

Nigeria, 26-28 November 2024

#GoingGlobalAfrica #GGAfrica24

Programme

For all delegates: Please refer to the conference app for the most up to date version of the programme. Please scan the QR code (available at the conference centre) to download a copy. This will only take a few minutes.

Building sustainable and relevant tertiary education institutions and systems in Africa

26-28 November 2024

Location: Transcorp Hilton, Abuja, Nigeria

Conference Objectives

The Going Global Africa conference will provide a platform to foster engagement with, and learn about, regional and global challenges in tertiary education and identify ways in which regional and international collaboration can strengthen capacity at system, institutional and individual level, ultimately contributing to improved outcomes for young Africans.

The focus will be on post-secondary level education, delivered in universities, colleges and TVET providers, and the systems within which these institutions operate.

Notes

Please be aware that this is subject to change



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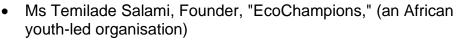
Tuesday 26 November 2024

Time	Title
08:00	Registration and refreshments
10:30- 11:00	Welcome and cultural presentation
11:00 – 12:30	PLENARY- The Future is Now: Realising the Vision of Africa's Youth
	This year's opening plenary session shifts from identifying challenges and gaps in tertiary education at last year's event, to reflecting on progress and proposing solutions. Two young African leaders will express their aspirations for Africa's future, focusing on tertiary education curricula, employment, and entrepreneurship whilst academic and industry leaders will outline progress, strategies and actions that are being taken to unlock youth potential through Tertiary Education in Africa. The session will close with a consolidated panel to integrate all perspectives and solutions available to ensure that tertiary education institutions and systems better meet the needs of young Africans.
	Chair: Ms Lucy Pearson, Regional Director, Sub-Saharan Africa, British Council
	Contributors:
	 Ms Maddalaine Ansell, Global Director, Education, British Council
	 HE Mr Richard Montgomery, UK High Commissioner to Nigeria HE Dr Morufu Olatunji Alausa, Minister of Education, Nigeria HE Sir Steve Smith, UK International Education Champion



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- Mr Prince Louis Omolayo Adekola, Education expert, Founder and Executive Director of Edvant Edge Africa
- Professor Address Malata, Vice Chancellor, University of Science and Technology, Malawi
- Mr Ahmed Alaga, Head of Partnerships Africa, The African Talent Company

12:30 Lunch; welcome and networking

13:45 – 15:00

Maximising Impact through Tertiary Education Partnerships: What does it take to make these truly transformational?

At this session senior leaders from the UK, Africa, and the Association of Commonwealth Universities will examine the purpose and essential strategies and frameworks needed to build sustainable partnerships in tertiary education to increase opportunities for young Africans. The session is expected to remind the audience about the real purpose of cross border tertiary education partnerships and how locally relevant and long-lasting impact could be achieved.

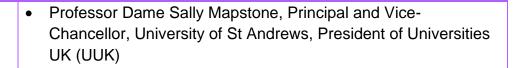
Chair: Professor Sir Steve Smith, International Education Champion

- Mr. Chris Maiyaki, Acting Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission, Nigeria
- Professor Colin Riordan CBE, Secretary General and Chief Executive Officer of Association of Commonwealth Universities
- Professor Olanike Adeyemo, Secretary to Oyo State Government, Nigeria and Pioneer Deputy Vice Chancellor Research, Innovation and Strategic Partnerships, University, of Ibadan, (2017-2021)



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13:45 – Transitioning to the World of Work: The Importance of Career Services and Placement

This session has been designed to unpack the critical role that robust career services and placement functions play in preparing graduates for the workforce and easing their transition from academia to industry. We hope to inspire the audience to engage in meaningful discussions around the required systems and structures for supporting students and graduates with discussions on best practices, challenges, and strategies for equipping students with the tools they need to transition successfully into the workforce and building impactful industry partnerships to better strengthen career services in higher education.

Chair: Femi Taiwo, Founding Partner, F.I.T Africa. Alumnus of both Covenant University, Nigeria and University of Manchester, UK

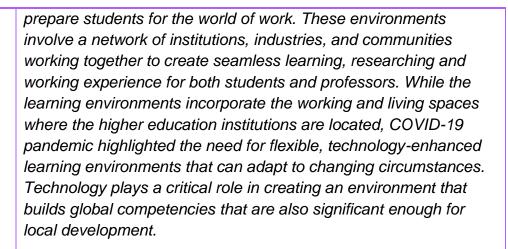
- Mr Nkiru Ukachukwu, Director, Career Services, Pan Atlantic University, Nigeria
- Ms Nadia Waggie, Head, Sustainability & Impact (Careers), University of Cape Town, South Africa
- Mr Yemi Faseun, Chief Talent Officer, YF Talent Partners, Nigeria

15:00	Break
15:30 - 16:45	Advancing Higher Education Environments that support Competency Development
	Higher education learning environments are increasingly recognized as crucial spaces for developing competencies that



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Chair: Ms. Mary Kiguru, AFELT/EFAC

Contributors:

- Professor James Biu Kung'u, DVC Academics, Kenyatta University, Kenya
- Mr David Townhill, Chief Executive, Advance HE, UK
- Dr Joseph Nagoli, Director of Knowledge and Learning, National Planning Commission, Malawi

15:30 -16:45

The Changing Landscape of English Education (IELTS)

The English language connects academics, students, and faculties across higher education. With almost 20% of all English-taught programmes now offered outside major Anglophone study destinations, leaders in higher education must decide how to engage with a growing offer of programmes worldwide. This session explores what this means for the international education landscape and stimulates discussion on how we as a sector can navigate these changes and the crucial role English language testing plays in supporting international study.

Chair: Mr Frasier Sheppard, Account Manager IELTS, British Council



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- Mr Deep Adhikari, Country Exams Director, British Council Nigeria
- Mr Anuoluwapo Adeodu, Head of English Language Department of Regent Secondary School in Abuja
- Mrs Ronke Oyenuga, Proprietress of Greenpath Schools, a British Council Partner School, Abuja

15:30 -16:45 Preparing Young People for the Evolving World of Work: Employability, Entrepreneurship, and Enterprise Development

This session aims to highlight the skills and knowledge necessary to thrive in the rapidly changing world of work in Africa and globally. Focusing on employability, entrepreneurship, and enterprise development, the discussion will provide practical insights and strategies for governments and institutions to consider in developing initiatives to support young people to navigate and succeed in their careers.

Keynote Speaker: Professor Thea van der Westhuizen, Academic Leader for High Impact Community Engagement and Internationalisation, University of KwaZulu-Natal, School of Management, IT and Governance

Contributors:

- Mr. Simelisizwe Sibanda, Deputy Minister Higher and Tertiary Education, Innovation, Science and Technology, Zimbabwe
- Mr Andrew Bird, Vice-Chair, HEAG & Data Lead; Chief Marketing Officer, Solent University, Southampton
- Dr Ayansola Ayandibu, Senior Lecturer University of Zululand, South Africa

19:00

Garden reception - Convene in hotel reception 18:15-18:30



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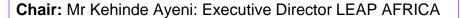


	Title
08:30 - 09:15	Breakfast session- Catalysing system reform and innovation in Higher Education: Successes and lessons from the SPHEIR programme
	The Strategic Partnerships for Higher Education Innovation and Reform (SPHEIR) programme was a catalyst for transformative change in higher education across Sub-Saharan Africa, MENA and Myanmar, creating innovative solutions to key higher education challenges. This breakfast session will highlight key successes and lessons from SPHEIR's delivery, including how it has fostered partnerships between UK institutions and their counterparts in Sub-Saharan Africa to drive system reform at scale and will also provide a platform to explore opportunities for future collaborations, particularly in addressing critical challenges such as gender equality in African higher education systems and institutions.
09:15 - 09:30	Short Break
09:30 - 10:30	Learning Labs: Unlocking Africa's youth potential through International Education Partnerships
	This session will explore how the growing youth population in Sub Saharan Africa are key to building successful, equitable partnerships in TNE.



