

PERIVOLI AFRICA RESEARCH CENTRE YEAR THREE

Thank you to the Perivoli Foundation ([PF](#)) for your continued commitment to establishing the University of Bristol's Perivoli Africa Research Centre ([PARC](#)). This report outlines PARC's key achievements from the last report to December 2022.

Throughout 2022, PARC has continued to pursue and make progress in its mission of championing transformation in research and partnership to advance Africa’s achievement of its own development aspirations.

THE PARC TEAM INCLUDES:

- Professor Isabella Aboderin**
Perivoli Chair in Africa Research and Partnerships, and Director of PARC

Dr Susan Jim
Manager of PARC the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN) Development Manager and Chair of the WUN Coordinators Group

Dr Robert Crowe
International Research Partnerships Officer for PARC and the WUN
- Ms Hilda Owii**
PhD Student

Dr Eyob Balcha Gebremariam
Research Associate

Dr Francis Zana Naab
Research Associate

Ms Emmanuella Henshaw
PhD Graduate Intern, United Nations Population Fund London Office

See Internal Management and External Advisory Boards [here](#)

WHAT WE DO

PARC seeks to act as a connector of people and constituencies – within the University, the continent, and globally – who are invested in the generation and use of knowledge to accomplish Africa’s priority agendas. PARC is a catalyst and forum for interdisciplinary inquiry, practice and learning predicated on mutual respect and inclusion.

- 1 Inquiry and thought leadership

2 Capstone research programmes
- 3 Mutual learning and capacity strengthening

4 Community of interest

Active research projects

CAPSTONE AREAS

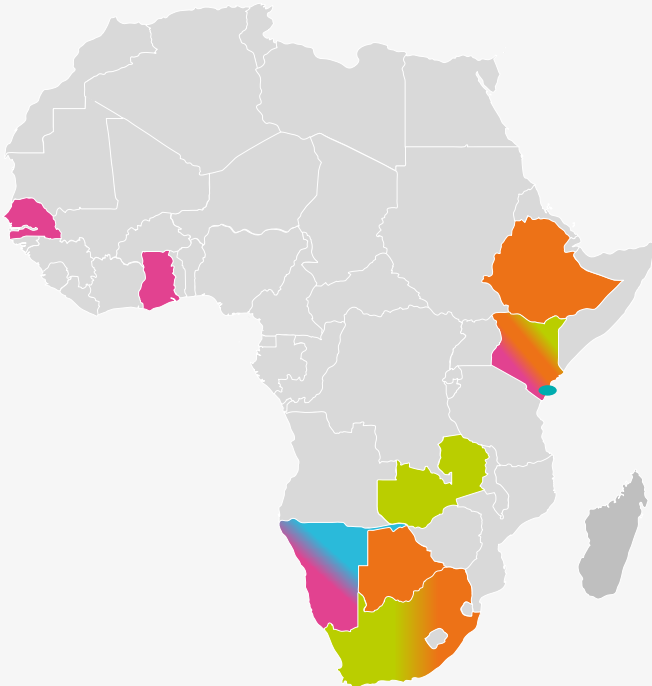
- CARE SYSTEMS AND ECONOMIES
Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Namibia (tbd)
- SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
Kenya, Zambia, South Africa
- CLIMATE CHANGE AND CONSERVATION
Namibia in collaboration with the Perivoli Rangelands Research Institute

PARC PARTNERSHIPS FUND

- Ethiopia, Kenya, Botswana, South Africa

CORAL REEF IMAGING

- With CORDIO, Kenya



THIS REPORT

This report showcases aspects of the progress we have made in developing and expanding these areas in the past year, as well as broader advancements we have achieved in pursuit of our mission. Such progress would not be possible without the ongoing and generous support of the Perivoli Foundation.

THEORY OF CHANGE

With invaluable input from the PARC External Advisory Board (EAB), we have developed a ‘Theory of Change’ (ToC) for the Centre which captures our key points of departure and guiding principles, and articulates:

- the transformation PARC is seeking;
- why the Centre at this juncture is positioned to champion such a profound shift;
- what specific changes are needed where, and what action is required to achieve it; and
- how our work across PARC’s four focus areas will contribute to this.

The ToC has served to add focus to the initiatives and plans we put in place last year and will serve as a foundation for developing a longer-term and more ambitious vision for PARC in 2023.

A NOVEL FUNDING MODEL: PARC PARTNERSHIPS FUND

By utilising individual donations made to the University, we launched the PARC Partnerships Fund (PPF) in September 2021. This fund seeks to support and embed Africa-centred and -led research collaborations with the University that build directly on the ideas of African scholars and institutions. These collaborations seek to exemplify what fairer, transformed partnership arrangements should look like.

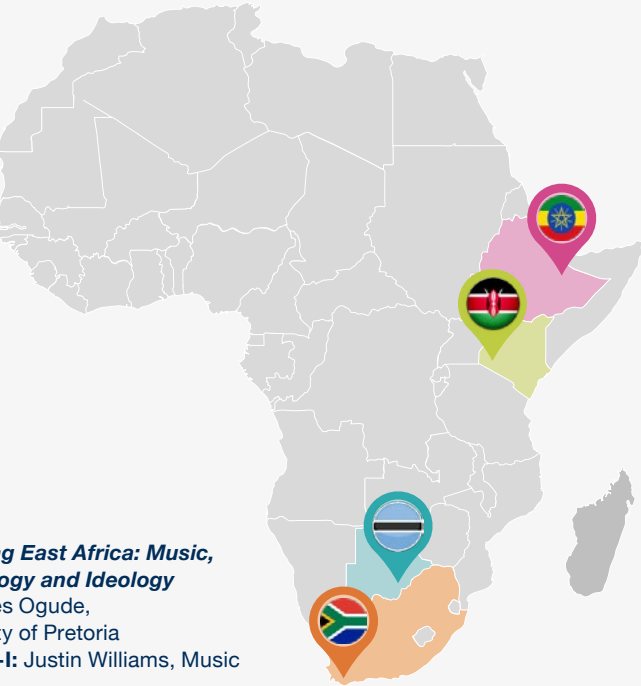
Applications were invited to focus on any topic or issue prioritised by the African applicant and relevant to local and/or national, sub-regional or continental African Union (AU) aspirations for social progress as articulated in Agenda 2063. Funding totalling £200,000 was awarded to 5 projects which began in spring 2022.

