



Terms of Reference Africa & Middle East (AME) Steering Group

1. Purpose

The AME Steering Group will:

- 1.1 Provide strategic input into UCL's existing and future engagement in the Africa and Middle East regions, with a particular focus on sub-Saharan Africa;
- 1.2 Serve as a consultative forum to discuss, review and contribute to academic engagement and partnerships in the region;
- 1.3 Support the Global Engagement team through the regional Pro-Vice-Provost (Africa and Middle East).

2. Roles and responsibilities

Members of the Steering Group will:

- 2.1. Contribute their expertise and experience to support the Global Engagement team in developing guiding principles for engagement in AME in general, and Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) specifically, to create partnerships that are grounded in equivalence;
- 2.2. Share information on current and planned initiatives within AME and make additional recommendations about how such information can be disseminated;
- 2.3. Identify priority areas for engagement with SSA (in line with the new Global Engagement Strategy, which is currently in development), assess risks and opportunities for UCL's engagement with SSA across education, research, innovation and impact;
- 2.4. Where appropriate, review UCL's partnerships with specific SSA institutions and, based on evidence, advise which of these could be further strengthened with institutional support;
- 2.5. Support and strengthen UCL colleagues' understanding of education and research priorities in Africa and the Middle East;
- 2.6. Provide recommendations about how the Global Engagement team (and UCL) could enhance its internal capabilities in supporting partnerships with SSA;
- 2.7. Provide input into design of events and small grant funding aimed at UCL staff and/or partner institutions;
- 2.8. Have no responsibilities regarding financial and operational reporting.

3. Membership

Chair

Professor Ijeoma Uchegbu, Pro-Vice-Provost (Africa & Middle East)

Coordinator

Elinor Kruse, Senior Partnerships Manager (Africa & Middle East)

Members

The Steering Group will consist of 8-12 UCL colleagues with extensive experience of collaborating with African partners.

4. Meeting frequency

- 4.1. Members shall meet quarterly and, when deemed necessary, the Chair or group members may request additional meetings.
- 4.2. The exact date of the meeting shall be communicated at least a month in advance to enable members to plan their schedule.