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Contributors:

- Mr Louis Adekola, Executive Director, Edvant Edge Africa, Youth Advisory Board Member
- Ms Rawan Tahi: World Food Programme Egypt, Youth Advisory Board Member
- Mr Femi Taiwo, Founding Partner, Facilitating Impact and Transformation Africa Advisory Limited, Youth Advisory Board Member
- Mr Etom Ofem, Head Higher Education Insights, SSA, British Council
- Mr Prince Chima, Higher Education Research and Insights, SSA, British Council

09:30 -10:30

Learning Labs: Knowledge diplomacy: Best practice in internationalisation

This session aims to better understand best practice in internationalisation as it relates to knowledge diplomacy. It will include insights from a recently conducted national research study on the internationalisation of public higher education in South Africa, which aimed to gain a deeper understanding of higher education internationalisation in South Africa and to assess the implementation readiness of the country's public universities regarding the first national internationalisation policy framework.

Chair: Dr Alexis Brown, Head of Global Insights, British Council

- Professor Neville Wylie, Deputy Vice-Principal (International), University of Stirling, Scotland
- Dr Samia Chasi, Manager Strategic Initiatives,
 Partnership Development and Research, International
 Education Association of South Africa
- Professor Felix Maringe, Deputy Vice-Chancellor Institutional Development, Research & Innovation,



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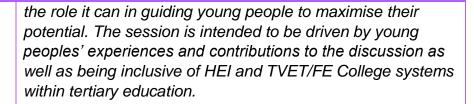
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	University of Kigali & Research Team Lead, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg
09:30 - 10:30	Learning Labs: A Framework for Sustainable TNE partnerships in Africa
	This session will launch a new sustainability framework through which higher education institutions can develop long-lasting, equitable and financially viable partnerships in African contexts.
	Chair: Ms Nesma Mostafa, Head Higher Education Insights, MENA, British Council
	 Contributors: Dr Mani Ahmad Ibrahim, Registrar, Cosmopolitan University, Nigeria Dr Akanimo Odon, Head of African Strategic Partnerships, Lancaster University, UK
	Professor Peter McEleavy, Professor of Law, and University Africa Lead, University of Dundee, Scotland
10:30	Break
11:15 – 12:30	PLENARY - Partnerships for Progress: Equipping young people to change the world
	This plenary builds upon the opening plenary, The Future is Now: Realising the Vision of Africa's Youth, examining the efficacy of tertiary education in equipping young people to tackle global challenges. The session will seek to explore questions around tertiary education's ability to nurture the skills associated with leadership, decision-making, influencing and negotiating; in being a space for young people to build effective alliances and networks for change; its ability to build an understanding of sustainability; its effectiveness in building confidence and a sense of ownership of global challenges and responses to them; and whether careers advice within tertiary education is playing



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Chair: Mr Nii Doodo Dodoo, Country Director (Ghana, Sierra Leone, Cameroon), British Council

Contributors:

- Dr Akpezi Ogbuigwe: Education for Sustainable Development Specialist, and Chairman of Council of Earth Charter International, Nigeria
- Mr Divine Edem Kwadzodeh: Policy Advisor, Education Policy and Advocacy, All African Students Union (AASU), Ghana
- Ms Kgothatso Masetla: TVET/FE sector student representative, Nkangala FET College, South Africa
- Professor Colin Riordan CBE, Secretary General and Chief Executive Officer, The Association of Commonwealth Universities. UK
- Ms Linda Lindani, Senior Phase and FET Qualified Educator and Entrepreneurship Programme Officer: Makers Launchpad Allan and Gill Gray Philanthropies, South Africa

