pasgr.org

PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICAN SOCIAL & GOVERNANCE RESEARCH

Excellence in Research and Training for Public Policy

2014 Annual Report

Contents

Abbreviations

CPD	Centre for Policy Dialogue
DfID	Department for International Development of the United Kingdom
HEP	Higher Education Programme
ICT	Information and Communications Technology
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IDS	Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi
IT	Information Technology
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
MMRC	Multi-Method Research Course
MRPP	Master of Research and Public Policy
MoU	Memorandums of Understanding
PASGR	Partnership for African Social & Governance Research
PDT	Professional Development and Training Programme
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
UN	United Nations
USA	United States of America

Message from the Chair

OUR PRIMARY FOCUS in training for public policy in Africa is exemplified by the collaborative Master of Research and Public Policy programme that was successfully launched in five African universities in 2014. Professional development course offerings have attracted participants from across the board, ranging from the policy arena to think tanks and academia.

2014 also saw the culmination of a process that involved the Board and the Secretariat in re-examining our strategic directions and finalising organisational and programme plans for the next four years. We are committed to retaining a mark of excellence in our work, ongoing partnerships with existing and new counterparts to deliver our mandate, and to relentless pursuit of relevance in public policy.
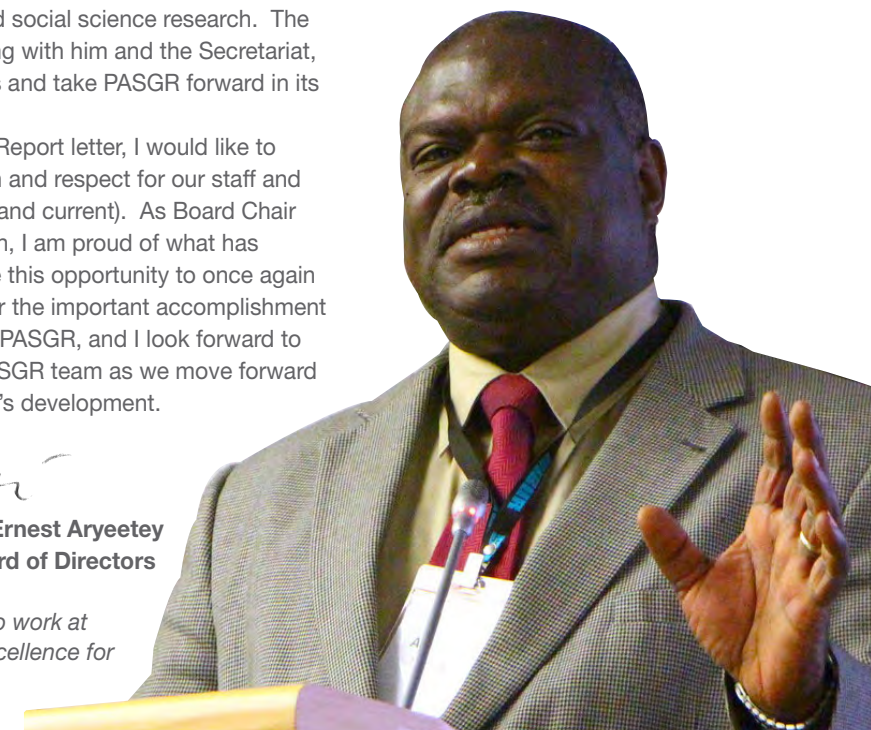
In 2014 we also underwent a major leadership transition. Joseph Hoffman, former Interim Executive Director, ably steered the PASGR Secretariat since our days as a project office under the British Council Kenya in 2010. It was under his management that PASGR transitioned to the fully-fledged independent organisation we are today, a few years ahead of schedule. Joseph's term of office expired in 2014, and Tade Akin Aina took up the position of PASGR's Executive Director. We are extremely pleased to have Tade join, particularly as his regional and global experience straddles all aspects of PASGR's activities in higher education, professional development and training, and social science research. The Board looks forward to working with him and the Secretariat, to build on past achievements and take PASGR forward in its next phase of development.

In signing my first Annual Report letter, I would like to express my deep appreciation and respect for our staff and Board of Directors (both past and current). As Board Chair of this remarkable organisation, I am proud of what has been achieved in 2014. I seize this opportunity to once again commend Joseph Hoffman for the important accomplishment of building the foundations of PASGR, and I look forward to working with Tade and the PASGR team as we move forward into the next phase of PASGR's development.

