



PRESS RELEASE

SELECTION OF 44 CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE IN WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA FOR THE ACE IMPACT PROJECT

The Association of African Universities (AAU), the Regional Facilitation Unit (RFU), of the Africa Centres of Excellence (ACE) Project, is pleased to announce the conditional selection of 44 centres of excellence in 12 participating countries in West and Central Africa (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cote d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo) under the ACE for Development Impact (ACE Impact) Project.

West and Central African countries, with support from the World Bank and the Association of African Universities, launched the regional Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence (ACE) Project in 2014. Building upon the successful implementation of the ACE 1 Project, the World Bank is supporting the current ACE Impact Project which is focused on scaling up postgraduate education and applied research that are fundamental to economic growth in the region. Further, the supported universities should meet global standards for quality of education, recruit students across the region and collaborate with other African universities. The total investment across the countries is expected to reach USD 300 million, with funding from the World Bank and Agence Francaise de Developpement (AFD).

An independent team of evaluators, consisting of members from the African educational and scientific community supported by diaspora and global technical experts, reviewed 105 proposals that were submitted to the RFU by higher education institutions from the participating countries. Proposals were subjected to several stages of evaluation including: (i) desk reviews in which each proposal was reviewed by two experts in Accra, Ghana; (ii) external evaluation in which each proposal was remotely assessed by a subject matter specialist, and (iii) a site & leadership evaluation in which a team of experts visited shortlisted proposal sites to ascertain the readiness of the institutions in terms of governance, leadership, and infrastructure.

At the end of the rigorous and transparent evaluation exercise, the following proposals have been conditionally selected as centres of excellence by the ACE Impact Ministerial Project Steering Committee at its meeting in Accra, Ghana, on Friday, 2nd November 2018. This Committee consisted of five Ministers in charge of Higher education and seven high-level government representatives from the participating governments.

The final selection of the Centers is conditional upon: (i) the approval of the financing from the external financiers (World Bank and the French Development Agency) and availability of sufficient financing for all the proposals; (ii) the selected universities incorporate the recommendations of the evaluators into their implementation plans, and (iii) the universities demonstrate sufficient capacity to manage the funds for their intended purpose. For the selected centers where all of these conditions are met, it is planned that they will be approved for funding by April 2019.



S/N O.	PROJECT TITLE	LEAD INSTITUTION	COUNTRY	TOPIC	DISCIPLINE
EXISTING CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE THAT HAVE BEEN CONDITIONALLY SELECTED FOR RENEWAL					
1.	CEA EN SCIENCES MATHÉMATIQUES, INFORMATIQUE ET APPLICATIONS	University of Abomey Calavi	Benin	Applied math & statistics	STEM
2.	CEA POUR LA FORMATION ET LA RECHERCHE EN SCIENCES ET TECHNOLOGIES DE L'EAU, L'ÉNERGIE ET L'ENVIRONNEMENT EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST ET DU CENTRE (CEA-2IE)	2iE	Burkina Faso	Water, energy and environment	STEM
3.	CEA MINES ET ENVIRONNEMENT MINIER (CEA-MEM)	INP-HB	Cote d'Ivoire	Mining	STEM
4.	CEA CHANGEMENT CLIMATIQUE, BIODIVERSITÉ ET AGRICULTURE DURABLE (CEA-CCBAD)	Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny	Cote d'Ivoire	Climate change	Agriculture
5.	CEA: STATISTIQUE ET ÉCONOMIE QUANTITATIVE	ENSEA	Cote d'Ivoire	Statistics & quantitative economics	Soc./Econ Sci.
6.	REGIONAL WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SANITATION CENTRE KUMASI (RWESCK)	KNUST	Ghana	Transport	STEM
7.	WEST AFRICAN CENTRE FOR CELL BIOLOGY OF INFECTIOUS AND NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES (WACCBIP + NCDS)	University of Ghana	Ghana	Cell biology of infectious e diseases	Health
8.	WEST AFRICA CENTRE FOR CROP IMPROVEMENT (WACCI)	University of Ghana	Ghana	Crop Improvement	Agriculture
9.	ACE IN GENOMICS OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (ACEGID)	Redeemer's University	Nigeria	Genomics of infectious diseases	Health
10.	ACE FOR NEGLECTED TROPICAL DISEASES AND FORENSIC BIOTECHNOLOGY (ACENTDFB)	Ahmadu Bello University	Nigeria	Neglected tropical diseases	Health
11.	ACE FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH INNOVATION (CERHI)	University of Benin	Nigeria	Reproductive Health	Health
12.	ACE IN DRY LAND AGRICULTURE (CDA)	Bayero University, Kano	Nigeria	Dryland Agriculture	Agriculture
13.	CENTRE FOR FOOD TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH (CEFTER)	Benue State University	Nigeria	Food tech and research	Agriculture
14.	ACE: OAU ICT-DRIVEN KNOWLEDGE PARK (OAU-OAK)	OAU	Nigeria	Digital Development	STEM
15.	CENTER FOR OILFIELD CHEMICALS RESEARCH (CEFOR)	University of Port Harcourt	Nigeria	Oil and gas	STEM
16.	CEA MATHÉ-MATIQUES, INFORMATIQUE ET TIC (CEA-MITIC)	Univ. Gaston Berger	Senegal	Digital Development	STEM
17.	CEA POUR LA SANTÉ DE LA MÈRE ET DE L'ENFANT (CEA-SAMEF)	Université Cheikh Anta Diop	Senegal	Maternal & infant health	Health
18.	CENTRE D'EXCELLENCE REGIONAL SUR LES SCIENCES AVIAIRES (CERSA)	Université de Lomé	Togo	Poultry science	Agriculture
NEW CENTRES OF EXCELLENCE THAT ARE CONDITIONALLY SELECTED					
19.	CENTRE D'EXCELLENCE AFRICAÏN POUR L'EAU ET L'ASSAINISSEMENT (C2EA)	Université Abomey Calavi	Benin	Water & sanitation	STEM
20.	CENTRE DE FORMATION, DE RECHERCHE ET D'EXPERTISES EN SCIENCES DU MÉDICAMENT	Université de Ouaga I	Burkina Faso	Pharmaceutical Science	Health
21.	CEA ET INNOVATION BIOTECHNOLOGIQUES POUR L'ÉLIMINATION DES MALADIES À TRANSMISSION VECTORIELLE (CEA/ITECH-MTV)	Université Nazi Boni	Burkina Faso	Biotech for eliminating vector transmitted diseases	Health
22.	ACE FOR POSTGRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION	University of Buea	Cameroon	OBGYN - Medical education	Health