12:30 Lunch

13:45 – 15:00

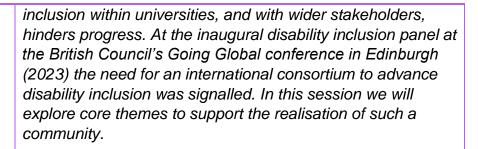
Disability Inclusion in tertiary education at the heart of sustainable impact

Access to higher education and good experiences of it for persons with disabilities are highly variable within and across higher education providers globally. While there have been considerable advances in disability inclusion within higher education in recent years, the disconnect between the practice to support disabled staff and disabled students, and lack of an integrated organisational approach to disability



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Chair:

Professor Tracy Bhamra, Provost & Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Global), Royal Holloway, UK

Contributors:

- Mr Bernard Chiira, CEO, Assistive Technologies for Disability Trust, Kenya
- Mr Samson Waweru, Executive Director, Kenya Society for the Blind
- Dr Israel Balogun, Commonwealth Scholar, Nigeria, University College London
- Ms Florence Marcus Fellow, National Judicial Institute

13:45 – 15:00

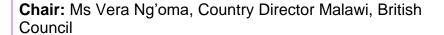
Skills levies in Africa: Understanding the challenges and ensuring effectiveness (TVET)

This session marks the official launch of new research commissioned by the British Council, exploring the structure and impact of skills levy systems in Africa and the UK. Building on the main theme of the conference, this session provides an overview of how skills levies are designed, implemented, and balanced with other funding sources to support sustainable workforce development. Key topics include challenges such as exemptions for small employers and ensuring transparency. The session will present findings and insights from a range of African countries, offering an indepth look at how different models work in various contexts.



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Contributors:

- Simon Field, Director, Skills Policy (TVET Budget)
- Mr George Khaki, Executive Director, Employer Consultative Association, Malawi
- Mr Mohammed Rherras, former minister of TVET and senior expert in Skills and Employment, Morocco
- Ms Robyn Vilakazi, Skills Development Quality Assurance Executive, EWSETA, South Africa
- Mr Rendes Macario, TVET consultant, Mozambique

13:45 -15:00

A collaborative approach to achieving excellence: the role of quality assurance and regulation within the Africa Centres of Excellence project

The Africa Higher Education Centres of Excellence (ACE) Project is the first World Bank initiative aimed at capacity building of HEIs in West Africa and is designed to address regional development challenges. QAA in the UK is one of seven agencies authorised by the World Bank to accredit the quality of existing Centres of Excellence and QAA, alongside others, will explore the issues at this session.

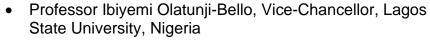
Chair: Professor Colin Riordan CBE, Secretary General and Chief Executive, Association of Commonwealth Universities, UK

- Mr Chris Maiyaki, Executive Secretary, National Universities Commission (NUC), Nigeria
- Professor Ahmed Jinapor Abdulai, Director-General, Ghana Tertiary Education Commission.
- Ms Vicki Stott, Chief Executive, the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, UK



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- Professor Georgewill Owunari, Vice-Chancellor, University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria
- 15:00 **Break** 15:30
- 15:30 16:45

Closing the gender gap in tertiary education in Africa

Tertiary education in Africa has undergone major transformations in recent years. These transformations and progress are amidst several challenges and drawbacks. While progress has been made in enhancing access and opportunities for women, in most African countries several challenges and barriers continue to impede opportunities and progress of women within these systems. There is need for concerted and multifaceted efforts to address the persistent gender inequalities in Africa's higher education. This session explores how to address the barriers and challenges facing female students and women in African tertiary education institutions.

