



UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE

# RESEARCH SUPPORT CENTRE

## 2023 HIGHLIGHTS



**RESEARCH SUPPORT CENTRE**  
A Centre of Excellence in Research Management and Administration

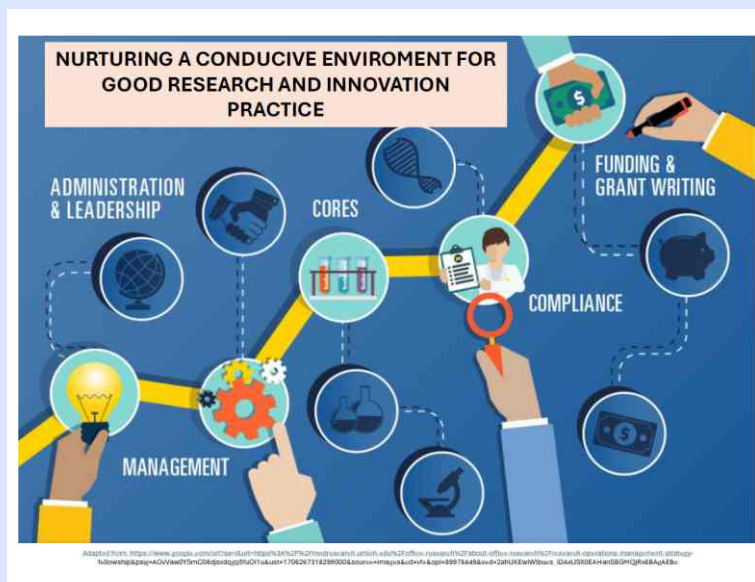


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## RESEARCH SUPPORT CENTRE 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

### INTRODUCTION

The University of Zimbabwe Faculty of Medicine & Health Sciences (UZ-FMHS) Research Support Centre (RSC) was founded in 2010, with multi-funding from the Wellcome Trust (UK) (Southern Africa Consortium of Research Excellence (SACORE) programme), National Institutes of Health (Medical Education Partnership Initiative), the Dutch Government (Netherlands-African Partnership for Capacity Development and Clinical Interventions against Poverty related Diseases), and the University of Zimbabwe. The RSC aims to promote research by providing comprehensive research support services to UZ-FHMS researchers and beyond. The RSC contributes to the enhancement of research skills and creation of an environment that will allow successful and quality research work. This institutional report chronologically highlights the key activities from January to December 2023.



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## **RSC 2023 ANNUAL REVIEW AND PLANNING MEETING (4-5 FEBRUARY 2023)**

The RSC Team went for a weekend retreat at Mwanga Lodge (4-5 February 2023). The team reviewed their 2022 activities, research management policies and set the goals and plans for 2023.



## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT OBSERVATION (CHIDO) STUDY PROTOCOL MEETING (16 FEBRUARY 2023)**

Child Development Observation (CHIDO) Study Protocol and data training led by the Principal Investigator Dr. L Mudawarima at RSC. The study is being conducted at local Municipal Clinics & Harare Hospital Neonatal Unit as well as the Child Rehabilitation Unit.



## **ZIMBABWE PROGRAM FOR VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS (PROVE) STUDY SITE VISIT (14-15 MARCH 2023)**

The PROVE Zimbabwe study site hosted Senior Project Officer Ms L Mbabazi and Research Monitor, Mr M Nsumba from Infectious Diseases Institute, Makerere University Uganda on a 2 day site visit.





## **DEVELOPING EXCELLENCE IN LEADERSHIP, TRAINING AND SCIENCE (DELTAS) AFRICA II LAUNCH (13-17 MARCH 2023)**

The UZ African Mental Health Research initiative (AMARI 2) Programme leadership and RSC staff participated in the Science for Africa Foundation (SFA) Africa DELTAS II program. DELTAS Africa II is funding 14 consortia of over 50 African Universities and Research Institutions to train researchers to lead and conduct impactful research in Health, Agriculture and Climate Change.



