

The Foundation for Democracy in Africa

Women of the African Diaspora in Science and Technology
Education

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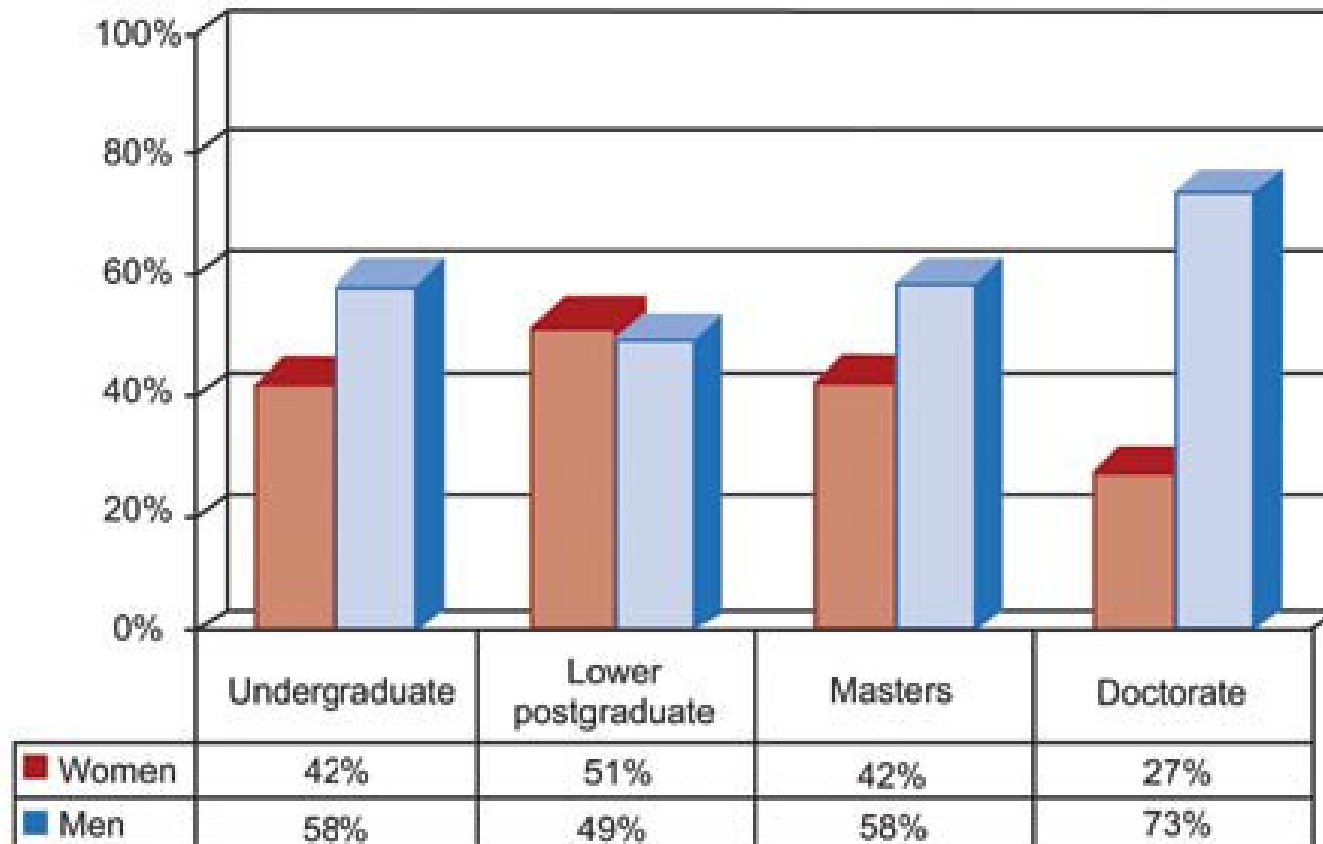
The Reality Women in Science

1. There is a brain drain in many African Nations.
2. The research community is aging – the average age of the researchers is increasing
3. Science, Mathematics, Engineering, and Technology careers are a male-dominated environment

