



2021 Annual Report

Summary of Key Achievements

- Research collaborations and partnerships
 - ✓ Partnered in about \$1.2M NHMRC and Global Alliance for Communicable Diseases (GACD) grant for cervical cancer screening intervention project in Eswatini led by Laurate Professor Rob Sanson-Fisher.
 - ✓ Inroads with publication: 14 unique journal articles and book chapters [co-]authored by CARE-P members & affiliates in top ranked journals in the fields of energy, climate change, health and sustainable development.
 - ✓ Led Spencer large education grant application- under review.
 - ✓ Collaborated on a Canada Institutes and Medical Research grant Letter of Interest (LOI)- under review

- Engagement
 - ✓ Host relationship deepening by visit by Ghana (African) High Commissioner to Australia
 - ✓ Held second international conference
 - ✓ Partnered to deliver a drug awareness workshop to the Hunter African Community,
 - ✓ Celebrated 2021 Africa Day with university students and African community in Hunter and Central Coast

- Building capacity
 - ✓ Student excellence awards
 - ✓ Graduating and ready to take on the world

Report

Research collaborations and partnerships

I would like to thank our University of Newcastle (UON) leaders and workers past and present who have supported African Centre for Research, Engagement and Partnerships' (CARE-P) in many ways over the year. All CARE-P's research collaborators at the University of Newcastle and across other Australian and African Universities and Institutes, our CARE-P executives, African students associations, the Hunter African community and all government and non-government entities that worked with us this year in diverse ways are highly appreciated. Your dedication and

support did not only help CARE-P to navigate the many hurdles this year but helped us to achieve some remarkable outcomes together.

We partnered with the University of Newcastle's United Nations Training Institute, CIFAL to secure about \$1.2M research grant from the Australian National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) to study and develop culturally appropriate cervical cancer screening program for people in Eswatini in Africa. The program may be extended to other countries in region.

We have started to deliver research publication outputs. The journal articles and book chapters [co-] authored by CARE-P members & affiliates appeared in top ranked journals in the fields of energy, climate change, health and sustainable development. About 70% of the authors are affiliated with CARE-P. Our co-authors are located in universities and institutes across Australia, Africa and China. See appendix.

We partnered with individual researchers, research teams and invited key leaders in their fields including Laurate Professor Rob Sanson-Fisher of the Behavioural Health Centre and UN CIFAL Training Centre, and Professor Deb Loxton from the Worldwide Mothers and Babies study group to workshop with CARE-P executives foster collaborations.

Engagements

We hosted the Ghana (African) High Commissioner to Australia and the Indo Pacific, Dr Joseph Coffie-Agoe and his team on their visit UON/CARE-P to deepen relationships (Figure 1). The High Commissioner was interested in advancing the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals in Ghana and Africa and is working with our UON CIFAL team to promote the SDG goals. We also farewell the Deputy Commissioner Minister Vivian Asempapa who has been an enduring partner of CARE-P since the centre's establishment in November 2019.



Figure 1. Ghana High Commissioner's visit to OUN/CARE-P

The Ugandan High Commissioner Professor Joyce Kikafunda visited CARE-P on two occasions to collaborate on a Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET) program being developed by the UON/CARE-P TVET team and their collaborators in a group of Eastern African countries. The high commissioner is passionate in working with UON through CARE-P to tackle youth unemployment with TVET programs. Youth unemployment is one of the greatest threats to sustainable development. Africa's population is young and holds potentials for the UON TVET program which is at an advanced stage but looking for seed grant towards implementation.

Our African Postgraduate Student Association (APSA) displayed the skills they are developing by joining forces with CARE-P to organise and celebrate APSA/CARE-P second annual conference (Figure 2). The Kenyan Education Attaché Ms Nancy Mutai delivered a special address on Inequality, covid and the achievement of Africa's 2030 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She acknowledged that Covid has made the achievements of SDGs harder for Africa but encouraged all to adopt a transformative pathway. Dr Enock Nyorekwa Twinoburyo, a Senior Economist from the African Sustainable Development Centre for Africa (SDGC/A) delivered the Keynote speech on SDGs in Africa noting the challenges of achieving the targets of the SDGs by 2030 but hopeful Africa and the world will be a better place through collaboration.



