What is ABEM?

**Vision**
Building Biomedical Engineering expertise to improve healthcare in Africa.

**Mission**
Building human and institutional capacity in Africa for needs-based health technology research and development thereby creating a platform for sustained cooperation across Africa in research and university teaching in Biomedical Engineering.

**African Biomedical Engineering Mobility**

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Background

It is imperative that Africa develop a strong health technology R&D base, grounded in an understanding of the African context, to support needs-based health technology innovation for better health on the continent. Thus health technology research and training is a strategic development priority for Africa. The ABEM project, funded by the EU (EACEA) under the Pan-African Program – Intra-Africa Academic Mobility Scheme, was launched in December 2016 to allow postgraduate (MSc, PhD) students and university staff members to undertake academic mobility within Africa.

Objectives

- Establish a solid task force of African Biomedical Engineers.
- Create a platform for sustained cooperation across Africa in research and university teaching in BME.
- Advance Africa’s capacity for health technology innovation.
- Contribute to the improvement of the quality of BME education through the promotion of internationalization and harmonization of programs and curricula within participating institutions.
- Foster institutional cooperation, facilitate the recognition of studies and qualifications, develop higher education teaching and learning capacity, and build the management capacity of the higher education institutions.
- Provide access to BME education, particularly to students from disadvantaged groups and female students.

Participating Institutions

All participating institutions are members of the African Biomedical Engineering Consortium (ABEC) and run postgraduate programs in biomedical engineering.

More on ABEC at http://abec-africa.org

Coordination Institution:
Kenyatta University, Kenya

African Partners:
Cairo University, Egypt
Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
University of Lagos, Nigeria
University of Cape Town, South Africa
Mbarara University of Science and Technology, Uganda

European Partner:
University of Pisa (UNIPI), Italy

Associated partner:
Uganda Industrial Research Institute

Expected Impact

- Students will have access to degree programs not yet available in their home countries, and will have enhanced employment prospects on graduation at ABEC universities where BME programs are being established.
- Staff members will have opportunities to enhance their profile through mobility and increased collaboration and develop their administrative and teaching competencies, which will impact their future international networking.
- Partner universities as well as others in Africa will be able to recruit from a larger pool of graduates qualified in BME, in order to staff emerging post- and undergraduate programs.
- Increased research capacity in health technologies will enhance the development of solutions for national, regional and continental health challenges from an African perspective.

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