By embedding a learning aspect, the PPF is expected to generate not only relevant research but also accumulate a body of insights into how best to pursue a transformed mode of Africa research partnerships in practice. It is hoped that in time, recognising the success of these projects, some could be scaled up in order to yield a further set of capstone programmes.

In 2023, we expect to begin the process of monitoring and evaluation that will capture feedback and build the evidence base for making the argument that our novel approach is necessary, timely and effective.

2022 PARC Partnership Fund projects

- ETHIOPIA**
Assessing climate resilience of multi-village water supplies in Ethiopia
PI: Abraham Geremew, Haramaya University
UoB Co-I: Anisha Nijhawan, Civil Engineering
- KENYA**
Microplastic pollution: Characterisation, source apportionment and impacts in Winam Gulf of Lake Victoria
PI: Fred Lisouza, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology
UoB Co-I: Charlotte Lloyd, Geographical Sciences
- BOTSWANA**
Developing an indigenous model of crisis-sensitive educational leadership in Botswana
PI: Bolelang Pheko, University of Botswana
UoB Co-I: Rafael Mitchell, Education
- SOUTH AFRICA**
Designing neuropharmaceuticals to permeate the blood-brain barrier and combat neurological disorders
PI: Jacques Joubert, University of the Western Cape
UoB Co-I: Emma Robinson, Psychopharmacology



Sounding East Africa: Music, Technology and Ideology
PI: James Ogude, University of Pretoria
UoB Co-I: Justin Williams, Music

PERIVOLI AFRICA RESEARCH CENTRE – TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES 2022

- Selection panel for PARC Partnerships Fund

- Meeting with PASET

- UoB-EPSRC WASH Capstone workshop, SU, SA

- Seventh IMB meeting

- Visit to UCT, SU, UNISA and UP, SA

- WASH Research Agenda workshop, convened by SU, SA

- Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning workshop for PARC Partnership Fund

- Fourth EAB meeting

- Co-convening symposium: 'Transforming Global North-Africa research relations', ASAA, Cape Town, SA

- First UoB/UCT/UNISA/ARUA consultation on Charter initiative with UUKi, UKCDR, ACU

- Internal UoB consultation on 'Transforming Research Collaboration with Africa'

- Hosting visit of UP VC, Tawana Kupe

- Hosting visit of UCT VC, Mamokgethi Phakeng

- WUN AGM, University of Lausanne, Switzerland

- CEGA WGAPE Annual Meeting, Kigali, Rwanda
- Presentation: CEGA 2022 Africa Evidence Summit, Kigali, Rwanda

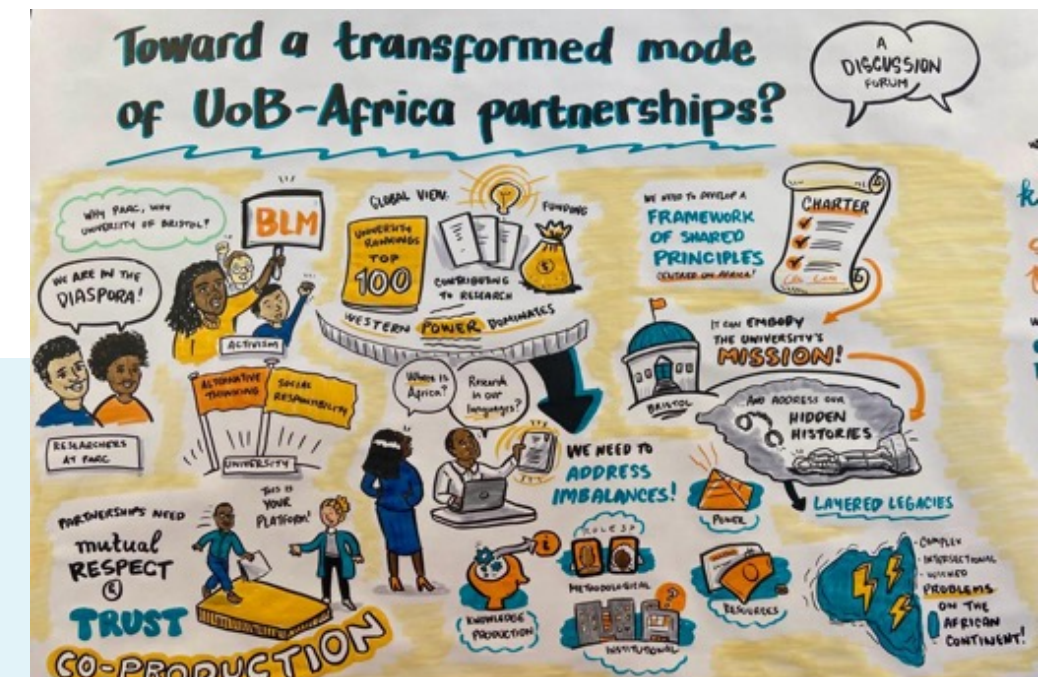
- Eighth IMB meeting
- Working week on Charter initiative with UCT and UNISA, Cape Town, SA
- Co-hosting *African Apocalypse* film screening event with UoB Migration Mobilities Bristol

- Third instalment of £250,000 gift received with thanks

- Ninth IMB meeting
- Presentation: 'Care Economies in Context' programme meeting, Toronto, Canada