Figure 2. Conference brochure cover and Keynote speaker Dr Enock Nyorekwa Twinoburyo

CARE-P support the Hunter African Community Council (HACC) to deliver Drug awareness program. CARE-P member and mental health expert Dr Gordon Donnir delivered the keynote speech at the drug awareness workshop. Dr Winifred Asare Doku is also a CARE-P member and mental health expert, and she has been contacted few times to help HACCs members and families with drug and alcohol challenges.

We partnered with our African students at the University to celebrate Africa Day with the University of Newcastle community and with the Hunter African Community Council (HACC) celebrate Africa Day with our Hunter and Central Coast communities. See Figure 3.



Hunter African Community Council executives on 2021 Africa Day celebration



UON/CARE-P African students celebrating 2021 Africa Day at the University of Newcastle



Hunter and Central Coast African Community members and affiliates celebrating 2021 Africa Day



UON/CARE-P African students celebrating 2021 Africa Day

Figure 3. Africa Day celebration in pictures

Capacity building

Many students of African origin who joined the University of Newcastle over the past five years are part of the more than 3000 graduates celebrating their significant academic achievements in graduation ceremonies this December at Callaghan. Their story is one of endurance. Completing a degree is challenging enough but these cohort of students have much more to endure. They have endured a pandemic and lonely working hours during Covid lockdowns all making their success a little bit sweeter as captured by Newcastle Herald (See

<https://www.newcastleherald.com.au/story/7548517/all-smiles-at-university-of-newcastle-graduation-ceremony/?cs=7573>)

Our graduating students made headlines in the University's newsroom. See

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/newsroom/featured/graduates-ready-to-change-the-world>.

Congratulations to all our graduating students. CARE-P look forward to news about your commitment and contribution to our communities to cement the values you have learnt. Always remember UON definition of communities as “not only where we have a physical presence but where our students come from, and where many return home, where the industries with which we collaborate are based, and where the benefits of our innovation are felt” (UON Looking Ahead, no date). In a modern digital and globalised world, you can reach any community and regions across the world with your bright shining lights.

Our higher degree research (HDR) students Ms Ama Ampofo and Mr Prince Atorkey are the winners of the Inaugural Virtual Poster Competition at the College of Health, Medical and Wellbeing (CHMW) this year. Dr Alex Acheampong has also won multiple awards in the HDR publication competition in the College of Human and Social Futures during his study period. We are proud of your achievements and congratulate you all.



Ama Ampofo



Prince Atorkey



Alex Acheampong

The above are overviews of CARE-P's achievements for 2021. The Centre continues to partner with several individuals and teams across the University of Newcastle and beyond to extend the impact of the extraordinary works being done and goals of the University's Global Engagement and Partnerships to Africa and the world.

We thank all our partners, collaborators and members for their support, commitment, and contributions in 2021. We wish you all a refreshing and happy holiday season.