Professor Ernest Aryeetey
Chair, PASGR Board of Directors

"It is a great privilege for me to work at PASGR, pursuing research excellence for public policy". — Prof Tade Akin Aina, Executive Director

> We are committed to retaining a mark of excellence in our work, ongoing partnerships with existing and new counterparts to deliver our mandate, and to relentless pursuit of relevance in public policy

2014 at a glance

JAN	FEB	MAR-APR	MAY-AUG	SEPT-OCT	NOV
January 13-20: PDT programme conducts an MMRC Instructors' Training Course in Accra, Ghana	**February 27-28:** Social Protection II Findings Workshop held in Ghana	**April 28-30:** Post-2015 Data Test Workshop held in Nairobi	**May-August:** HEP readiness review visits to 12 MRPP programme universities in Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania and Uganda	**September-October:** Flagship MRPP launched in Uganda Christian University and Uganda Martyrs University; Egerton University; University of Dar es Salaam and Mzumbe University	**November:** Monitoring and Evaluation of all universities offering MRPP
January 20-21: Research Programme holds Social Protection Dissemination Workshop in Uganda	**February 18-20:** PDT Programme delivers an Informed Researchers Consumers pilot course in Dar es Salaam	**March 31-April 1:** Think tank-universities study findings workshop held in Nairobi			**November 12-13:** First PASGR/ IDS (University of Nairobi) Biennial Conference on Social Protection in Africa held in Nairobi
January 29: PDT programme partners' meeting to design three new modules, Cape Town				**October 1:** Tade Aina joins PASGR as Executive Director	**November 24 through December 6:** MMRC Block 1 training held in Nairobi
January 27-28: Research Committee meeting in Cape Town				**October:** MRPP course materials for Year 1 Semester 1 completed in Nairobi	

Who we are, what we do

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) is an independent, non-partisan pan-African not-for-profit organisation established in 2011 and located in Nairobi, Kenya.

Currently engaged in more than 12 African countries, PASGR works to enhance research excellence in governance and public policy that contributes to the overall wellbeing of the citizens. In partnership with individual academics and researchers, higher education institutions, research think tanks, civil society organisations, business and policy communities both in the region and internationally, PASGR supports the production and dissemination of policy relevant research; designs and delivers suites of short professional development courses for researchers and policy actors; and facilitates the development of collaborative higher education programmes.

Our vision is 'a vibrant African social science community addressing the continent's public policy issues'. PASGR's three core programmes bring together the right mix of universities, research institutions, government, policy actors, researchers and academics to:

- Establish and sustain partnerships at national/regional and international levels for advancing research, higher education and training;
- Facilitate the creation of policy and research communities; and,
- Enhance the institutionalisation of a research culture in Africa's universities and research organisations.
- Coordinate a collaborative Master of Research and Public Policy with universities in Africa.

Our vision

A vibrant African social science community addressing the continent's public policy issues.

Members of the MRPP Steering Committee and PASGR staff.

2014 key activities

January 20-23 March 25-26	March 27 - 28	May – August	September 1 - October 20	November	December
Case study writing workshop in Nairobi	MRPP Steering Committee meeting in Nairobi	MRPP readiness review visits to Botswana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Ghana, Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya and signing of MoUs with 11 universities	MRPP launched in five universities	Monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the launched MRPP universities	Course-specific staff professional development at the Uganda Christian University

How we gave a new face to teaching of public policy research

NOTHING DEFINES PASGR's Higher Education Programme more than the acclaimed Master of Research and Public Policy (MRPP), which was launched between September and October. It is widely regarded as one of a kind, not least because of its use of innovative pedagogical approaches.

The MRPP is a programme focused on social science research for public policy, aimed at producing graduates intending to pursue careers in scholarly research and teaching or contributing to public policy development in Africa. It is guided by a set of principles including compliance with entry criteria that stipulate entry points.

Participating universities
- University of Ibadan
- University of Botswana
- University of Jos
- Maseno University
- University of Dar es Salaam
- University of Ghana
- Egerton University
- Uganda Martyrs University
- Uganda Christian University
- Mzumbe University
- University of Sierra Leone
- University of Lagos

Partners that launched the MRPP in 2014
- Uganda Martyrs University
- Uganda Christian University
- Egerton University
- University of Dar es Salaam
- Mzumbe University

The roll-out was regional - Uganda Christian and Uganda Martyrs universities on September 1; Kenya's Egerton September 15; University of Dar es Salaam October 6 and Mzumbe on October 20. It was preceded by readiness review visits to 12 participating universities in seven countries, during which MoUs were signed with 11 of them.