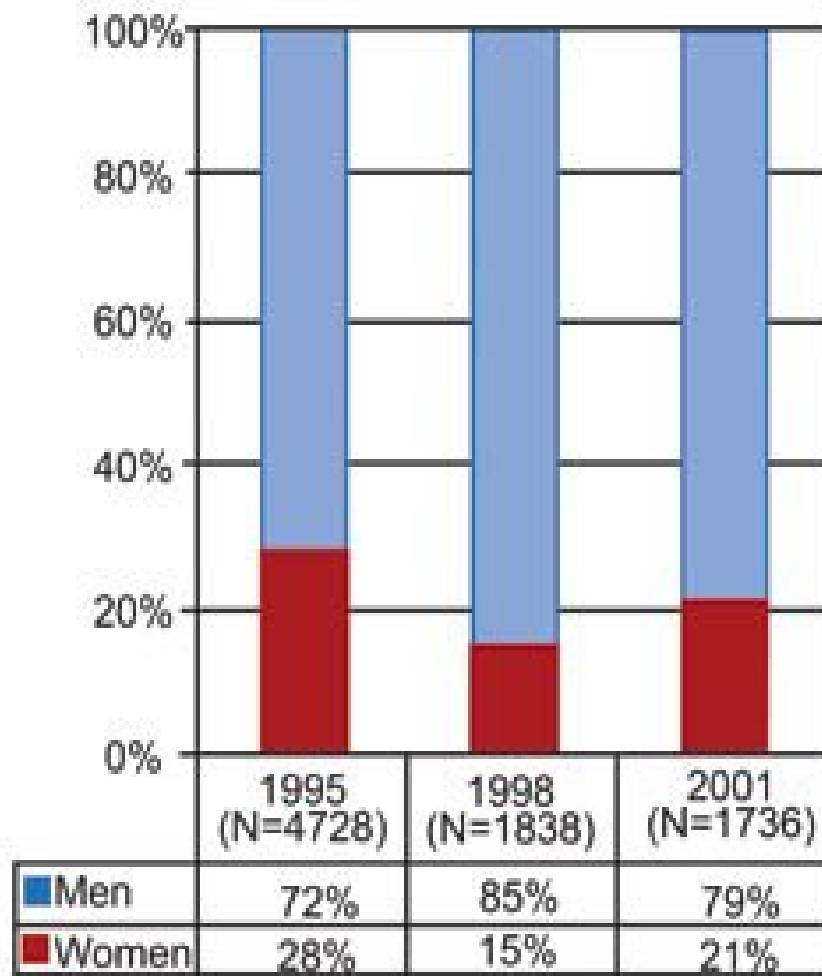
Problems

- Women are **YOUNGER** and **LESS QUALIFIED** than Men
- Women receive smaller slice of the research inputs, rewards and recognition for their achievements in the **quantitative disciplines**.
- Women cluster in areas that have been their 'traditional' domain.

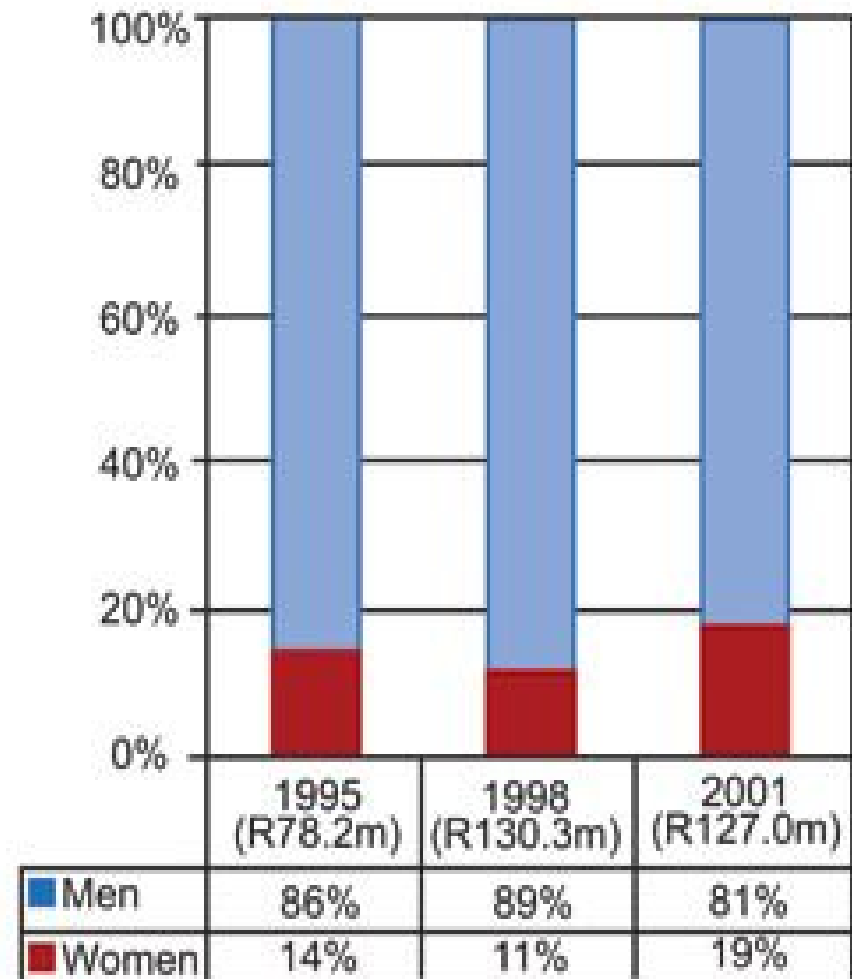
Qualifications of female and male instruction/research staff in the higher education sector (2001)



Distribution of NRF grant-holders, and monetary value of grants, by sex (1995, 1998, 2001)

