



TFK Program with Southern Africa

Advisory webinar

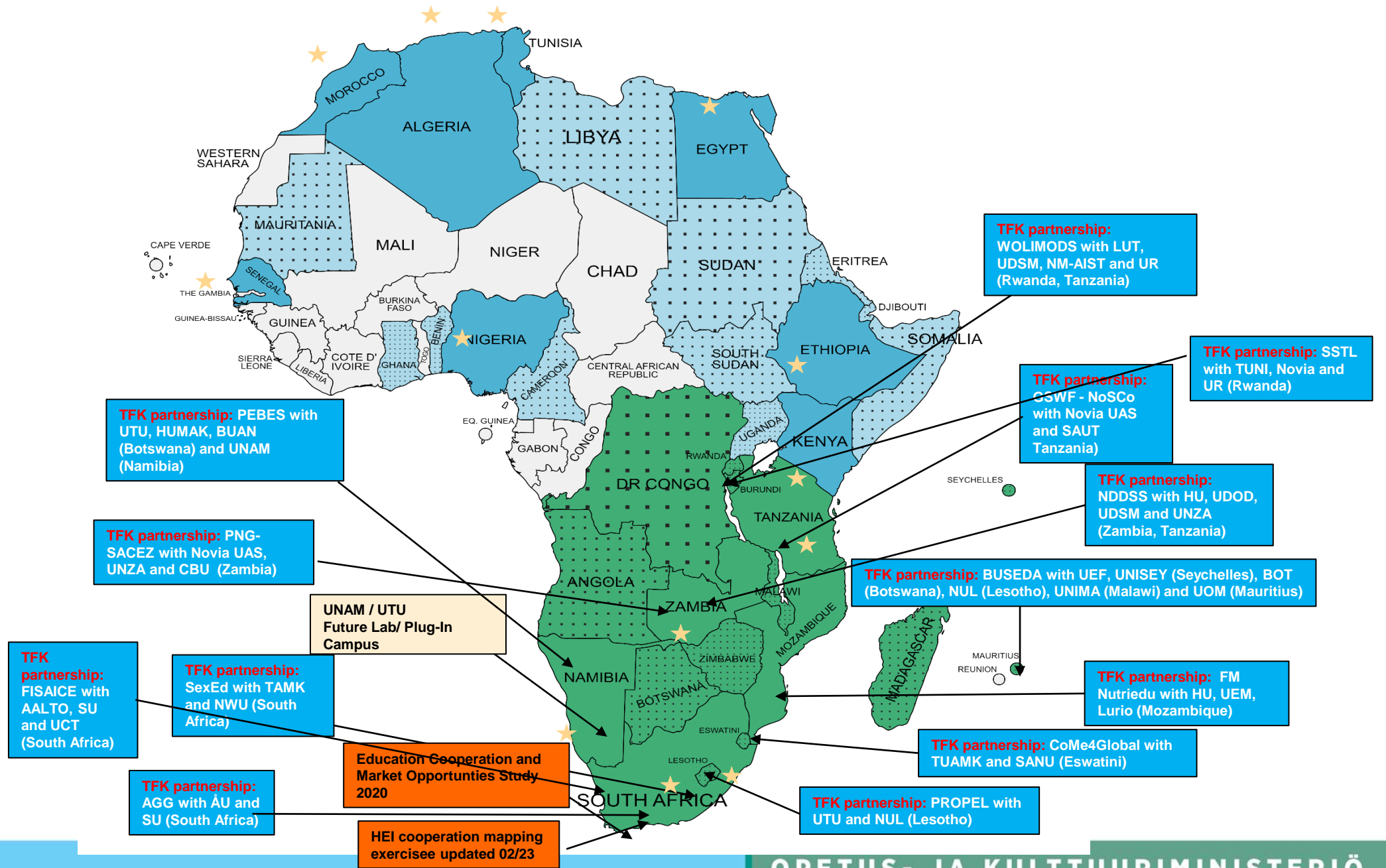
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Why Southern Africa?

- The future continent – resilient, innovative, globally relevant!
- Large and diverse area – 16 SADC countries + Burundi and Rwanda
- Countries and HEIs are different, but they are also neighbors and used to cooperate with each other (triparty cooperation welcome)
- Finland has a lot of past and current cooperation
- 13 TFK partnerships were funded in 2022 (see map)

- Country has a Finnish embassy
- Side-accredited to Finland
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- TFK partnerships



Why Southern Africa 2?

- Africa's share of global research has grown from 1 % to 3 % - and still growing
- South Africa is the engine of the region, undergone an amazing transformation since 1994 – but still suffering from higher education inequality. There is a lot of competition for HEIs!
- Mapping of South African cooperation & links with Finnish HEIs have been updated – the matrix can be shared upon request
- All Finnish embassies – Dar es Salaam, Lusaka, Maputo, Pretoria, Windhoek (+Angola) - have focus in education and science
- Embassies have been informed on the program and very willing to help with local contacts and information

PRINCIPLES OF COOPERATION

- Continue the old vs. create some new – both welcome!
- Planning and co-creating together – new ideas and forms
- Be responsive to the initiatives from African HEIs
- Include less known, lower ranked potential smaller HEIs in your consortium – addresses inequality
- Which disciplines? Varies between countries, often linked to productive industries and historical strengths
- Fairness and equality – something for everyone – **quality** first!
- Local contribution a must (at least on my opinion)
- Aim from individual to institutional partnership
- African time – *patiencia!*

FORMS OF COOPERATION – SOME ADVICE

- Joint study units & courses
 - *Listen to the partners' needs, suggest and adapt your ideas*
- Digital/virtual teaching
 - *Rapid development in this area on-going, remember infrastructural and connectivity challenges (price of data)*
- Curriculum cooperation
 - *Curricula in the region are constantly moving, but changing them might involve heavy bureaucracy (approval processes)*

FORMS OF COOPERATION – SOME ADVICE continues

- Joint/double degrees
 - *Discuss with your partner/s, find out how the process works*
- Mobility of students & staff
 - *Most popular and welcome component, especially for post-graduates (Doctoral production varies a lot in the region). Apply fairness!*
- Working life cooperation
 - *A new very topical theme with many HEIs – linked to changes in curricula*

Good luck!

Questions?

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