- Second UoB/UCT/UNISA/ARUA consultation on Charter initiative with UUKi, UKCDR, ACU
- Presentation: UoB 'Building Equitable Partnerships workshop'
- Presentation: UNFPA Ageing and Care Forum
- In-person PARC team planning meeting
- Appointment of PhD Graduate Intern at UNFPA London Office

Illustration by Laura Sorvala, Toward a transformed mode of UoB-Africa partnerships?, Bristol, May 2022



- Meeting with William and Flora Hewlett Foundation on 'Care Economy Africa' project
- 'Care Economy Africa' project policy stakeholder workshop, Nairobi, Kenya
- Presentation: UUKi Africa and Middle East Network
- Presentation: UNFPA TransformU university network
- Presentation: Third Africa Region Conference on Gerontology and Geriatrics, Hammamet, Tunisia
- Presentation: EBI Global Public Health Celebration event

- Tenth IMB meeting
- 'Care Economy Africa' project planning with APHRC, Nairobi, Kenya
- Meeting with Perivoli Foundation
- Meeting with PASET
- Meeting with AREF
- In-person PARC team planning meeting

KEY

ACU	Association of Commonwealth Universities, London, UK
AREF	Africa Research Excellence Fund
ARUA	African Research Universities Alliance
APHRC	African Population and Health Research Center
ASAA	African Studies Association of Africa
CEGA	Center for Effective Global Action, University of Berkeley, California, USA
EAB	External Advisory Board
EBI	Elizabeth Blackwell Institute for Health Research, UoB
EPSRC	Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council
IMB	Internal Management Board
PASET	Partnership for skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology
RG	Russell Group
SA	South Africa
SU	Stellenbosch University, SA
UCT	University of Cape Town, SA
UoB	University of Bristol
UNISA	University of South Africa, SA
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UP	University of Pretoria, SA
UKCDR	UK Collaborative on Development Research
UUKi	Universities UK International
WGAPE	Working Group in African Political Economy
WASH	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
WUN	Worldwide Universities Network

INQUIRY AND THOUGHT LEADERSHIP

We seek to bring together existing voices and strands of debate, foster inquiry, and advance thought leadership on the multi-layered imbalances in Global North-Africa research, and on holistic approaches needed to redress them.

TOWARD A 'PERIVOLI CHARTER'

A centrepiece of our Focus Area 1 work, undertaken jointly with the African Research Universities Alliance ([ARUA](#)), Association of African Universities ([AAU](#)), University of South Africa ([UNISA](#)) [Chief Albert Luthuli Research Chair](#), University of Cape Town ([UCT](#)) and others, is to mobilise key actors to co-produce an Africa-centred Charter on transformed academic and research collaborations.

Going beyond existing 'equitable partnerships' frameworks, the Perivoli Charter will provide a mechanism that:

- 1 commits UK and African Higher Education (HE) institutions and bodies to changing organisational policies and standards - as well as wider ones - so as to embed a partnership mode that redresses the multi-layered power asymmetries that presently pervade UK-Africa academic collaborations; and
- 2 offers concrete practice guidance on ways to pursue such structural change.

The Charter will be operationalised through a web platform with focused documentation and modalities to monitor and learn from the changes and commitments made.

Once finalised, embraced by a growing number of HE institutions and bodies and operationalised, the Charter will help underpin an expanding 'community of practice' on transformed partnerships.

In 2023 we look forward to launching the framework for the Charter in concert with an online interactive interface for contribution and feedback from all interested parties.

Key milestones will be:

- 1 a formal high-level event on 22 June 2023 hosted by the AAU to validate the initiative and framework, and provide a mandate for its elaboration and operationalisation;
- 2 a formal blended launch of the final Charter on 5 December 2023.

Our strategic partnership with the Association of African Universities ([AAU](#)) is critically important: the AAU represents all universities (400+) on the continent and is the key African Union coordinating partner for the pursuit of continental HE and research priorities.

Over the past year, our African partners were engaged and consulted at several points (predominantly online, but also in person in Nairobi) and we gathered and consulted with our UK-based stakeholders in May and October. Professor Mamokgethi Phakeng, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town, is a close collaborator on the project, and PARC activities have formed a core strand of her activities in her role as UoB's [Inaugural Bristol Illustrious Visiting Professor](#) for 2022.

In May, PARC hosted a meeting of its UK stakeholders as well as a discussion forum in Bristol, attended by 60 internal and external participants, with colleagues from Uganda and South Africa, including the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Pretoria, [Professor Tawana Kupe](#). During 'Toward a transformed mode of UoB-Africa partnerships?' we collected and later analysed insights on challenges to equitable partnership, and were able to share our thinking with important UoB research constituencies. Critically, we secured buy-in from senior staff at Bristol.



NEW STANDARDS FOR AFRICA RESEARCH COLLABORATION WITHIN THE WORLDWIDE UNIVERSITIES NETWORK

PARC is also engaging in a two-year initiative in conjunction with the Worldwide Universities Network's ([WUN](#)) Global Africa Group ([GAG](#)). This involves workshops, discussion forums and desk-based research, to develop and pilot new practice standards for equitable research collaboration and knowledge production within the WUN, between African institutions and those outside of the continent. The work of the group, which was convened several times in 2022, is distinct from but complementary to the Charter project and the two share synergies by way of shared ideas, networks and personnel.

In 2023 we look forward to seeing the Global Africa Group bringing the planning activities of 2022 to fruition in the shape of a 3-day workshop at Makerere University in Uganda (February) which will see participants agreeing and generating materials for an edited volume (working title: *Research Partnerships for Sustainable Development*) to be completed later in the year. It is hoped that the Group will also generate and share by year's end a set of guiding principles for more equitable research partnering.

Images top to bottom:

L-R: Mamokgethi Phakeng (Vice-Chancellor (VC), University of Cape Town (UCT)), Judith Squires (Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Provost, UoB), Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director). Perivoli Charter Meeting, Bristol, May 2022.