Ahead of the launch, course-specific professional development courses were carried out in Nairobi in July and August.

At the end of the five-day courses, 124 participants from participating universities had been trained. Two of the course days were devoted to enhancing the teaching staff's innovative pedagogical skills, among them case study teaching, Socratic methods, role-play, dialogue and group work. This was followed by three days of immersion into a deeper understanding of the MRPP course content and communities of practice. After that, launching universities held their own professional development courses at institutional level.

The launch was a triumph of ambition over bureaucracy.

"That it's working is thanks to the efforts of everybody, including Joseph Hoffman, who was there moving us all on," executive director Prof. Aina says of his predecessor. "We got all of us to agree that we wanted to do it; then we got all of us to say what constitutes aspects of this, the competencies; then we agreed on skills and experience. Then we got all of us to agree on what constitutes a curriculum; then we got all of us to agree on the reference and reading materials."

The long march to a masters programme dates back to 2011, when PASGR brought together representatives from 22 African universities, regional and international resource persons as well as some of its own board members and staff.

In January and March 2014, the programme hosted

The launch was a victory over various odds, including institutional bureaucracy, to sign the MoUs. "That it's working is thanks to the efforts of everybody, including Joseph Hoffman, who was there moving us all on," PASGR boss Tade says of his predecessor.

Dons miss the point by lecturing adults

SUSAN KILONZO was part of the team that crafted PASGR's Master of Research in Public Policy (MRPP) curriculum, whose student-centred teaching approaches are "quite different" from the traditional lecture-oriented methods.

The approach has been well-received by the largely mature students handled by the Maseno University Senior Lecturer.

"These are people who have knowledge," Kilonzo says of her class that includes five politicians, one of them an assistant of a Member of Parliament. "They need the course to understand public policy and the role it plays in government issues. In class, they give you examples of what works and what doesn't. So, if you play lecturer, you miss out on many things."

Susan considers the use of electronic case studies quite innovative. E-cases bring real-life experiences into class—a move away from traditional typed notes.

The course is a two-in-one—with research and policy practice—for those training to be researchers and experts in public policy, respectively. PASGR's collaboration with 12 African universities is its other plus, enabling the institutions to even out on staff shortfalls through an exchange programme.

The course uses teaching aids centred around African public policy issues, says Susan, whom PASGR has identified as an e-cases development expert. "I never thought of using scripts and drama in my teaching, but now I can, thanks to training by PASGR. With time, we'll have a crop of new scholars."

Making up for staff shortfalls

EXCELLENCE is a core value of PASGR, which goes all out to ensure quality, including sharing teachers among partner institutions to even out staff shortfalls. So passionate for quality is PASGR that its newly launched Master of Research for Public Policy (MRPP) is already set for review in 2015.

Dr Emmanuel Remi Aiyede, Senior Lecturer in Political Science at Nigeria's Ibadan University, has taught for PASGR at Egerton University in Kenya. He testifies to how Egerton, which is best known for agriculture, has gone about securing adequate teaching staff, setting up infrastructure, especially ICT, and the teaching methods and material to effectively deliver the MRPP.

"My participation in teaching was particularly enriching. I taught some topics in Governance and Politics of Public Policy. The class was immediately comparative, given that I brought the experience in Nigeria to students who were largely familiar with the Kenyan situation.

"The discussions were robust as both student and teacher (facilitator) became part of an exciting discussion group that engaged the policy process in both countries on issues related to the roles of the executive and civil society in policy-making within a governance performance context," he says.

Similarities in experiences extended to "event-provoking policies (that) have occurred in a sequence that made it surprising that there was very little experience-sharing among government/policy actors across Africa", making staff exchange an integrative, enriching and effective element of delivering the course.

Representatives from the 12 MRPP universities during an e-case development workshop in March.

two case study writing workshops. To facilitate the process that had to precede the MRPP launch, PASGR reached out to a number of institutions, eventually settling for the Hubert Project of the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

E-case development entailed training content experts and university technology staff in e-case authoring, developing five major cases and 33 mini-cases as well as training faculty in the use of multimedia-enhanced cases and technology enhanced learning materials. The process was concluded at a November workshop in Nairobi.