DELTAS 11 Consortium Directors panel at the launch discussing lessons learned from DELTAS 1.15



## **ZIMBABWE PROGRAM FOR VACCINE EFFECTIVENESS (PROVE) PROTOCOL TRAINING (3 APRIL 2023)**

The Zimbabwe PROVE study team from Bulawayo conducted their Research Protocol training at the RSC .



## **CLEAN UP CAMPAIGN (7 APRIL 2023)**

RSC staff cleaning the premise in line with the “National Clean-up Campaign” which is held every first Friday of the month.



## **UZ GRANT PROPOSAL WRITING WORKSHOP (12- 13 APRIL 2023)**

Prof E Gomo and Mr A Matsika facilitated a Grant Proposal Writing workshop which targeted faculty and postgraduate students. The workshop was funded by the ENRICH Programme.



## **INTERNATIONAL NETWORK OF RESEARCH MANAGEMENT SOCIETIES( INORMS) CONGRESS, DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA (30 MAY - 2 JUNE 2023)**

Prof E Gomo, Ms T Mashaah and Mr K Gurure participated in the INORMS congress in Durban. This is a platform for sharing good practice and challenges in research administration and management.



## **SUCCEED PILOT TRAINING (16 JUNE 2023)**

SUCCEED pilot training for the intervention implementing partner Zimbabwe National Association of Mental Health (ZIMNAMH). The workshop was in preparation for the Community-based rehabilitation for people with psychosocial disabilities project.



## **ICH-GCP TRAINING WORKSHOP (5-6 JULY 2023)**

International Council of Harmonisation Good Clinical Practice Course (ICH-GCP) training workshop for ENRICH Programme fellows was held on 5-6 July 2023. The facilitators were Prof E Gomo and Dr P Nyamayaro.



## **UZ & ZHEJIANG UNIVERSITY MOU (26-27 JULY 2023)**

Dean Dr. Makoni and Prof Jian signed the UZ and Zhejiang University MOU. The team also toured some of the FMHS teaching and research facilities at the Parirenytwa Hospital campus and the Quinary Hospital.



## **AFREHEALTH ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM (1- 3 AUGUST 2023)**

Ms T Mashaah presented on implementing the PETRA Program Dissemination and Implementation Science (DIS) Multidisciplinary Mentored Research Scholars' Programme at the 6th AFREhealth Annual Symposium in Maputo, Mozambique.



## **AMARI 2 DUE DILIGENCE EXERCISES (31 AUGUST AND 8 SEPTEMBER 2023)**

AMARI 11 programme team and RSC finance staff held due diligence exercises at AMRARI 11 new partners i.e University of Ghana and University of Zambia. The team at University of Ghana.





## **AFRICA UNIVERSITY GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP (20-21 SEPTEMBER 2023)**

The RSC staff was invited by Africa University Research Office to facilitate a 2 day grant writing workshop for their faculty at La Rochelle in Mutare.



## **AHRI SANTE RESEARCH DAY (18 OCTOBER 2023)**

Prof E Gomo attended the Africa Health Research Institute for the AHRI SANTE site and Research Day in Durban South Africa.