L-R: Joyce Achampong (PARC External Advisory Board), Susan Jim (PARC Manager), Tawana Kupe (VC, University of Pretoria (UP)), Neil Scolding (Burden Professor of Clinical Neurosciences, UoB), Lala Ireland (Teaching Associate, UoB Law School). 'Toward a transformed mode of UoB-Africa partnerships?', Bristol, May 2022.

L-R: Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director) and Tawana Kupe (VC, UP). 'Toward a transformed mode of UoB-Africa partnerships?', Bristol, May 2022.

L-R: James Alexandroff (Settlor, Perivoli Foundation), Francis Naab (PARC Research Associate (RA)), Susan Jim (PARC Manager), Mamokgethi Phakeng (VC, UCT), Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director), Agnes Nairn (Pro Vice-Chancellor, Global Engagement, UoB), Carolyn Newton (Director, Global Engagement, UCT), Eyob Balcha Gebremariam (PARC RA). Perivoli Charter Meeting, Bristol, October 2022.

L-R: Susan Jim (PARC Manager), Wilna Venter (Research Collaboration Specialist, UCT), Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director), Divine Fuh (Director, Institute for Humanities in Africa, UCT). WUN Global Africa Group Secretariat Meeting, Cape Town, March 2022.



CAPSTONE RESEARCH PROGRAMMES

We continue our endeavour to put a transformed mode of research collaboration into practice by helping to build a set of Africa-centred and -led capstone research programmes.

PARC has been facilitating and supporting a step-wise process, comprising:

- the Africa-led pinpointing of priority agendas for research in the continent;
- the mapping and identification of funding sources for and the bringing together of consortia to develop Africa-led collaborative research proposals that address the priorities;
- the design of mechanisms to derive learning from transformed partnership working approaches.





Initially the capstone programmes were focused on 3 substantive areas:

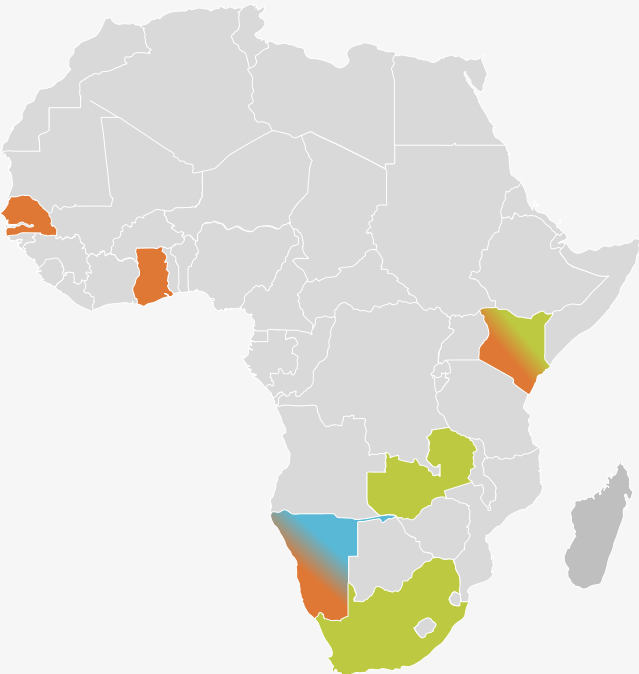
- 1 care systems and economies
- 2 sexual and gender-based violence
- 3 water management, sanitation and hygiene

In 2022 it was decided to add a fourth - climate change and conservation - reflecting UoB research strengths which may answer African priority agendas, and the broader currents moving around the global research ecosystem.

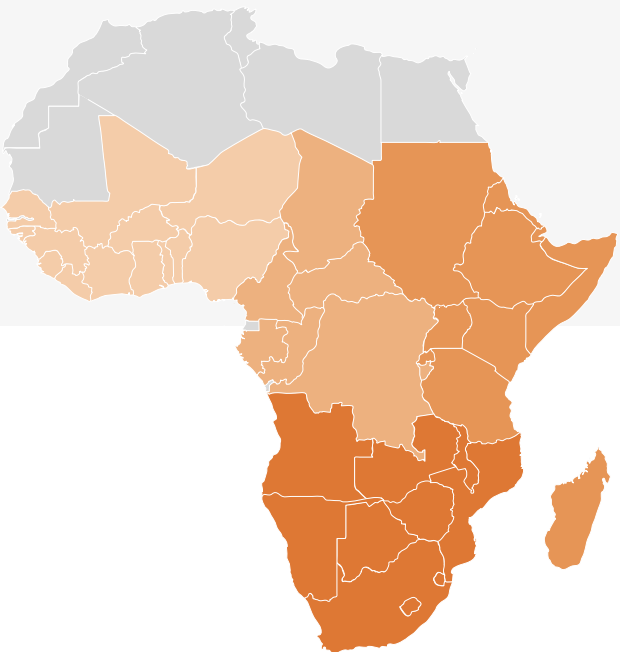
PARC capstone areas

COUNTRIES OF RESEARCH FOCUS

-  CARE SYSTEMS AND ECONOMIES
Ghana, Kenya, Senegal, Namibia (tbd)
-  SEXUAL AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE
Kenya, Zambia, South Africa
-  WATER MANAGEMENT, SANITATION AND HYGIENE
Countries of research focus to be determined
-  CLIMATE CHANGE AND CONSERVATION
Namibia in collaboration with the Perivoli Rangelands Research Institute



1 Capstone one Care systems and economies



Co-produced in consultation with the African Union (AU)

-  AU East Africa Region
-  AU West Africa Region
-  AU Central Africa Region
-  AU South Africa Region

PROGRESSING EXISTING PROJECTS

CARE ECONOMY AFRICA: SENEGAL AND KENYA

In partnership with: African Population and Health Research Center ([APHRC](#)), [University of Toronto](#), [Consortium for Research on the Generational Economy](#), [Institute for Economic Justice](#) and [NAWI Afrifem Macroeconomics Collective](#).

