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Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title page; Copyright page; Contents; Tables, figures and boxes; About this report; A note about the data timeframe; Acknowledgements; The project group; Acronyms and abbreviations; Executive summary; Chapter 1 - Introduction; 1.1 Contextualising the project: The relationship between higher education and development; 1.1.1 International trends; 1.1.2 The African context; 1.1.3 The focus of prior research; 1.2 Project focus and methodology; 1.3 Analytical starting points for the study; 1.3.1 What the project is not doing

Chapter 2 - Universities and economic development: Evidence of a pact? 2.1 The role of knowledge and universities in development; 2.1.1 A role for knowledge and universities in national and institutional policies and plans; 2.1.2 Notions about the role of knowledge and universities; Chapter 3 - The academic core of eight African universities; 3.1 Methodology; 3.2 The academic core data; 3.3 The strength of and changes in the academic cores; 3.4 Disjunctures between capacity and productivity; Chapter 4 - Coordination and connectedness; 4.1 Coordination and implementation of knowledge policies 4.1.1 National coordination 4.1.2 Implementation; 4.2 University connectedness to external stakeholders; 4.2.1 Industry and community; 4.2.2 Foreign donors; 4.3 The connectedness of development activities to the academic core; 4.3.1 Methodology; 4.3.2 The project data and analysis; 4.3.3 Discussion; Chapter 5 - Conclusions and some implications; 5.1 Pact needed on 'engine for development' role for universities; 5.2 Strengthening the academic core - incentives are key; 5.3 Coordination and connectedness to development; List of sources Appendix A. A higher education and development profile of the countries Appendix B. List of interviewees; Appendix C. Indicators of pact, coordination and implementation; Appendix D. Problems in collecting academic core data; Appendix E. Academic core indicators and ratings; Back cover

Sommario/riassunto

"Universities and economic development in Africa presents the synthesis and key findings of eight African countries and universities. The analysis and discussions presented in the book draw the following three main conclusions: 1. There is a lack of clarity and agreement (pact) about a development model and the role of higher education in development, at both national and institutional levels. There is, however, an increasing awareness, particularly at government level, of the importance of universities in the global context of the knowledge economy. 2. Research production at the eight African universities is not strong enough to enable them to build on their traditional undergraduate teaching roles and make a sustained contribution to development via new knowledge production. A number of universities have manageable student-staff ratios and adequately qualified staff, but inadequate funds for staff to engage in research. In addition, the incentive regimes do not support knowledge production. 3. In none of the countries in the sample is there a coordinated effort between government, external stakeholders and the university to systematically strengthen the contribution that the university can make to development. While at each of the universities there are exemplary development projects that connect strongly to external stakeholders and strengthen the academic core, the challenge is how to increase the number of these projects. The project on which this report is based forms part of a larger study on Higher Education and Economic Development in Africa, undertaken by the Higher Education Research and Advocacy Network in Africa (HERANA). HERANA is coordinated by the Centre for Higher Education Transformation in South Africa"--Back cover.