highest quality.





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Africa Chemistry work

Support African science, to solve
challenges and contribute to
knowledge
www.chemistry.gov.ng



RSC/PACN have brought together various groups of scientists and policy makers towards addressing the developmental issues of the African continent. [Their support] has impacted positively on young scientists in their studies and career progression.

Yilkur Nandul Lohdip, University of Jos, Nigeria

Developing the skills you need to compete

To develop a sustainable and innovative science base, Africa needs adequately trained personnel, specialised equipment and resources to support teaching and research in the chemical sciences.

The PACN is working in collaboration with academic and corporate partners to develop centres of excellence in chemical analysis across sub-Saharan Africa.

The PACN has established centres at Jomo Kenyatta University of Agricultural Technology (JKUAT) in Kenya, University of Lagos in Nigeria, and at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia. These centres support scientists, through specialist training and education, as well as providing central points for networking across Africa.



GC-MS Training

Analytical skills are essential to support many crucial areas of research in Africa.

The PACN has enabled a range of training courses, in particular gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS). Many scientists from across Africa are now fully trained in this important skill.

Through these courses we also increase local capacity in training so local expertise can be used to train participants.

- More than 100 people, from 16 different countries, have been trained
- Over 20 published articles so far, based on GC-MS experience acquired



GC-MS skills are of great importance for African science. Having researchers across Africa trained in the handling and use of this equipment will enable African science to lead the way to solve the challenges we face in Africa.

Preston Akenya, who attended the course to learn the skills necessary for his Masters degree project

My knowledge of GC-MS has been crucial in my career. I have also been able to share my knowledge by facilitating two hands-on training seminars for the oil industry in Kenya and Uganda.

Frederick Munga, who attended the course to better understand the technique for use in Kenya's coffee industry



Inspiring the next generation

Working together for a changing world

Working with leading technology-based companies, international foundations and the public sector enables us to make new connections and enhance the impact of our activities. Our interactions with major companies are many and varied, but they all support the PACN aim of developing science capacity.

We established the Pan Africa Chemistry Network in 2008 with a major grant from Syngenta. This funded international conferences on key topics such as biodiversity, agricultural productivity and sustainable water, and led to our inclusion in United Nations World Water Day and the eventual establishment of PACN centres in Kenya, Nigeria and Ethiopia. Since 2012, the PACN has benefitted from a highly productive partnership with Procter and Gamble, focusing on talent development through internship schemes and equipment donations. And more recently, GSK travel grants have helped talented early career researchers to attend the 2014 PACN congress in Addis Ababa.

By contributing their expertise, influence and resources, our partners are helping us to strengthen science capacity and capability in sub-Saharan Africa. Focusing on our established hubs in Kenya, Nigeria, Ethiopia and Ghana, these partnerships have the potential to benefit the wider scientific community across the continent.





Chief Executive of Syngenta, Mike Mack, meets Prof. Crispus Kiamba, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Higher Education Science and Technology and Prof. Shem Wandiga from the University of Nairobi, Kenya at the 2009 PACN Sustainable Water Conference.

Peter Blenkiron from GSK with the researchers who received travel grants to attend the PACN Congress in Ethiopia in 2014.

Raffaele Scoccianti from Procter and Gamble's congratulates Professor Toyin Ogundipe, representative of the Vice Chancellor University of Lagos following his address to the 2013 Lagos Symposium on Regulatory Harmonisation, Hygiene and Sustainability.

Some of the Nigerian interns – working with P&G – an experience that will be potentially transformative for their future careers. This scheme has now been extended to Kenya.



The future for the Pan Africa Chemistry Network

We have a long-term commitment to chemistry in Africa. To build on the success so far, we would like to expand our network of colleagues and partner organisations who share our vision for Africa.

The PACN is open to anyone. So whether you are an African scientist, a company working in Africa or just interested in our activities, you can be part of this expanding network of colleagues working towards a sustainable science base in Africa.

To find out more about how your company can benefit from working with us contact Hannah Spry, Strategic Partnerships Executive at spryh@rsc.org

To find out more about our work in Africa and international development, contact Rosalind Onions at onionsr@rsc.org

For more information on our events visit www.rsc.org/pacn or www.panafricachenistrynetwork.com





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