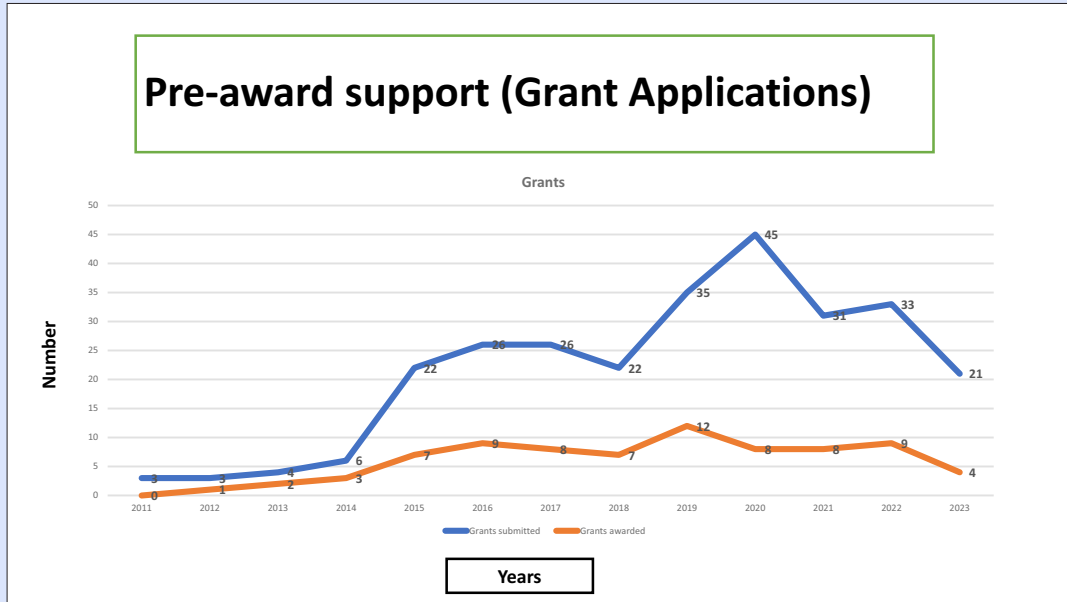
## **ARSO PROJECT COMMITTEE ON HARMONISATION OF GOOD RESEARCH MANAGEMENT PRACTICE (ARSO/GRMP) (11 – 13 DECEMBER 2023)**

Ms T Mashaah participated in the Harmonization of Standards for ARSO Project Committee 1 on GRMP in Nairobi Kenya.



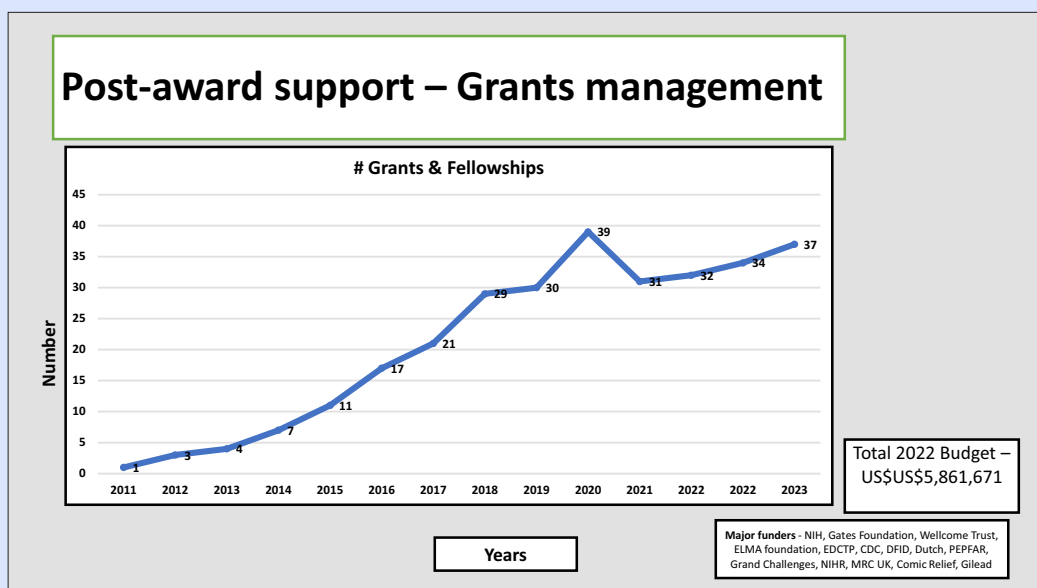
## PRE-AWARD SUPPORT

The RSC identifies, and disseminates funding opportunity announcements (FOA), and supports researchers with grant application and awarding processes..