Thirty-eight teaching staff and 11 technology staff have been trained in the use of the e-cases, which are on a digital platform. E-case studies allow for creativity, drawing on students' interpretive capacity. The interactive methods employed in delivering the programme are among the participatory approaches in which students are partners in knowledge-creation rather than receptacles of knowledge. The lecturer as facilitator rather than giver of knowledge defines alternative pedagogical approaches, which make the MRPP unique.

The MRPP is governed by a Steering Committee made up of representatives of all participating members and co-chaired by Prof Gelase Mutahaba of the University of Dar es Salaam, together with PASGR's Executive Director.

MRPP programme architecture

The MRPP has put in place architecture for a collaborative Masters in Research and Public Policy that meets international standards and is highly innovative for Africa and the rest of the world.

Semester 1	Semester 2		Long Break	Semester 3	Semester 4
Qualitative Research Methods for Public Policy	Economics for Public Policy		For Students: 1. Field experience 2. Data collection	Research, Policy and Public Interface	Thesis Seminar
Quantitative Research Methods for Public Policy	Ethics in Research & Public Policy		For Teaching Staff: 1. Professional development 2. Programme development 3. Research activities	Gender, Social Diversity, Equity & Public Policy	Thesis work
Public Policy Development and Analysis	**Concentration Course Electives**				
	Research Pathway	**Policy Pathway**		Leadership and Public Policy	Thesis work
	Advanced Qualitative Methods	Applied Policy Analysis			
Governance & Politics of Public Policy	Advanced Quantitative Methods	Contemporary Issues in Public Policy		Thesis work	Thesis work
Social Science Foundations for Public Policy	Political Economy of Public Policy	Global Context of Public Policy		University-Specific Elective (optional)	University-Specific Elective (optional)

Enhanced skills for policy actors and social researchers

WHEN A 40-PERSON course attracts 300 applicants, that's success. Over-subscription is the story of PASGR's Multi-Method Research Course (MMRC), which is taught under the Professional Development and Training Programme (PDT) and poses both challenges and opportunities for the signature offering.

Previously known as the Policy Outreach and Training programme (POT), the programme delivers quality short-term courses that are "highly relevant to the task of improving individuals' competence to write better research proposals and to better equip them conceptually and methodologically to conduct quality research."

MMRC is a non-degree course and targets active researchers, teachers and users of research. It provides grants to researchers who can provide evidence to guide public policy decisions.

Year 2014 opened with a training-of-trainers workshop in Accra, Ghana. Selected to participate were seven women and 13 men, majority from previous offerings of the MMRC.

The seven-day intensive course sought to deepen potential instructors' knowledge of the course module content; share teaching strategies and techniques and identify which participants were best suited and most committed to be instructors of the course.

In February the University of Dar es Salaam co-

The Informed Research Consumers module targeted at policymakers and their technical staff, taught participants to discern good from bad research and what to do with research evidence.

Learning from fellow participants, individual study and one-on-one mentoring are some of the features of the MMRC.

2014 key activities

JANUARY 13-19	February 19-21	September 23-28	November 5 - 11	November 24 - December 6	December 1 - 6
Training 20 regional instructors for the MMRC	Delivery of Informed Research Consumers module to 28 policy actors in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	Delivery of Political Economy Analysis short courses in Nairobi, Kenya	Delivery of the Policy Engaged Research Communication short course to 28 researchers in Nairobi	Delivery of four MMRC modules to a cohort of 33	Delivery of Survey Design and Execution short course to 33 researchers

hosted the Evidence Informed Policy workshop. The training was attended by 28 top policy actors (five of them women), including senior economists from the President's Office and the Prime Minister's offices, senior academic staff, journalists and civil society actors.

The Informed Research Consumers module, aimed at policymakers and their technical staff, taught participants to discern good from bad research and what to do with research evidence.

Two pilot courses on Political Economy Analysis were held in Nairobi in September, attended by 26 researchers, including 10 women. Two Research Communication pilots using the Policy Engaged Research Communication module also took place

MMRC modules as at December 31, 2014

* Policy Engaged Research Communication
* Mixed Method Research
* Designing Social Inquiry
* Comparative Case Study Analysis
* Survey Design and Execution
* Action Research
* Social Network Analysis
* Ethnographic and Interpretive Methods
* Applied Quantitative Methods
* Large-N Research: Principles and an Application

Don testifies to module churning research waters

WHEN GHANAIAN RESEARCH fellow Daniel Doh applied for admission to the Multi-Method Research Course back in 2010-2011, little did he know that his elusive search for a PhD scholarship was nearing an end.

