

Centre for Sustainable and Resilient Food Systems and Applied Agricultural and Food Data Science (UKUDLA)



The UKUDLA Centre, based in South Africa, supports the development of sustainable and resilient food systems through applied research and data analysis. Partners include the University of Hohenheim, three universities from South Africa, and one from Malawi.

GOALS

This multi-institutional project integrates **agricultural** and food sciences with **data science**. Based on the Centres of African Excellence funding model, it is built on three pillars: **capacity building, research, and knowledge transfer**. Through its teaching and capacity development activities, the project supports the **training of the next generation of researchers** in agricultural and food sciences in Sub-Saharan Africa. At the same time, it seeks to improve the functioning and resilience of food systems through applied research, generate actionable knowledge, and strengthen the transfer of research findings into practice. The initiative brings together three German federal ministries as well as South Africa's Department of Science, Technology and Innovation (DSTI) and the National Research Foundation (NRF).

KEY ACTIONS

The project offers targeted support to African and German **lecturers, Master's students, doctoral candidates, and post-doctoral researchers** through a variety of tailored activities – from **academic training and mentoring** to **career development** and participation in **summer schools**. In addition, a **Research Chair** will be established at both the University of the Western Cape and the University of Mpumalanga. A strong emphasis is placed on **fostering the transfer of current research findings** into industry, policymaking, and civil society.



Focus

Sustainable and resilient food systems



Current funding phase

2025–2029



Partner countries

South Africa
Malawi

Partner institutions

in Germany:

→ University of Hohenheim

in Sub-Saharan Africa:

- University of the Western Cape, South Africa
- University of Pretoria, South Africa
- University of Mpumalanga, South Africa
- Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Malawi



Targeted support for **64 top talents** from master's to postdoctoral level



Powerful synergies resulting from the **joint commitment** of **3 German federal ministries** and **2 South African funding bodies**



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Supported by:



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Federal Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Regional Identity



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