Aim: to generate Africa-centred knowledge and macroeconomic tools, and engage constituencies to inform and advance appropriate policy action on early child care (ECC) and LTC provisioning and infrastructures.

Over the course of 2022, we developed a more general theoretical and conceptual framing that could be used to shape empirical social science investigations in this and PARC's other capstone programmes. The aim is to generate an Africa-centred understanding of the problems and solutions for particular substantive issues (such as care) and actively redress the present dominance in policy-oriented inquiry in/for Africa of Western knowledge frameworks, models and associated global development agendas and designs. We are considering ways to develop a similar resource for STEM projects.

DEVELOPING GHANA'S CARE ECONOMY

In partnership with: University of Ghana ([UG](#)), [APHRC](#) and [Aarhus University](#)

Aim: to clarify the case and directions for investments to expand LTC service provision in Ghana. To test potential service models as a vehicle for enhancing women's well-being, education and labour market opportunities, care quality; and for expanding inclusive private sector growth. The project will also look to pursue a strengthening of local capacity for continued LTC economy research. 2022 saw the conclusion of the mapping and reviewing of relevant literature and national survey data sources, as well as the conduct of secondary analysis of selected datasets.

Fieldwork began in November 2022, and 4 UG-embedded PhD projects are to be completed by 2025. During this period we envisage a training visit of the PhD students to the University of Bristol.

We continued to lay foundations for the Africa-led pinpointing of emerging priority areas for research, specifically on long-term care (LTC) at the end of the life course. We also progressed work on two existing projects focused on care systems and economies in Kenya, Senegal and Ghana.

PINPOINTING RESEARCH PRIORITIES

We continued our support for the development of policy frameworks specifically on LTC and ageing to serve as a basis for identifying critical research priorities.

The revised African Union Policy Framework and Plan of Action on Ageing ([AUPFPAA](#); PARC supported its development in 2021) was adopted by the AU Executive Council in July 2022. The AUPFPAA now serves as a continental blueprint for the articulation of national policies and programmes to address challenges of ageing, including LTC.

Modelled on the AUPFPAA and facilitated by PARC, Namibia developed a new [National Policy on the Rights, Care and Protection](#) of Older Persons in 2022. The policy was validated in November and now awaits formal approval by Cabinet in 2023.

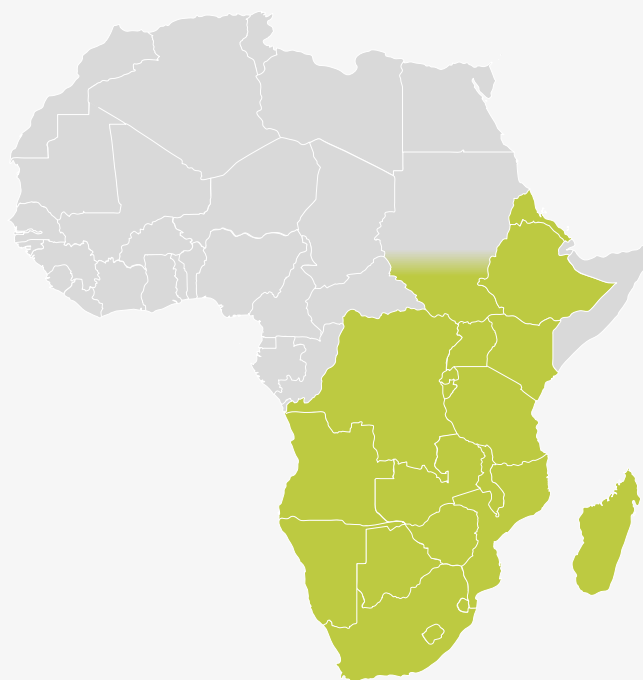
In parallel, we further developed plans, in conjunction with the African Union Commission ([AUC](#)) and the Namibia Ministry of Health & Social Services ([MHSS](#)), for the convening of a virtual co-creation workshop to pinpoint a priority research agenda on LTC systems and economies specifically for Southern Africa. The workshop is scheduled for March 2023.

2

Capstone two Sexual and gender- based violence

Co-produced in consultation with the UNFPA
East and Southern Regional Office (ESARO)

 UNFPA ESARO member countries



In partnership with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Kenya and APHRC, PARC has developed methodology to rapidly identify barriers to the realisation of national commitments to policy action to end sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) and to identify steps to help overcome these. Rapid assessments were carried out in three countries - Kenya, Zambia and South Africa - and reports for each country were finalised.

We progressed the Africa-led pinpointing of priorities for research to advance the realisation of African countries' commitments to end and address SGBV that were made at the [ICPD25 Summit](#).

We continued to deepen our engagement with the UNFPA's [TransformU](#) network, and took the opportunity to address the whole spectrum of the network's membership with a webinar 'Toward an Africa-led research agenda on GBV and ICPD25 in Kenya, South Africa and Zambia'. In partnership with APHRC and the AUC, and in conjunction with the [EBI Global Public Health Strand](#) and the [SPS Centre for Gender and Violence Research](#), PARC convened this virtual workshop to consider findings and key knowledge gaps and research needs emerging from the rapid assessment.

A set of broad research priorities was identified and will be elaborated in a follow-up co-creation workshop to be convened in conjunction with the UNFPA East and Southern Africa Office ([ESARO](#)). The workshop is planned for Q1-2 2023.