The course introduced him to a whole new concept of research methodology, which he calls revolutionary.

"I went back and immediately changed my way of teaching research methods," he says of the mixed-method approach, whose design module teaches students better co-ordinated research. Unlike traditional approaches where the student collects data to superimpose on a theoretical method, the module starts with design and builds information around it.

Doh, who was then attached to the University of Ghana, Legon, taught the design module to two Masters cohorts, with the first group of 22 students successfully presenting their theses. He also co-facilitated the MMRC's second and third modules.

Doh is currently pursuing his PhD at Edith Cowan University, Australia, where professors have recognised his proposal design skills. He has become an asset to fellow students.

His earlier stab at a PhD failed "because my proposals were weak"; academic journals would not publish his articles. But the MMRC skills changed all that -- he has submitted three proposals which yielded as many scholarships!

However, the course workload is overwhelming—a concern a module designer from the Institute of Development Studies, Sussex, Shandana Khan Mohmand shares. As yet they have no answer to the problem they attribute to quality.

in the Kenyan capital. In December the 8-module Multi-Method Research Course was held in Nairobi to broaden active researchers' knowledge and skills in methodological tools for policy-oriented social science and governance research. It attracted 33 researchers (16 of them men) -- from Cameroon, Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda Uganda and Zimbabwe.

The PDT programme created a secure access space on SharePoint, which enabled discussions and interactions over posted material. Plans to develop a PASGR communications unit to enhance the organisation's interaction and outreach are under way. An unexpected but visible outcome of the courses was that participating researchers took course materials back to their institutions, which they used to modify their teaching methods. Therefore, PASGR has the opportunity to influence the quality of individual teaching practices, unhindered by institutional constraints.

Participants want offerings that help demystify social science research. The need is to balance demand with course content suitability.

Finally, although the programme has developed web tools and encouraged use by participants and beneficiaries, the uneven level of familiarity with web tools and social media needs addressing.

300

Applicants for an MMRC course in Ghana, January, which needed only 40 participants

Reaching out to policy makers and Africa's family of researchers

THE RESEARCH Programme's crowning moment was PASGR's first Biennial Conference held in Nairobi from November 12 to 13.

Co-hosted with the University of Nairobi's Institute of Development Studies (IDS), the conference attracted prominent researchers, including Jimi Adesina from the University of South Africa, Thandika Mkandawire from the London School of Economics, Arjan De Haan (IDRC Canada) and Patricia Kameri-Mbote (University of Nairobi, Kenya).

Together with Stephen Kasaija (Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, Uganda) and Iris Macculi (Economic Commission for Africa) they delivered keynote addresses at the conference.

IDS and PASGR received 153 abstracts from which 28 were selected for development into conference papers. The meeting, which sought to provide a platform to African researchers to share evidence-based knowledge and experience on social protection drew 71 participants from Botswana, Cameroon, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

From an initial projection of 20, the organisers ended up with 28 papers, which will be published after subjection to peer-review—PASGR's new requirement for all its publications. The papers, 145 per cent of those originally planned, testify to African researchers' thirst for scholarship. That 18 papers were already going through peer review demonstrates PASGR's renewed emphasis on quality control of its research products. Executive Director Prof. Aina puts it succinctly: "PASGR is in Africa today when Africa needs it most, both in terms of knowledge and quality of its knowledge."

65

Senior government officials, researchers and lecturers, who attended a PASGR meeting to launch its think tank-university relations study findings, Nairobi, March 31-April1

Delegates at the Biennial Conference held in November.

Prof. Aina has declared his commitment to reclaiming quality for the Research Programme and wants to provide intellectual leadership in the study and training on social science and public policy in Africa.

Social protection in Africa—the Biennial Conference's theme—is caught up in a "web of political, ideological and institutional interests that drive policy and programme implementation..." As

Prof Fredrick Wanyama of Maseno University—a PASGR partner in the Master of Research and Public Policy programme—noted in his paper, "... it is competing political incentives and motivations that drive the implementation of the cash transfer programmes in Kenya and the real beneficiaries are the powerful rather than the poor."

The Research Committee's January 27-28 meeting in Cape Town discussed 2014 projects.