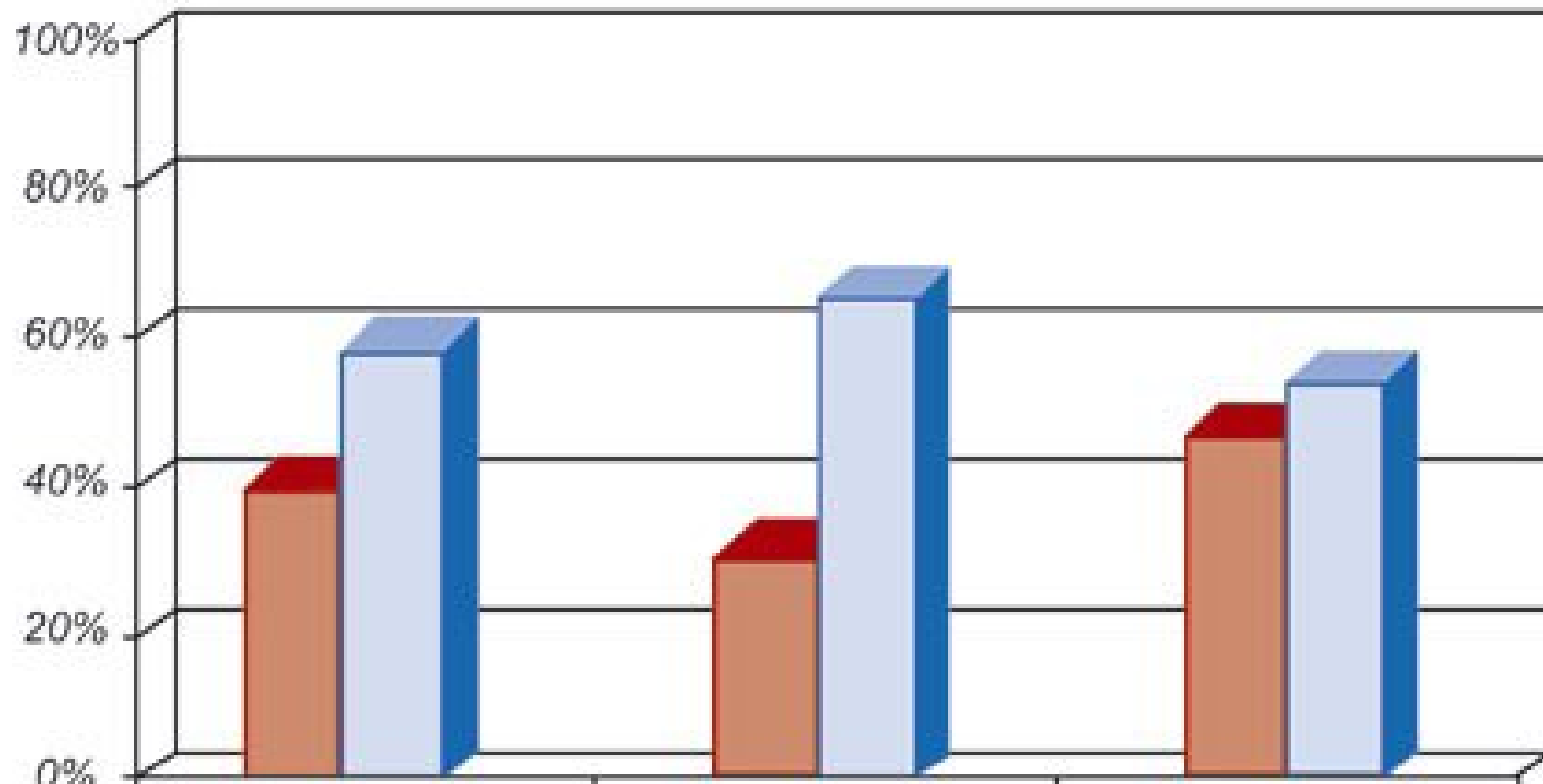


No. of Grants



Monetary Value

University Doctoral FTE enrolments by sex and by broad field of study (2001)



	<i>Social Sciences & Humanities (N=3111)</i>	<i>Natural Sciences & Engineering (N=2127)</i>	<i>Health Sciences (N=991)</i>
■ <i>Women</i>	41%	31%	47%
■ <i>Men</i>	59%	69%	53%

Is there help available to ameliorate the problem?

- The Norman E. Bourlaug International Science and Technology Fellows Program encourages women to pursue science and technology in Ghana, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda, and Zambia.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural ORGANIZATION (UNESCO) is pushing for science in Africa.
- Annan calls for more science education for more females.
- Wireless technology improves health care in Uganda.

Africa Women in Science

The Solution

1. Gender mainstreaming: encourage females early to enter quantitative disciplines
2. Research in quantitative disciplines are a benefit to all (men and women)
3. The increase in women in science would positively impact science and technology, ensuring a sustainable future for all.

MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AIDS RESEARCH COLLABORATIONS



Key: Blue: Participating Institutions
Red: research Focus
Green: Funding agencies, start date
(annual budget)
Map colors indicate prevalence rate

Are There Funding Opportunities in Africa to Improve Science and Technology?

1. The International Foundation for Science
2. National Research Foundation (students and institutions)
3. Wellcome Trust Funding for Research (medical research: infections and non-infectious communicable diseases)