23.	CEA: VALORISATION DES DECHETS EN PRODUITS A HAUTE VALEUR AJOUTEE (VALOPRO)	INPHB	CDI	Waste management and value-added	STEM
24.	REGIONAL TRANSPORT TRAINING AND RESEARCH CENTRE	KNUST	Ghana	Transport	STEM
25.	ACE:REGIONAL CENTER FOR ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY (RCEES)	University of Energy & Natural Resources	Ghana	Power	STEM
26.	WEST AFRICAN CENTER FOR WATER, IRRIGATION AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE	University of Development Studies	Ghana	Water & irrigation	STEM
27.	AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN COASTAL RESILIENCE (ACECoR)	University of Cape Coast	Ghana	Coastal Degradation	STEM
28.	WEST AFRICA GENETIC MEDICINE CENTRE	University of Ghana	Ghana	Genetic medicine	Health
29.	CENTRE D'EXCELLENCE AFRICAIN POUR LA PREVENTION ET LE CONTROLE DES MALADIES TRANSMISSIBLES (CEA PCMT)	Université Gamal Abdel Nasser de Conakry	Guinea	Prevention & control of transmittable diseases	Health
30.	CENTRE D'EXCELLENCE REGIONAL SUR LES PRODUCTIONS PASTORALES : VIANDE, LAIT, CUIRS ET PEAUX (CERPP)	Université Abdou Moumouni	Niger	Livestock	Agriculture
31.	AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON TECHNOLOGY ENHANCED LEARNING (ACETEL)	National open university of Nigeria	Nigeria	Digital Development	STEM
32.	COVENANT APPLIED INFORMATICS AND COMMUNICATION	Covenant University	Nigeria	Digital Development	STEM
33.	ACE: AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE ON NEW PEDAGOGY IN ENGINEERING EDUCATION (ACENPEE)	Ahmadu Bello University	Nigeria	Engineering education	STEM
34.	AFRICA CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE: PUBLIC HEALTH AND TOXICOLOGICAL RESEARCH	University of Port Harcourt	Nigeria	Nursing	Health
35.	ACE: CENTRE FOR POPULATION HEALTH AND POLICY	Bayero University	Nigeria	Nursing	Health
36.	AFRICAN CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR MYCOTOXIN AND FOOD SAFETY	Federal University of Technology Minna	Nigeria	Mycotoxin and food safety	Health
37.	ACE: DRUG RESEARCH, HERBAL MEDICINE DEVELOPMENT AND REGULATORY SCIENCE	University of Lagos	Nigeria	Herbal medicine and regulation	Health
38.	CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR INNOVATIVE AND TRANSFORMATIONS STEM EDUCATION (CITSE)	Lagos State University	Nigeria	STEM Education	Education
39.	ACE FOR SUSTAINABLE POWER AND ENERGY DEVELOPMENT (ACE_SPED)	University of Nigeria Nsukka	Nigeria	Power	STEM
40.	CENTER OF EXCELLENCE IN FUTURE ENERGIES AND ELECTROCHEMICAL SYSTEMS	Federal University of Technology Owerri	Nigeria	Renewable energy	STEM
41.	CEA « AGIR » EN ENVIRONNEMENT ET SANTE	Université Cheikh Anta Diop	Senegal	Env & Health	STEM
42.	CEA AGRICULTURE POUR LA SECURITE ALIMENTAIRE ET NUTRITIONNELLE (CEA AGRISAN)	Université Cheikh Anta Diop	Senegal	Food security & nutrition	Agriculture
43.	CENTRE D'EXCELLENCE REGIONAL POUR LA MAITRISE DE L'ELECTRICITE (CERME)	Université de Lomé	Togo	Power	STEM
44.	CENTRE D'EXCELLENCE REGIONAL VILLES DURABLES EN AFRIQUE (DOUNEDON)	Université de Lomé	Togo	Urban Design	Soc./Econ Sci.