



International Mobility Threat to Opportunity A South African Case Study

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For countries in the vanguard of the world economy, the balance between knowledge and resources has shifted so far towards the former that knowledge has become perhaps the most important factor determining the standard of living - more than land, than tools, than labour. Today's most technologically advanced economies are truly knowledge-based.

World Development Report, 1999

South Africa as a Mobility Hub

- South Africa is a global **supplier** of Knowledge workers
- Emigration is significant
- We've had 3 South African born Nobel Laureates in the Sciences that have done their major scientific work elsewhere – Theiler, Klug and Brenner

South Africa as a Mobility Hub

- South Africa is a **recipient** of Knowledge workers
- Significant numbers of *returnees*
- Immigration is significant
- Largely from Sub-Saharan Africa
- Some older streams from the Apartheid days

South Africa : a preferred Destination for Science and Technology

The Interventions

- International and world class infrastructure and instrumentation
- Creating and developing international hubs in selected disciplines
- Creating an attractive research environment
- Creating an attractive teaching and learning environment

International Scientific Infrastructure

- ICGEB



International Scientific Infrastructure

SALT



International S&T Hub

- SANBio
- African Laser Centre
- African Inst Math Sciences
- ICSU – ROA
- EDCTP

Attractive Research Environment

- Human Capital Development Plan
- Centres of Excellence
- Competency Centres
- Research Chairs (SARChI)
- Asgi-SA and JIPSA
- Fiscal Incentives

Training Foreign Students

- UCT example
- 2006 PhD enrollments – 35% international students in the Faculty of Science
- The majority of these are from African countries
- Joint programmes with African countries for specialist programmes
- Replicated for most South African Universities

Regional and international

- Bilateral and trilateral tools
- SADC Free Movement Protocol for Knowledge Workers
- AU/NEPAD and the S&T POA
- The Diaspora Project

Ndiyabonga

