African Alumni Project





The African Alumni Project is an initiative by seven educational institutions to learn about the career and life trajectories of their African Alumni. This report summarizes the Canadian survey and interview data collected from the following three Canadian partners:

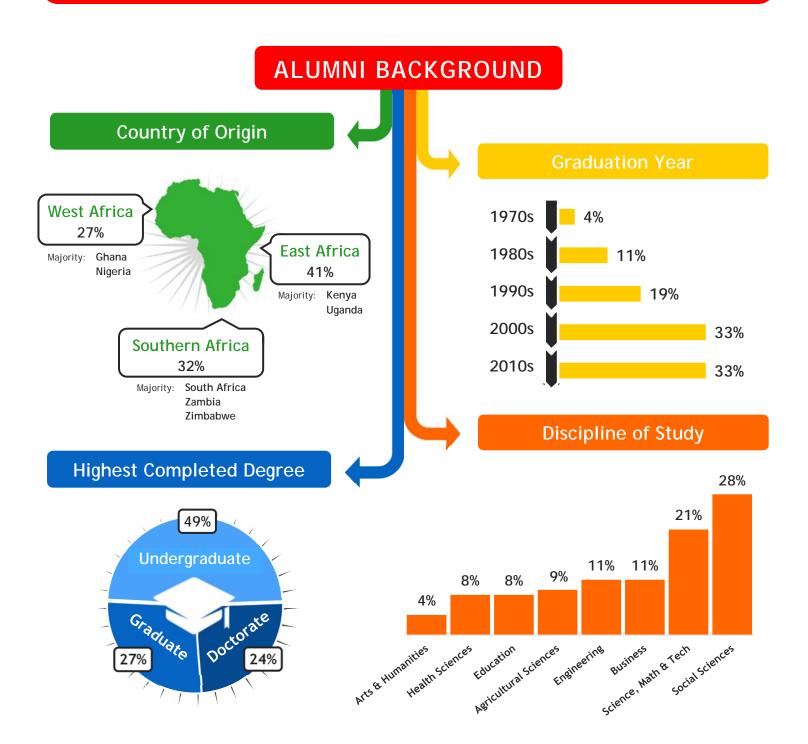
McGill University

Simon Fraser University

University of Toronto

84 alumni completed the online survey

For more information, visit http://africanalumni.berkeley.edu/.



CANADIAN UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE

Motivation to Study in Canada

60%

• Overall prestige of an international degree

40%

Improved employment prosepcts
 Attend high quality university

2.40/

• Availability of scholarship or fellowship

19%

• Encouraged by a mentor or family member

160

• Other (e.g. cultural / international experience)

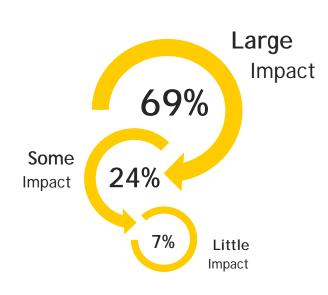
16

No degree offered in preferred field of study

6%

• Social/ political instability in country

Impact on Current Career



Usefulness of Experiences

■ Very Often / Often



University Prestige 63%



Intercultural Competencies

59%



Academic Courses

58%



Research (Thesis)

47%



International Networks

44%

Educational Financing

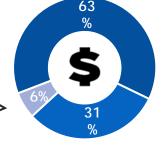


Own Resources:

24% Own money 48% Family's money



6% Foundation/NGO 3% Private Company 3% Individual



Government / University Scholarships:

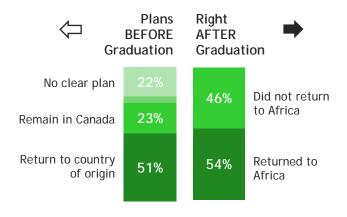
32% University financial aid 13% Government (country or origin) 24% Government (country of study)



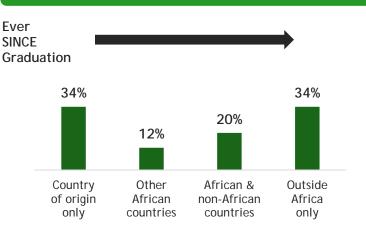
CAREER TRAJECTORY



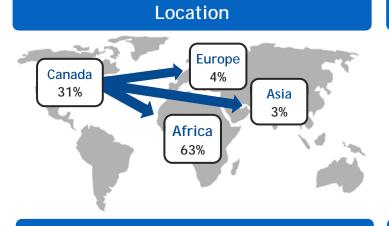
Immediate Return to Africa



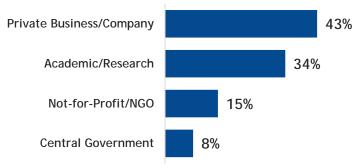
Career Locations over Time



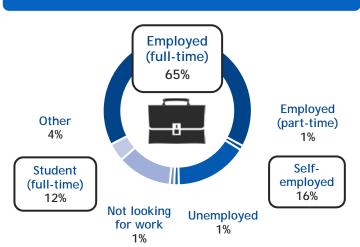
WHERE THEY ARE NOW



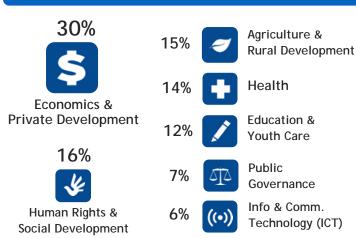
Job Sector



Career



Area of Expertise



ADVICE TO FUTURE STUDENTS

100% of alumni would encourage African students to pursue an international education!

"Open your mind to all the different possibilities.



University is the most memorable time of your life.

Not only focusing on the educational aspect but
learning about the environment around you is very
key to developing as an adult in this world."

"Coming to a university [in Canada] is an opportunity of a lifetime.



They've come to one of the best universities in the world where they can be equipped with skills and knowledge to realize their potential and discover themselves."

GAMBIA

"Think about Africa so that they can contribute to giving back to the community."

UGANDA

"Basically you are in Canada to gain knowledge.



Come back, use it."

NIGERIA

"Even if they don't go back right away,



"Train for the whole world."



"Focus on honing your critical thinking skills.

You need to adapt to situations and make yourself useful anywhere."

GHANA

NIGERIA

'Home is home,



but you don't

GHANA

"Entrepreneurship skills, business idea generation skills,

knowledge - that is very, very important for the youth that are graduating."



ZIMBABWE

KENYA

"Make the most of your opportunities in terms of academics, in terms of social life, in terms of opportunities to grow academically, career-wise -

just use everything, everything you can."

"Africa is growing and that's the new frontier.



Especially the students who are studying today are very lucky that they are in the position to go back to a growing continent...

They need to grab it now or else they'll be behind."

TANZANIA