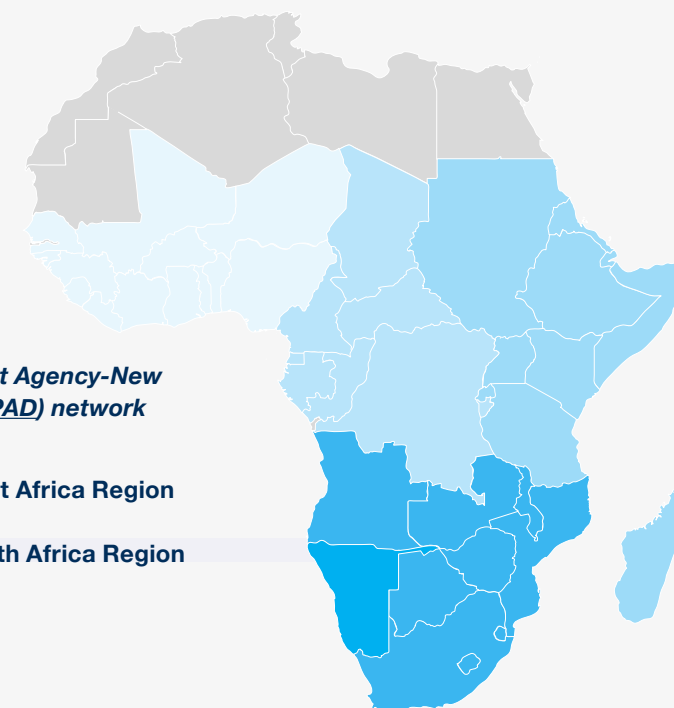
The research agendas resulting from the above initiatives will provide a basis for African scholars, institutions and collaborators to design incisive research projects to close the knowledge gaps.

3

Capstone three Water management, sanitation and hygiene

Co-produced with the African Union Development Agency-New
Partnership for Africa's Development ([AUDA-NEPAD](#)) network

 AU East Africa Region  AU West Africa Region
 AU Central Africa Region  AU South Africa Region



Building on an Africa-led process of pinpointing key research priorities in water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), for West and Central, and for East and Southern Africa, we initiated, in conjunction with Development and Alumni Relations Office ([DARO](#)), a process of mapping relevant funding opportunities.

The mapping is expected to conclude early next year, establishing a basis for supporting the identification and bringing together of potential consortium partners for the development of Africa-led proposals for collaborative inquiry to address the priorities.

Image below:

PARC Partnership Fund project: Assessing climate resilience of multi-village water supplies in Ethiopia.

PI: Abraham Geremew, Haramaya University
with UoB Co-I: Anisha Nijhawan, Civil Engineering



4 Capstone four Climate change and conservation

This is a new capstone for 2022. Work in this area is geared to fostering a programme of Africa-centred and -led collaborative research to minimise or mitigate effects of climate change in the continent.

Liaisons with both the University of Namibia ([UNAM](#)) and the Namibia University of Science and Technology ([NUST](#)) continued apace with a visit by the PARC Director and Manager in March 2022. We succeeded in facilitating the establishment of a set of seed-corn projects (please see list of projects in sidebar) conceived and led by researchers at UNAM (7 projects) and NUST (4 projects) to address local priorities. These projects are generously supported by the Perivoli Foundation through its [Perivoli Climate Trust](#).

In addition to having supported the identification of projects and researchers, and the brokering of agreements alongside Research Development colleagues at the two institutions, PARC has worked to foster engagement between UNAM #7 and NUST #4 researchers and UoB's [Cabot Institute](#) community.

The connections forged and seed-corn projects will provide a basis for UNAM, NUST and UoB to develop ideas and funding proposals for a set of larger Africa-led collaborative projects. An anticipated workshop in Namibia toward the end of 2023 will provide an important forum for such co-creation.



PERIVOLI CLIMATE TRUST SEED-CORN PROJECTS

University of Namibia

'A geochemical baseline study of giant kelp at the blue kelp farm to assess carbon sequestration potential'

- PI: **Professor Likius Daniel**, Senior Lecturer, Chemistry

'Assessment of the hydrological processes and fluxes in wetland-groundwater ecosystems in semi-arid environments, an example from the Cuvelai-Etosha Basin, Namibia'

- PI: **Dr Josephine Hamutoko**, Lecturer, Geology

'Ecological restoration as an ecosystem-based adaptation approach to address the impacts of desertification and climate change in Namibia'

- PI: **Dr Emilia Inman**, Senior Research Fellow, Restoration Ecology

'An assessment on the clinical effects of water-based perphenazine on behaviour in boma-kept impala'

- PIs: **Dr Israel Amuthitu**, Lecturer, Veterinary Medicine
Professor Mark Jago, Senior Lecturer, Veterinary Medicine

'Conversion of bush encroachers for Ganoderma mushroom production at Okondjatu'

- PI: **Professor Nailoke Kadhila**, Senior Lecturer, Biochemistry, Microbiology and Biotechnology

'Assessing the impact of bush control on soil carbon sequestration, soil fertility and groundwater recharge in Namibian rangelands'

- PI: **Dr Wellencia Nesongano**, Lecturer, Rangeland Ecology

'Piospheric dynamics in semi-arid protected areas under a changing climate: towards climate-adaptive waterpoint management in Etosha National Park, Namibia'

- PI: **Professor Isaac Mapaure**, Professor of Ecology and Conservation Biology

Namibia University of Science and Technology

'Facultative crassulacean acid metabolism plants as a novel agricultural production system in drier climates'

- PI: **Dr Vera de Cauwer**, Senior Lecturer, Agriculture and Natural Resources Sciences

'Demonstration of small-scale biogas generation from succulents'

- PI: **Dr Vera de Cauwer**, Senior Lecturer, Agriculture and Natural Resources Sciences

'Indigenous succulent plants as carbon capture machines'

- PI: **Dr Vera de Cauwer**, Senior Lecturer, Agriculture and Natural Resources Sciences

'Carbon sink potential of camel thorn'

- PIs: **Professor Nichola Knox**, Associate Professor, Geo-Spatial Sciences and Technology
Dr Vera de Cauwer, Senior Lecturer, Agriculture and Natural Resources Sciences



Image left: L-R: Kelvin Mubiana Katukula (Coordinator, Centre for Grants Management and Resource Mobilisation (CGMRM), University of Namibia (UNAM)), Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director), Clara Wellencia Nesongano (Senior Lecturer, School of Science (SoS), UNAM), Rosemary Shikangalah (Associate Professor, SoS, UNAM), John Sifani (Director, Centre for Innovation and Development, UNAM), Emilia Inman (Senior Researcher, Multidisciplinary Research Services, UNAM), Nchindo Mbukusa (Senior Lecturer, School of Education, UNAM), Susan Jim (PARC Manager), Mechthilde Pinto (Project Research Associate (RA), CGMRM, UNAM), Selma Lendelvo (Director, CGMRM, UNAM). 'Building collaborative research between UNAM and UoB' workshop, Windhoek, March 2022.