Janet Dzator
Director: Centre for African Research, Engagement and Partnerships

15 December 2021

Appendix

Publications affiliated with CARE-P and AANU

Book chapters

- Dzator, J., Acheampong, A., & Dzator, M. (2021). The impact of transport infrastructure development on carbon emissions in OECD countries. In P. Singh, P. Verma, D. Perrotti, & K. K. Srivastava (Eds.), *Environmental Sustainability and Economy* (pp. 3-17). Amsterdam, Netherlands: Elsevier. doi:[10.1016/B978-0-12-822188-4.00006-3](https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-822188-4.00006-3)
- Acheampong, A., Dzator, J., & Savage, D. (2021). The role of economic institutions in electricity consumption, economic growth, and CO2 emissions linkages: evidence from sub-Saharan Africa. In P. Singh, P. Verma, D. Perrotti, & K. K. Srivastava (Eds.), *Environmental Sustainability and Economy* (pp. 61-83). Amsterdam, Netherlands: Elsevier. doi:[10.1016/B978-0-12-822188-4.00002-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-822188-4.00002-6)
- Michael, D., Acheampong, A., & Dzator, J. (2021). Does transport infrastructure development contribute to carbon emissions? Evidence from developing countries. In P. Singh, P. Verma, D. Perrotti, & K. K. Srivastava (Eds.), *Environmental Sustainability and Economy* (pp. 19-33). Amsterdam, Netherlands: Elsevier. doi:[10.1016/B978-0-12-822188-4.00012-9](https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-12-822188-4.00012-9)
- Dzator, J., & Dzator, M. (2020). Natural Disasters: Macroeconomic Implications and Measurement Issues. In T. Chaiechi (Ed.), *Economic Effects of Natural Disasters Theoretical Foundations, Methods, and Tools* (pp. 317-333). London: Academic Press.
- Dzator, M., & Dzator, J. (2021). Economic Impact Assessment After a Natural Disaster Using DEMATEL Method. In T. Chaiechi (Ed.), *Economic Effects of Natural Disasters Theoretical Foundations, Methods, and Tools* (pp. 281-299). London, UK: Academic Press.
- Dzator, J., Acheampong, A. O., & Dzator, M. (2021). Climate Change and Natural Disasters: Macroeconomic Performance and Sustainable Development. In T. Chaiechi (Ed.), *Economic Effects of Natural Disasters Theoretical Foundations, Methods, and Tools* (pp. 301-316). London, UK: Academic Press.
- Acheampong, A. O., & Dzator, J. (2020). Managing Environmental Quality in Sub-Saharan Africa: Does Institutional Quality Matter? In C. M. Hussain (Ed.), *Handbook of Environmental Materials Management* (pp. 1-29). Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature. doi:[10.1007/978-3-319-58538-3_215-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-58538-3_215-1)
- Dzator, J., & Acheampong, A. (2020). The Impact of Energy Innovation on Carbon Emission Mitigation: An Empirical Evidence from OECD Countries. In C. M. Hussain (Ed.), *Handbook of Environmental Materials Management* (pp. 1-19). Cham, Switzerland: Springer Nature. doi:[10.1007/978-3-319-58538-3_213-1](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-319-58538-3_213-1)

Peered reviewed journal articles

- Dzator, J., Acheampong, A. O., Dzator, M., Paolucci, F., Yawe, B. L., Asmah, E. E., . . . Gillespie, J. (2021). Policy Stringency, Handwashing and COVID-19 cases: Evidence from Global dataset. *Health Policy and Technology*, 100574. doi:[10.1016/j.hlpt.2021.100574](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.hlpt.2021.100574) (Received AAUN PRDF in 2019).
- Acheampong, A. O., Boateng, E., Amponsah, M., & Dzator, J. (2021). Revisiting the economic growth–energy consumption nexus: Does globalization matter? *Energy Economics*, 102, 105472. doi:[10.1016/j.eneco.2021.105472](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eneco.2021.105472)
- Acheampong, A. O., Dzator, J., & Savage, D. A. (2021). Renewable energy, CO2 emissions and economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa: does institutional quality matter? *Journal of Policy Modelling*, 43(5), 1070-1093. doi:[10.1016/j.jpolmod.2021.03.011](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpolmod.2021.03.011)
- Acheampong, A. O., Dzator, J., & Shahbaz, M. (2021). Empowering the powerless: Does access to energy improve income inequality? *Energy Economics*, 99. doi:[10.1016/j.eneco.2021.105288](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eneco.2021.105288)

- Acheampong, A. O., Dzator, J., & Savage, D. A. (2021). The role of economic institutions in electricity consumption, economic growth, and CO2 emissions linkages. In *Environmental Sustainability and Economy* (pp. 61-83). Elsevier. doi:[10.1016/b978-0-12-822188-4.00002-6](https://doi.org/10.1016/b978-0-12-822188-4.00002-6)
- Acheampong, A. O., Appiah-Otoo, I., Dzator, J., & Agyemang, K. K. (2021). Remittances, financial development and poverty reduction in Sub-Saharan Africa: Implications for post-COVID-19 macroeconomic policies. *Journal of Policy Modelling*. doi:[10.1016/j.jpolmod.2021.09.005](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpolmod.2021.09.005)
- Dzator, M., & Dzator, J. (2020). The impact of Mathematics and Statistics Support at the Academic Learning Centre, Central Queensland University. *Teaching Mathematics and its Applications: An International Journal of the IMA*, 39(1), 13-28. doi:[10.1093/teamat/hry016](https://doi.org/10.1093/teamat/hry016)