Chair: Ms Alison Johns, Advance HE, UK

Contributors:

- Ms Mary Mwangi, Chair, Gender Mainstreaming Technical Committee, Kenyatta University, Kenya
- Professor Dominica Sunungurai Chingarande, Vice-Chancellor, Women's University in Africa, Zimbabwe
- Dr Fiona Moejes, Mawazo Institute, Kenya

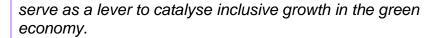
15:30 – Climate change education for green jobs and climate responsive tertiary education institutions

The session discusses how climate change is shaping the nascent labour market and the urgent need for a climate responsive higher education, specifically focusing on training and pedagogy that target emerging skills and competencies. It will raise awareness about how these competencies can



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Chair: Mr Wale Samuel, CEO QNL Consulting

Contributors:

- Mrs Olapeju Ibekwe, CEO Sterling One Foundation, Lagos, Nigeria
- Mr Nurudeen Lawa, CEO QEDA, Abuja, Nigeria
- Professor Kirk Semple, Lancaster University, UK
- Mrs Olapeju Elegbede, Sterling One Foundation, Nigeria

15:30 – 16:45

Building relevant and mutually beneficial partnerships in tertiary education (TVET)

International partnerships are an excellent mechanism for institutions to build connections and extend their reach internationally. The British Council's Going Global Partnerships programme draws on our years of institutional expertise in creating educational partnerships, enabling over 600 partnerships throughout the lifetime of the current programme working with 43 countries. In the TVET space, British Council has built over 20 International Skills Partnerships with UK colleges and training providers. What are the opportunities and challenges that African tertiary education institutions face when working with partners overseas and vice versa?

Chair: Mr Nii Dodoo, Country Director, British Council Ghana

- Mr Roy Gardiner, Vice-Principal, City of Glasgow College, Scotland
- Mr Tony Medhurst, Principal, Hertford Regional College, UK
- Ms Conceptor Bamusi, TEVET Authority, Malawi
- Dr Wilber Sabiiti, St Andrew's University, Scotland
- Mr Rendes Macario, TVET Consultant, Mozambique



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What changes are needed for displaced populations to access tertiary education?

In 2023, UNHCR estimates that 110 million people were forced to flee their homes, with Africa one of the most affected regions. For displaced youth, lack of access to education is a critical challenge, limiting their life opportunities and their ability to make a positive contribution to their societies. This session explores what universities can do to reach displaced youth in Africa, and what supports are needed to help them complete their studies.

Chair: Mr John McNamara, Education Strategy and Special Projects Lead, British Council

Contributors:

- Professor Yagana Bukar, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria
- Dr Joshua Valeta, Director of Open Distance and e-Learning, Ministry of Education, Malawi
- Dr Ukoha Ukiwo, Team Leader, Strengthening Peace and Resilience in Nigeria

18:30 – 20:30 **Connected Scotland Reception – Scotland meets Africa**



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	Title
09:30 - 10:45	International Student and Faculty Mobility; are benefits for all achievable and how?
	This session will explore the patterns of international staff and student mobility in Africa. Sub-Saharan region had 430,000 outbound students in 2021 representing an increase of 21% between 2016 and 2021. This number is set double by 2050. In a globally connected world where digital technologies have enabled the free-flow of ideas and access to online programmes, this session will address what are the forms and patterns of this mobility, why is this mobility taking place (rationales), are there benefits for all from this mobility and what is the future of this mobility given the rise of the use of digital technologies in education and availability of online learning programs? Chair: Professor Chika Sehoole, University of Pretoria,
	South Africa
	 Contributors: Professor Nancy Chitera, University of Business and Applied Sciences, Malawi Dr Olaide Agbaje, Academic Researcher, Joygate EduConsult, Nigeria Ms Simisola Smith, Grok Global, Nigeria
09:30 - 10:45	Bridging the Gap between Higher Education and Industry in Africa
	As industries in Africa evolve, so too must the education system that prepares its workforce. In today's rapidly changing world accelerated by role of AI, the collaboration between higher education and industry has never been



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more critical. To truly bridge the gap, we must shift from an independence to an interdependency approach to foster a dynamic ecosystem that equips students with enterprise, life, and employability skills. This session dives into how universities, industries, and government—the "triple helix"—can work to innovate around skills development, curriculum, policies, knowledge exchange and employability to cultivate job-ready graduates.