Image right: L-R: Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director), Anna Matros-Goreses (Director, Project Services Unit (PSU), Namibian University of Science and Technology (NUST)), Susan Jim (PARC Manager), Bas Rijnen (Projects Coordinator, NUST). 'Exploration of NUST Climate Science Research', Windhoek, March 2022.

MUTUAL LEARNING AND CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

We seek to promote mutual knowledge sharing and capacity development to embed new modes of Global North-Africa research cooperation among the next generation of scholars and academic leaders.

In 2022 we focused on continuing the development of plans for joint initiatives with the Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology (PASET), an Africa-led research capacity strengthening initiative.

PASET was launched in 2013 by the Governments of Senegal, Ethiopia and Rwanda with facilitation by the World Bank. It aims to address systemic gaps in skills and knowledge in sub-Saharan Africa's priority ASET fields, and to build capacities in African education and training institutions to nurture high quality technicians, engineers and scientists that can support the growth of key economic sectors in the continent.

PASET's flagship programme is the Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund (RSIF), coordinated by [icipe](#), Kenya. The Fund¹ offers a unique and historic opportunity for African countries to train new doctoral students in high-quality PhD programmes in applied sciences, engineering and technology, at an affordable cost in competitively selected African Host Universities² (AHU) partnered with international universities.

¹Supported by 10 African governments, the World Bank, the Government of Korea and the European Union through the African, Caribbean, Pacific (ACP) Innovation Fund.

²Fifteen PASET RSIF African Host Universities: University of Gaston Berger, Senegal; Institut International d'Ingénierie de l'Eau et de l'Environnement, Burkina Faso; Université Felix Houphouët-Boigny, Côte d'Ivoire; University of Ghana, Ghana; University of Abomey-Calavi, Benin; Bayero University, African University of Science and Technology, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria; Haramaya University, Ethiopia; Makerere University, Uganda; Kenyatta University, University of Nairobi, Kenya; University of Rwanda, Rwanda; Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania.

We have worked with PASET and the [Cabot Institute](#) to develop plans for an exciting, cohort-based model of exchange for students working in the broad area of climate science. Approximately 5 students would be selected from PASET's AHU that already have, or are likely to develop, relevant strategic research relationships with the University of Bristol. Such a cohort model would enable or facilitate:

- provision of focused, tailored training for students on core themes and associated generic skills;
- their wider engagement with UoB peers and staff;
- mutual support among the students;
- streamlined planning, including around logistics and immigration issues;
- the organisation of two-way UoB-AHU symposia or colloquia;
- the development of collaborative UoB-AHU research plans and proposals, building on shared interests;
- the development of plans for reverse exchange visits for cohorts of UoB students (or staff) to AHU.

Excitingly, a first cohort of visiting PASET students is envisioned for academic year 2023/24. While most of the costs of such a cohort scheme would be covered by PASET RSIF itself, we anticipate working with DARO to identify potential sources of complementary funding.



INCLUSIVE RESEARCH COLLECTIVE

Working closely with the Inclusive Research Collective (IRC) at the University of Bristol, a series of online seminars and workshops is planned for 2023. The workshops will bring together African and University of Bristol postgraduate students to jointly examine the nature and implications of, and approaches to, redressing power imbalances and inequities that pervade Global North - Africa knowledge production, both within social sciences and STEM.

CARTA

We continued to explore with the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA) the co-development of plans for joint training and mutual learning between CARTA fellows or graduates and relevant UoB postgraduate students or early-career researchers on the theory and practice of transformed partnerships.

AFRICA RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FUND

Building on our initial engagement in 2021, we agreed to join forces with the Africa Research Excellence Fund (AREF) in an application to the Medical Research Foundation (MRF) to develop a small Equitable Partnership Training Programme, created specifically for awardees of the new MRF [Impact of Climate Change on Health Scheme](#). A decision on the application is expected in January 2023. If successful, we look forward to working with AREF and African partners in co-designing an initial set of training approaches and materials. We envisage that these will serve as a basis for the future development of broader training for a range of UK, Africa and global audiences and constituencies.

Image L-R: Francis Naab (PARC RA), Hilda Owii (PARC PhD Student), Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director) and colleagues. 'Care Work and the Economy' working group at APHRC, Nairobi, December 2022.

COMMUNITY OF INTEREST

To inform, underpin and disseminate its work across the 3 other focus areas, PARC seeks to nurture a global community of interest. The community aims to engage stakeholders from the University and the city of Bristol, the continent and beyond using the PARC website as its key platform for debate and information sharing.

With 2022 seeing a slow withdrawal from remote working practices, we were delighted to be able to hold meetings and events in person, in Bristol and elsewhere, whether it was meeting stakeholders in pursuit of our Perivoli Charter work or consulting University of Bristol colleagues at a workshop or moving work forward in the Care capstone with colleagues at APHRC in Nairobi.

Continued reorganisation of the website is underway in order to optimise its usage as a key platform for our efforts to nurture a community of interest. In February 2022 we launched 'PARC Conversations', a web-based reflection and exchange platform for African and Africa-based scholars and research managers to share their experiences and perspectives on the nature, impacts and wider implications of power imbalances in Global North-Africa research partnerships. These reflective pieces have been accompanied by a number of blogs, most notably from our Research Associates. Soliciting pieces from further afield will be a key challenge in 2023.

