The Cambridge-Africa Alborada Research Fund has awarded 25 grants to scientists from 13 Sub-Saharan Africa countries. For the first time, a researcher in Liberia has been awarded a grant. The following bar graph shows the distribution of awards to researchers within different countries.

The following pie chart represents the distribution of awards within difference schools at the university (and institutes affiliated with the university such as the Wellcome-Trust Sanger, National Institute of Agricultural Botany (NIAB) and the British Antarctic Survey*).

Although grants were predominantly awarded to STEM subjects, applications from all subject areas are welcome and we will be working towards encouraging applications from under-represented subject for the following round.

We are excited to see the progress of these new projects! See the workshop section below for examples of activities carried out by other ongoing projects.

* For further information about applying to the ALBORADA Research Fund please read the terms and conditions: shorturl.at/egOV9

African Centres of Excellence videos
Cambridge-Africa wanted to highlight the excellent work that is being done at three different institutes by funding a short documentary or introductory video of each institute. These including the African Centre of Excellence for Genomics of Infectious Disease (ACEGID), the Centre for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (CEMA), and the West African Centre for Crop Improvement (WACCI). Click the links below to watch these videos.

Visit from the delegation of Madagascar
In November 2022, Cambridge-Africa staff attended lunch with the Madagascan delegation, led by Herimanana Razafimahefa, Head of the Senate, to discuss how academic partnerships between the UK and Madagascar can be beneficial, particularly in regard to climate research.

In Memoriam
Professor Sir Eldryd Parry was a great friend to Cambridge-Africa and a remarkable man. He will be deeply missed.

Workshops
As part of a Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA Research Fund, the Centre for Epidemiological Modelling and Analysis (CEMA), Kenya, led a three week long online ‘R’ statistics workshop for PhD and Masters students registered at Universities in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Over 800 students applied for the course despite having only 100 places available, demonstrating the need for training in statistical analysis. While the team are planning to increase accessibility and coverage of these current resources, a follow up workshop will be run for this cohort of students in 2023, led by St Francis University of Health and Allied Sciences, Tanzania.

In October 2022, researchers from the MRC Biostatistics Unit in Cambridge visited Addis Ababa in Ethiopia to run a short course in Bayesian Statistics, as part of a Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA Research Fund. This project was in collaboration with Ethiopian Public Health Institute, including academics from Bahir Dar University, Hawassa University and Addis Ababa University. Read the blog post to find out more about this.

Cambridge-Africa Day videos
Videos from the Cambridge-Africa Day 2022 are available on Youtube and our website. If you missed the opportunity to attend, check out these amazing talks including keynote speeches from leading academics such as Professor Nelson Sewankambo and Professor Samba Sow.

Staff changes
From October 2022, Cambridge-Africa welcomed Kess Rowe who is working as Research Coordinater on the SARS-CoV-2 sequencing network in West and Central Africa.

Welcome Kess!

From January 2023, Corinna Alberg is working as the Programme Manager while Tabitha is on secondment.

Welcome back Corinna!

Dr Tabitha Mwangi, the Programme Manager has taken on a part-time secondment at the MasterCard Foundation as the Interim Academic lead for one year starting in October 2022.

Congratulations Tabitha!