Chair: Mr Tosin Adebisi, PfAL Senior Programme Manager, Firoz Lalji Institute for Africa, LSE, UK

Contributors:

- Dr Akanimo Odon, Head of African Strategic Partnerships, Lancaster University, UK
- Ms Kehinde Ayeni, Executive Director, LEAP Africa, Nigeria
- Mr Prince Gideon Olanrewaju, Founder & Executive Director, Aid for Rural Education Access Initiative, Nigeria
- Ms Rose Dodd, Executive Director, The Education Collaborative, Ashesi University, Ghana

10:45 **Break**

11:15 -12:30

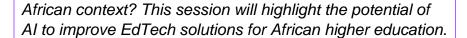
Harnessing Edtech and Al for Inclusive Transformation in African Higher Education

African economies are growing, and increasingly the job market demands new, digital-focused skills. By integrating AI and Edtech, higher education can adapt more quickly to industry shifts, better preparing graduates for high-demand sectors like tech, healthcare, and renewable energy. Could Edtech and AI solutions make quality education more affordable and accessible to larger numbers of students in Africa? What models of EdTech would work best for the



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Chair: Ms Rose Dodd, Executive Director, The Education Collaborative, Ashesi University, Ghana

Contributors:

 Dr Victor Konde, Scientific Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)

11:15 - Actioning the African Union, Science, Technology and 12:30 Innovation Strategy

This session explores how the African Union (AU) recently published the Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa 2024 (STISA-2024), rooted on six distinct priority areas that contribute to the achievement of the AU Vision and cites that there is an increased recognition by African leadership and public of the critical role Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) plays in economic growth and human development.

Chair: Professor Lydia Aziato, Vice-Chancellor, University of Health and Allied Sciences, Ghana

Contributors:

 Dr Monica Ebele Idinoba, Principal Scientific Officer, Human Resources, Science and Technology Department, African Union Commission

11:15 - The Future of Lifelong Learning (TVET)

The evolution of the green economy across the globe exemplifies the need for an adaptable and agile skills pipeline. In response, countries and regions are exploring different models of how workers can re-skill and upskill to allow them to remain in employment. In both the UK and Africa, the rising cost of tertiary education prohibits participation from economically disadvantaged students. Are flexible models of



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Chair: Mr Roshan Teeluck, Lecturer, Cloud and Security Engineer, Mauritius

Contributors:

- Mr Avinash Meetoo, Founder and Director, Knowledge Seven Ltd. Mauritius
- Dr Joshua Valeta, Director of Open Distance and e-Learning, Ministry of Education, Malawi

12:30 **Lunch**

13:30 -15:00

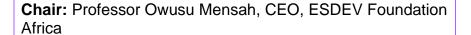
PLENARY - Navigating change and preparing for the future: Re-imagining tertiary education in 2050

The world of tertiary education is on the verge of a transformational shift as we approach 2050. Rapid technological breakthroughs, shifting demographics, environmental issues, and changing employment markets are causing educational institutions to reconsider how they operate, teach, and interact with society. This session will look at global trends and their implications for tertiary education, addressing crucial questions like preparing students for an uncertain future, reinventing university systems, and assuring access to education in a more connected yet complex world. The panel will engage in a forward-thinking discussion with the goal of developing new insights on how tertiary institutions may adapt, remain relevant, and act as critical hubs of learning and innovation in a fast-changing landscape.



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Contributors:

- Professor Abiodun Adebayo, Vice-Chancellor, Covenant University, Nigeria
- Professor Amevi Acakpovi, Vice-Chancellor Accra Technical University, Ghana
- Prof. Kevin Ibeh, Former PVC International, Birkbeck University of London, Commissioner of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission, UK
- Professor Richard Follett, Vice-President and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Global Engagement), University of Exeter, UK

Closing remarks: Mr Chilufya Besa, Acting Country Director, Nigeria, British Council

Conference close