INTEGRATING PARC'S VISION IN THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL'S STRATEGY

Through our active engagement in the process of formulating the University of Bristol's [Strategy Refresh](#), we have enabled an incorporation of PARC's core concern – a commitment to championing research policies and practice that actively redress the power imbalances inherent in global North-South research collaborations to advance the decolonisation of the Global research and science ecosystem – into UoB's new sub-strategy for 'World leading research and innovation with local, national and global impact'. Similarly, a strategic ambition to continue to invest in partnerships, specifically in Africa, through PARC is captured in UoB's sub-strategy on 'Developing Internationalisation and Global Engagement'.

Building on PARC's place in the University's strategic thinking, we have begun work with UoB's new Pro Vice-Chancellor for Global Engagement, [Professor Agnes Nairn](#), to shape the configuration of an 'Africa Hub' of strategic partnerships with institutions on the continent, underpinned by the principles and goals that will be captured in the Perivoli Charter, and nurtured through PARC.



Image: Jonathan Teague conducting fieldwork in Bermuda. © Ole Brodnickie

EXCITING NEXT STEPS FOR SUCCESSFUL CORAL REEF MONITORING PHD RESEARCH

Jonny Teague's PhD research developed a new 'proof of concept' technology for monitoring the health of coral communities using iterative prototyping and field testing.

The technology allows for 'normal' cameras such as a digital single-lens reflex camera to be converted into a hyperspectral imager, reducing the financial cost of buying a spectral imager by up to 80% compared to commercial grade imagers.

The overarching aims of the PhD project were to determine whether hyperspectral imaging could be used as a metric for assessing coral health, and to develop and prototype low-cost technologies for high-risk environments.

Four hyperspectral imagers and associated software were developed which can be deployed in coral reef monitoring and other relevant applications. The standalone system has the potential to be scaled up and used in larger settings such as monitoring fish health in a commercial context.

Working with partners in Kenya and Bermuda, the camera and software were successfully trialled.

The research has been disseminated at international conferences and through peer-reviewed publications. The University of San Diego will trial the system in the coming year.



PARC CELEBRATES: 2022 THANDIKA MKANDAWIRE PRIZE AWARDED TO PARC RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

Dr Eyob Balcha Gebremariam has been awarded the 2022 Thandika Mkandawire Prize for Outstanding Scholarship in African Political Economy and Economic Development (USD 10,000) for his paper 'Thandika Mkandawire's model for an African Developmental State and the Ethiopian Experiment (2001 – 2018)'.

This paper is under review in the journal *Africa Development*, published by CODESRIA.

Dr Gebremariam has presented the paper at two virtual events:

- African Program on Rethinking Development Economics (APORDE) Public Seminar Series, 13 September 2022, and
- Thandika Mkandawire Memorial Lecture and Panel Discussion on 10 October 2022, organised by United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD), CODESRIA and South African Research Chair in Social Policy.

Image L-R: Mr James Alexandroff (Settlor, Perivoli Foundation), Dr Susan Jim (PARC Manager), Professor Isabella Aboderin (PARC Director), Dr Eyob Balcha Gebremariam (PARC Research Associate), Dr Francis Naab (PARC Research Associate), Dr Robert Crowe (PARC Research Officer). Bristol, October 2022.

LOOKING FORWARD

Building on our achievements, PARC will pursue an expanded portfolio of work over the coming year to support not only the Perivoli Foundation's ambitions, but also the University's overarching strategic aims:

- 1 The co-production of the Perivoli Charter framework, based on firm partnerships and consultations with key bodies and actors in the Africa and UK Higher Education sector;
- 2 The establishment of a mechanism, in conjunction with partners in the continent, for operationalising the Charter and for establishing an associated field of dedicated collaborative inquiry on Africa-global science futures;
- 3 The development of funding proposals and mechanisms for active learning from collaborative projects in the care, SGBV, WASH and climate change capstone areas;
- 4 The hosting in Bristol of the first cohort of PASET PhD students and the co-development of capacity strengthening and mutual learning activities for PASET, CARTA and UoB students and supervisors;
- 5 The establishment of a digital-focused communications plan that will effectively tell the PARC story and encourage funders and partners to get involved;
- 6 Work closely with the Perivoli Foundation, the PARC network and UoB's Global Engagement and Research divisions to articulate and agree a longer-term, ambitious vision and plan for PARC post-2023 that will incorporate a wider remit for PARC and a more central positioning within the University.

Founding Funder

- [Perivoli Foundation](#)

Funders

- African Population Health Research Center ([APHRC](#))
- [Danida](#)
- [Hewlett Foundation](#)
- [Research England](#)
- [UKRI Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council](#)
- University of South Africa ([UNISA](#))

Project partnerships

- African Academy of Sciences ([AAS](#))
- African Union Commission ([AUC](#))
- African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development ([AUDA-NEPAD](#)) network
- African Population Health Research Center ([APHRC](#))
- African Research Universities Alliance ([ARUA](#))
- Association of African Universities ([AAU](#))
- Association of West Africa Universities ([AWAU](#))
- Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa ([CARTA](#))
- Consortium for Research in the Generational Economy ([CREG](#))
- Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa ([CODESRIA](#))
- International Network for Higher Education in Africa ([INHEA](#))
- Inter-University Council for East Africa ([IUCEA](#))
- [Nawi](#) - Afrifem Macroeconomics Collective
- Partnership for Skills in Applied Sciences, Engineering & Technology - Regional Scholarship and Innovation Fund ([PASET-RSIF](#))
- [Stellenbosch University](#)
- United Nations Population Fund East and Southern Regional Office ([UNFPA ESARO](#))
- [University of Cape Town](#)
- [University of Ghana](#)
- [University of KwaZulu-Natal](#)
- [University of Pretoria](#)
- [University of Toronto](#)
- University of South Africa ([UNISA](#))
- Worldwide Universities Network ([WUN](#))

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