## POST-AWARD SUPPORT

Currently, the RSC is managing 29 grants. The major funding agencies include the National Institute of Health (USA), Wellcome (UK), National Institute of Health Research, ELMA Foundation, and Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) amongst others. The RSC database report from January to December shows there was a total of 1171 transactions that were done by the finance department which included cash, transfers, and international transfers for the various projects. During this period there were 24 financial reports, 6 interim reports, and a comprehensive RSC financial audit. All reports were accepted indicating compliance with all funder requirements.





## GRANTS MANAGEMENT SUPPORT (17 FEBRUARY 2023)

Prof H A Mujuru- Principal investigator  
and Mr. L Meki- RSC Grants Officer,  
discussing budgets for her project titled  
Determination of gestational age and preterm birth  
rates in low resource settings using newborn  
metabolic profiles(GAS) project being managed by  
RSC.



## GRANT AUDIT (19 JULY 2023)

The project titled Determination of gestational age  
and preterm birth rates in low resource settings  
using newborn metabolic profiles grant which is  
managed by RSC being audited. Grants officer,  
Mr. M Madhaka, working with the auditors.



## TRAINING & CONFERENCE FACILITIES

The RSC continues to provide facilities for training and conferences through a Training room and seater boardroom. In 2023 the events hosted included the following;

	DATE	BOOKED BY	NUMBER OF DAYS	NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS
1.	20 February 2023	Prove Study	½	7
2.	27 February 2023 - 03 March 2023	SUCCEED	5	16
3.	07 March 2023	Friendship Bench	½	60
4.	15 March 2023 - 16 March 2023	PROVE	2	10
5.	13 March 2023 - 14 March 2023	PETRA	2	60
6.	22 March 2023	ChiDO Study	1	6
7.	29 March 2023	PROVE	1	5
8.	04 May 2023	HIV-RT	1	40
9.	04 May 2023 - 05 May 2023	CotMZ	2	6
10.	17 May 2023 - 19 May 2023	Digital Health Maturity Assessment	3	20
11.	05 June 2023	PETRA	½	26
12.	15 June 2023	CeSHHAR	1	13
13.	15 June 2023 - 18 June 2023	SUCCEED	10	12
14.	17 July 2023 - 19 July 2023	UZ - CRC	3	30
15.	06 November 2023	PETRA	1	30



## **SCIENTIFIC CITIZENSHIP & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**JULY 2023**

Congratulations to Prof Exnevia Gomo on becoming the 45<sup>th</sup> professional to be recognised by the International Professional Recognition Council as a Senior Research Management Professional (SRMP)



**AUGUST 2023**

Congratulations to Ms T Mashaah for attaining Project Management PRINCE2® Foundation certification and for being appointed as a technical sub-committee member in the ARSO Technical Committee on Research Management to shape the GRMP Standard.



## OCTOBER 2023

Congratulations to Mr K Gurure for graduating with an MBA degree from the University of Suffolk, UK. This is his second masters after graduating with a Master of Financial Services Management from Salford University, UK.



## OCTOBER 2023

Congratulations Dr E Munetsi Co-PI and Program Manager for SUCCEED Zimbabwe, on her remarkable achievement of obtaining a Doctor of Philosophy in Psychology from Great Zimbabwe University.



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

At the RSC, we actively engage in community outreach activities by recruiting interns from various universities to work in our accounts department. The RSC is pleased to share the names of our current interns who are doing a fantastic job at RSC.

### PRISCILLA SIMANGO AND RUDO WONDER CHIZORORO

Priscilla Simango and Rudo Wonder Chizororo are driven third-year students at Great Zimbabwe University with a passion for Economics and Finance. The dedication to their studies and their desire to excel is evident in their decision to join RSC from 26 October 2023 until 31 July 2024 and February 2nd, 2023 until February 29th, 2024, respectively. As promising young professionals, Priscilla and Rudo are committed to making the most of this opportunity and contributing their skills and knowledge to the organization. RSC is fortunate to have the two on board, and they are sure to be an asset to the team







**UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE  
FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES  
RESEARCH SUPPORT CENTRE**

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