

# Madiba Nexus: Advancing Balanced North-South Research Partnerships



## FROM RECEIVING, TO ASSISTING AND PARTICIPATING

*Reinforce trust in the face of control-based systems!*

The Madiba Nexus in the title relates to Nelson Mandela and that this project continues in his spirit of working together. This Africa-UK consortium project seeks to build research management capacity, enhancing the researcher pipeline; promote South-led research agenda setting, and establish sustainable mechanisms for collaboration.



## ENHANCING THE EMERGING RESEARCHER PIPELINE

Multidirectional learning, collaborative working and co-creation of gender-responsive interventions and resources, enabling shared solutions for all. Targeted training to enhance the research skills, publication outputs, and international engagement of doctoral and post doctoral researchers.

20 hours of supervisor training webinars with 70 participants, adapted for NMU and HDI partners. Next, a toolkit, for replication and transfer.

## REFLECTION, RESPONSIVENESS AND REFLEXIVITY

Heralding a new phase in the journey partners began through the GCRF, our Knowledges, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) provide the framework for our collaboration; steering us into a future where confident and knowledgeable research managers can support growth in the pipeline of researchers and their ability to conduct equitable international research projects.

- **Burden** of funding admin requirements and HDI lack of capacity actually chokes the whole ecosystem, thus erecting barriers to equitable working.
- The **trust deficit**. Building trust and agreeing on deliberate action to deal with control-based systems.
- The **stop-station**. Our people and organisations are actively engaged in creating sustainable positive change and through this collaboration we sought to address these issues.
- **Personal pledges** to take us to the next level. Transparency with stakeholders, partners and beneficiaries over the enabling roles we must play.



## RESEARCH MANAGEMENT CAPACITY STRENGTHENING

Empowerment. Tools for RMOs to scale up their research management support via co-creation and piloting sustainable interventions for improved grant writing, financial management, and research administration skills, for strengthened research governance, international collaboration strategies, and improved bid capture. UK partners strengthen their processes of engagement and frameworks for collaboration in global south research partnerships.