28

Abstracts selected for development into conference papers for PASGR's first Biennial Conference held on November 12-13

They included proposed studies on Governance Research and Employment Creation in the Context of Inclusive Growth in Africa and Youth, Education/Skills and Employment in Africa. Post-2015: Unpacking The Data Revolution at Country Level was funded by the William & Flora Hewlett Foundation, which held two meetings in which PASGR participated. (Full story on Page 20)

On March 31 to April 1, a workshop to share findings of a think tank-university relations study was held in Nairobi. Seeking to promote collaboration between think tanks and universities in sub-Saharan Africa, it brought together 65 participants including senior government officials, researchers and lecturers from Africa. It involved 10 African countries in collaboration with PASGR and the Think Tank Initiative—a multi-donor programme implemented by IDRC to promote better understanding of think tank-university relations.

The Research Programme also published eight policy briefs on the political economy of Social Protection Policy Uptake and identified six peer reviewers and seven resource

persons to mentor research grantees.

PASGR has facilitated 33 research grants, directly benefiting 65 researchers from 14 countries since 2011. It views governance research as a rigorous inquiry into state-society-market relations, which should provide solutions to public policy problems. A major agenda at the Cape Town committee meeting was to define governance research and find a niche for it. Members also discussed employment and inclusive growth from the governance perspective—a topic the IDRC is keen to fund in 2015.

As 2014 closed, the Research Programme had identified Urban Governance and Turning African Cities Around as a major area of study.

Going forward, PASGR's research is built on governance research that addresses development problems or challenges for the purposes of public policy. It has initiated a new process of Principal Investigators that seeks to attract the best African researchers to work with emerging scholars in its different research areas.

Participants interact at a research programme meeting.

2014 key activities

January 27-28	February 27-28	March 31-April 1	April 28-30	June	September 30 - October 1	October 16	November 12-13	November
Research Committee meeting, Cape Town	Political Economy of Universal Social Protection Policy Uptake workshop	Think Tank-University Relations findings workshop, Nairobi	Post-2015 Data Test Midterm Stock-taking workshop, Nairobi	Non-state Social Protection synthesis report draft completed in Nairobi	Research Committee meeting, Nairobi	Presentation at Free Berlin University on governance and policy implications of non-state social protection in Africa	First PASGR Biennial Conference, Nairobi	Post-2015 Data Test Sierra Leone study completed

Uptake of governance research for public policy

The 2014 -18 Strategic Plan assigns PASGR the function of research facilitator rather than doer of research. Its engagement in research is both for knowledge and capacity-building. It engages with policy communities from the process of design to dissemination. PASGR is applying a unique approach to research, which is governance research for public policy.

In numbers

2011
The year PASGR convened a meeting in February to explore the feasibility of a collaborative Master of Arts Programme in Research for Public Policy

22
The number of African universities who attended PASGR's February 2011 conference

12
African universities collaborating to strengthen graduate level teaching and practice of social science research through the MRPP

65
Senior government officials, researchers and lecturers, who attended a PASGR meeting to launch its think tank-university relations study findings, Nairobi, March 31-April 1

124
Total number of participants from partner universities involved in Course Specific Professional Development ahead of the MRPP launch

28
Policy actors trained through the Informed Research Consumers module, Dar es Salaam, February 18-20

33
Participants in Course Block 1 involving four MMRC modules in Nairobi, November 24-30

300
Applicants for an MMRC course in Ghana, January, which needed only 40 participants

13
Number of men compared to 7 women who attended the January MMRC instructors' course in Accra, Ghana

50
Participants at the December 2013 African Forum on Post-2015, Data Revolution

11
Number of MRPP university IT support staff so far trained in the use of e-cases

5
Duration in days of Course Specific Professional Development ahead of the MRPP launch

10
Minimum number of students required to embark on an MRPP course

38
Number of teaching staff so far trained on e-cases

20
Regional instructors trained for the MMRC course in Ghana January 13-19

71
Number of delegates in Biennial Conference

22
Participants at the Midterm Stocktaking Workshop in Nairobi of the Post-2015 Data Test project April 28-30

10
Countries represented at the Midterm Stocktaking Workshop in Nairobi of the Post-2015 Data test research project, April 28-30

33
Number of research grants that have directly benefitted 65 researchers from 14 countries since 2011

2
Number of Research Communication pilots using the Policy Engaged Research Communication module

28
Abstracts selected for development into conference papers for PASGR's First Biennial Conference, November 12-13

20
Post-conference papers for publication, up from the originally anticipated number, selected after PASGR's First Biennial Conference in November 2014

6
Peer reviewers assigned to 8 policy briefs ahead of the Research Programme's publication of the political economy of Social Protection Policy Uptake study series

8
Number of policy briefs the Research Programme published on Political Economy of Social Protection Policy Uptake

26
Researchers, including 10 women, trained on the Political Economy Analysis module in September

2
Courses on Political Economy Analysis held in Nairobi from September 23 to 28.

Data revolution and the post-2015 agenda

PASGR BELIEVES THAT its goals are bound to influence Africa's policy agenda post-2015, when the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) pave the way for a new set of global objectives, whose priorities include research and training for African scholars.

