

UK-Kenya Joint Statement

Scientific Research, Innovation and Affordable Housing

1. The United Kingdom (UK) and Kenya have a long history of collaboration and ongoing partnership to strengthen our international research and innovation efforts. Kenya has a strong research sector and one of the fastest growing tech sectors in Africa. Driving technological change through science, research and innovation is also at the heart of UK's Industrial Strategy.
2. The Joint UK-Kenya Oversight Board in Research, Science and Innovation was established in 2018 to provide strategic guidance on UK-Kenya partnerships on science and innovation. The Board is Co-Chaired by the British High Commissioner in Kenya and the Cabinet Secretary for the Ministry of Education.
3. The Board oversees the ambitious UK-Kenya commitments to the Newton *Utafiti* Fund to develop jointly-funded research and innovation programmes and mutual capabilities. Through this Board, UK and Kenya also have oversight of the wide portfolio of UK-Kenya interdisciplinary research and innovation partnerships, including through the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), DFID Research, and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) Global Health.
4. The UK government is committed to spending 0.7% of its Gross National Income (GNI) on Official Development Assistance (ODA) and since 2015 has taken a whole government approach to leverage expertise through the UK's world-leading science, research and development base to tackle global development problems.
5. In a visit to Africa in 2018, UK's Prime Minister set out the UK Government's ambition for partnerships with Kenya to promote trade, development and mutual prosperity. Science, technology and innovation underpins this ambition, and will build on the already strong connections between UK and Kenyan Governments, research institutions, businesses, innovators and entrepreneurs.



6. Kenya has set out in Vision 2030 its long-term policy objective to achieve the nation's socioeconomic growth and development. The provision of affordable, new and decent houses is one of the Big Four Agenda priority policy areas, that will shape Kenya's development strategy until 2022. In 2018, the UK-Kenya Oversight Board agreed to set out the available evidence and bringing together institutional partners to help to identify actions on affordable housing and sustainable infrastructure.
7. Both governments recognise the clear need for research and innovation in affordable housing and sustainable infrastructure. It is also an opportunity to tackle cross-cutting issues including health, environment and climate change, access to education, poverty, community, security, migration and hygiene.
8. This UK-Kenya Research Symposium on ***'Healthy Cities: Affordable Housing & Sustainable Infrastructure'*** represents the intersectoral nature of efforts in this area. It underlines the UK and Kenya Government's commitment to progress on affordable housing through demand led, multidisciplinary international scientific research and innovation.
9. Organized by the Governments of UK and Kenya with support from the UK Collaborative on Development Research (UKCDR), and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) through the Global Challenges Research Fund, this meeting has brought together government representatives, leading researchers, social enterprise, civil society, private sector, students and policy makers.
10. Through this joint symposium, the UK and Kenyan Governments reaffirm the need for affordable housing as an enabler of the Sustainable Development Goals and its priority for the Kenya Government Big Four Agenda. Affordable housing is an essential part of efforts to reduce poverty, increase health and wellbeing and move towards cleaner energy in development.
11. The Symposium has highlighted the importance of robust multi-disciplinary research to make evidence-based decisions and so deliver better value for money to the Kenyan and British people; the need to engage across disciplines and multi-sectorally; the role of technology and innovation working with businesses, entrepreneurs and local communities to find sustainable solutions and the importance of recognising political economy complexities in taking forward action on affordable housing.



- 12. A UK-Kenya science, technology and innovation partnership is central to our joint vision and to our prosperity, today and for our next generations. Our nations are at the forefront of scientific research and we will continue to share knowledge, collaborate on research and innovation, creating multidisciplinary partnerships between our world-class communities of researchers, policy makers, charities, youth, social enterprise, private sector and civil society.
- 13. In this joint statement, we reaffirm that UK and Kenya will continue to work closely together to address shared and global challenges, such as affordable housing and sustainable infrastructure. We are committed to making this a strategic partnership, seeing our special relationship evolve and improve in the coming years.

Signed at the Ministry on this 29th day of July 2019

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FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KENYA

[Signature]

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF UNITED
KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND

