Re-engaging Africa: A call for mutually productive partnerships

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BCCIE Summer Seminar 2015

- Introductions
- Why this topic
- Expectations

Presentation Overview

- Draw attention to an emergent Africa
- Outline Canada's ties to the region
- Explore how Canadian institutions are engaging in Africa
- Explore opportunities for better engagement
- Group discussion
- Wrap-up

Africa Today

- African Renaissance
- ONE AFRICA vs 54 countries
- 1.1 billion today projected 1.5B by 2025 50% under 25
- Colonial legacy all but two countries were colonized
- Multilingual Arabic 130M, English 130M, Swahili 100M, French 115M
- Largest reserves of precious metals; gold, cobalt and platinum
- China is largest trading partner India and Brazil follow
- Innovative institutions
- World bank priorities

Canada in Africa

- Reality versus perception
- We have just 15 foreign missions there
- Engagement often due to individuals and foreign policy initiatives
- 9th largest ODA contributor (30% of ODA budget) short-term
- Have not responded to African 'renaissance'
- Minor investor and trading partner (compare to US)
- Limited official engagement, eg. Trade Missions
- African Studies

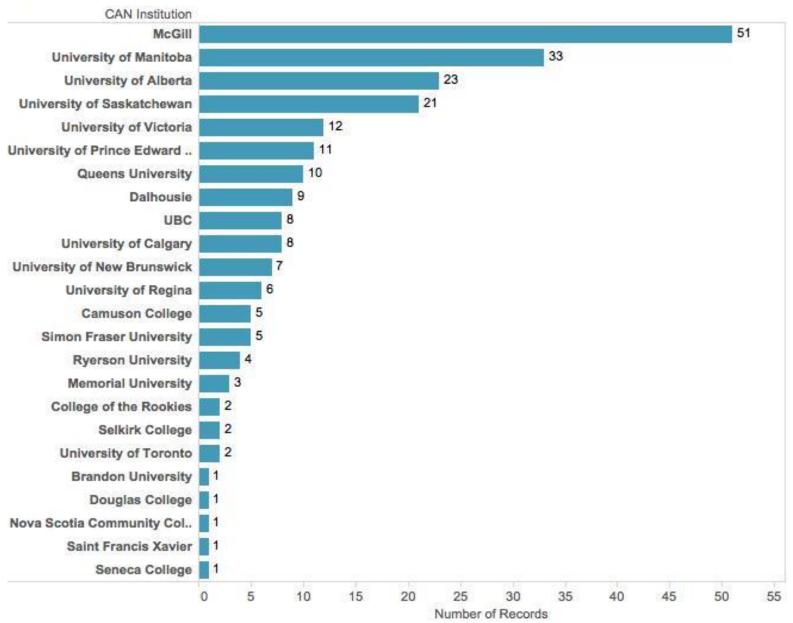
Diaspora

- Afro-Canadians one of the fastest growing immigrant populations
- Wasted regional knowledge and expertise; 'voters'
- Canadians in Africa

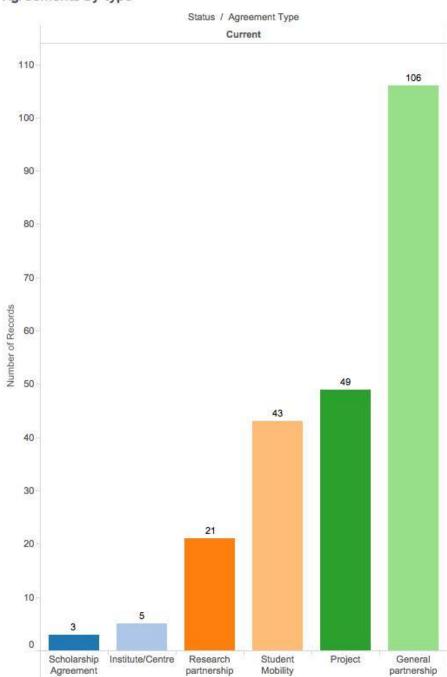
Scan of HEI engagement in Africa

- New models of international development
- Less availability of funding
- Economic growth in Africa
- What are Canadian Institutions doing?

Agreements by Canadian Institution



Agreements by type



Looking Ahead

- Recruitment
- Capacity building
- Collaborative research
- The local is global

Questions for Discussion

- How can we engage students and faculty without perpetuating old stereotypes?
- What types of unique and reciprocal partnerships and models are already happening?
- What new and innovative models of partnership might we consider moving forward?