That is why it convened the African Forum on Post-2015 Data Revolution in December, 2013, whose goal was to amplify the voice of the African research and academic community on post-MDGs. The meeting was expected to build an African consensus on which aspects of the post-MDG agenda could best serve Africa's needs and circumstances. It attracted some 50 participants from African research, governments, civil society, the private sector and selected non-African research organisations.

Apart from testing research data in terms of its availability, quality and relevance, production and use, the initiative also brought country stakeholders to examine the Post-2015 development agenda process in various African countries.

Given that data and statistics are needed to help governments track progress and ensure their decisions are evidence-based, the need for a data revolution cannot be overstated.

Among the issues discussed were uncoordinated data collection across government institutions as well as the inadequate and costly technology, infrastructure and connectivity they rely on.

In January 2014, PASGR made a presentation in New York titled *Regional Perspectives from the African Data Revolution Forum*. Presented within the context of the UNDP Dialogue: Data Accountability for the Post-2015 Development Framework, the paper looked at the global, national and local perspectives of data arising from the December 2013 forum.

Given its mission of spearheading innovative research, PASGR was uniquely placed to host the research community for a stocktaking workshop which took place in Nairobi from April 28 to 30. The Data Test Research Project was done in collaboration with the Southern Voice, the Centre for Policy Dialogue (Bangladesh), and the North-South Institute (Canada).

The main output of the mid-term review meeting on the Post-2015 Data Test Project study was finalisation of a methodology and

PASGR undertook various activities, including the Data Test Research Project, in which it collaborated with the Southern Voice, the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) and the North-South Institute.

implementation manual to guide all the country studies. It attracted 22 participants from 10 countries. It tackled, among other things, the problems surrounding data access, lack of innovation in sharing data and knowledge between researchers, standards and compatibility of data, language barriers, and how to contribute to national discourse on policy governing data collection.

The workshop also looked into the progress of study design and built impetus for the inception workshop for the Sierra Leone project, which was funded by PASGR.

An important outcome of PASGR's efforts to coordinate input from African researchers on the post-2015 global development goals has been the forging of new partnerships with partners from Bangladesh, Canada, Senegal, Ghana, Turkey, Peru, Tanzania, South Africa, Colombia, USA, and UK.

Also, during the year, PASGR opened up contacts with government agencies, civil society organizations, higher education institutions outside its network and business enterprises located around the Nairobi i-Hub. This was geared at building a Nairobi-based African platform to move the capacity-building and public awareness elements of the Post-2015 agenda forward.

Board of Directors

Prof. Ernest Aryeetey
Vice Chancellor, University of Ghana
(Chair)

PASGR IS GOVERNED by a Board of Directors currently chaired by Prof Ernest Aryeetey, the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Ghana, Legon. The members are eminent personalities reflecting African leadership as well as regional and international credibility in African policy-making, research and higher education. The Board is responsible for providing high level strategic guidance during the initial implementation of PASGR programmes, approving programme and organisational design, and reviewing work programmes and budget. PASGR also has a research committee, which is an integral part of our governance and management. Until July 2014, the committee was chaired by Harvard-trained Prof Achola Pala Okeyo, whose work focuses on gender and the social transformation of African cultures and societies. Pictured on this page are members of PASGR Board of Directors.

Dr. Narciso Matos
Former Executive Director, Foundation for Community Development, Mozambique (Vice Chair and Treasurer)

Prof. Benno Ndulu
Governor, Central Bank of Tanzania; former World Bank Country Manager, Tanzania

Dr. Codou Diaw
Former Executive Director, Forum for African Women Educationalists, Kenya

Prof. Goran Hyden
Professor Emeritus, University of Florida

H. E. Prof. Judith Bahemuka
Founder, International Learning Centre, Kenya

Dr. Rohinton Medhora
President, Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI)

Julia Kemp
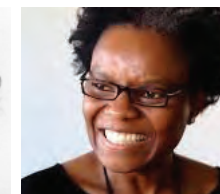UK Department for International Development (DFID)

Prof. Akin Aina
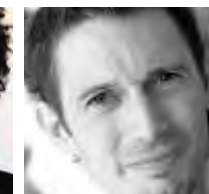Executive Director, PASGR (Secretary and ex-officio member)

Research Committee

Prof. Achola Pala Okeyo
Independent consultant on gender and the social transformation of African cultures and societies
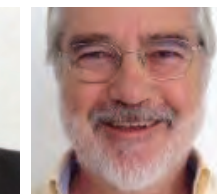
Prof. Alcinda Honwana
Anthropologist, lecturer, researcher and writer on children, youth and armed conflict in Mozambique and Angola

Dr. Tim Kelsall
Independent social scientist with research interests in political economy and transitional justice

Prof. Karuti Kanyinga
Development scholar and Associate Director of the Institute of Development Studies, University of Nairobi.

Dr. Brian Levy
Academic Director, University of Cape Town Graduate School of Development Policy and Practice

MRPP Steering Committee

THE MASTER OF Research and Public Policy (MRPP) is governed by a steering committee, which guides all aspects of development and implementation of the Collaborative Master of Arts programme. It operates through working groups with technical and academic expertise from each of the 12 universities in seven countries and PASGR-appointed external resource persons.

It is composed of senior representatives designated by the Vice-Chancellor of each participating university and PASGR's Director of Higher Education.

The Steering Committee's input was crucial to the September-October launch of the MRPP, and in the post-launch monitoring and evaluation in November. It was involved in course design and its mandate covers course development and upgrading and ensuring that the MRPP maintains the high standards that are its hallmark. It meets four times a year, including by teleconference, where feasible.

The Steering Committee is co-chaired by Prof Gelase Mutahaba of the University of Dar es Salaam and PASGR's Executive Director.

The commitee members are:

Mr. Samuel Weekes University of Sierra Leone, Sierra Leone

Prof. Ama de- Graft Aikins University of Ghana, Ghana

Dr. Bonaventure Haruna Nkup University of Jos, Nigeria

Prof. Akinpelu O. Olutayo University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Prof. Solomon Akinboye University of Lagos, Nigeria

Dr. Bashi Mothusi University of Botswana, Botswana

Prof. Gelase Mutahaba University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Dr. Rashid Mfaume Mzumbe University, Tanzania

Dr. Mesharch Katusiimeh Uganda Christian University, Uganda

Prof. Maximiano Ngabirano Uganda Martyrs University, Uganda

Prof. Mark Okere Egerton University, Kenya

Prof. Fredrick Wanyama Maseno University, Kenya

PASGR Secretariat

Tade Akin Aina
Executive Director

Jane Muema
Executive Assistant

Nicholas Awortwi
Director, Research

Beatrice Muganda
Acting Director, Higher Education

Cynthia Mugo
Manager, Professional Development and Training (PDT)

Anna Otiato
Director, Finance and Administration

Darlison Kaija
Programme Coordinator, Research

Pamellah Lidaywa
Programme Assistant, Research

Pauline Ngimwa
Programme Coordinator, Higher Education

Pauline Mureithi
Programme Assistant, Higher Education

Wanja Njogah
Communications Officer

Nyambura Irungu
Programme Assistant, PDT

Elijah Kabari
Technical Administrative Assistant

Charles Nyagah
Senior Finance Officer

Colleta Wanjora
Finance Assistant

AUDITED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2014

	2014	2013
	US$	US$
INCOME		
Grant income	3,931,112	3,688,331
Other income	69,301	61,873
Total income	**4,000,413**	**3,750,204**
EXPENSES		
Research programme	1,226,741	1,406,639
Policy outreach and training	860,137	766,824
Higher education programme	1,460,985	1,113,161
Administration costs	452,550	463,580
Total expenses	**4,000,413**	**3,750,204**
SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	**-**	**-**

AUDITED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2014

	2014	2013
	US$	US$
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property and equipment	50,865	55,717
Intangible assets	28,194	79,433
	79,059	**135,150**
Current assets		
Receivables	45,933	92,605
Bank and cash balances	800,879	1,976,808
	846,812	2,069,413
Total assets	**925,871**	**2,204,563**
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		
Non-current liabilities		
Deferred income	79,059	135,150
Current liabilities		
Unexpended grants	753,300	1,886,067
Payables	93,512	183,346
	846,812	2,069,413
Total funds and liabilities	**925,871**	**2,204,563**

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