

# Doctoral education in Commonwealth Africa

Reflections from ACU projects and programmes

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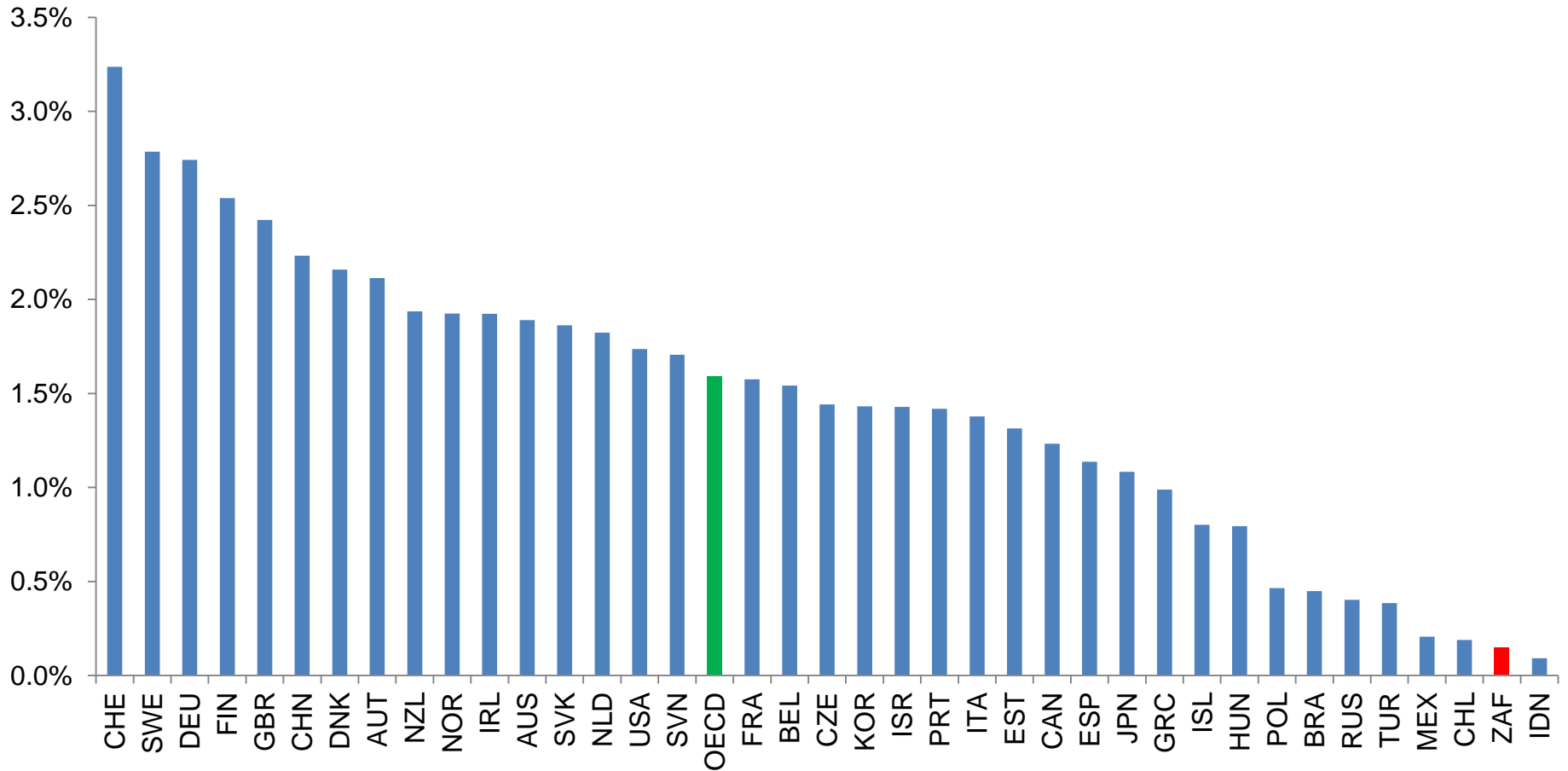
# **The world beyond 2015 Is higher education ready?**

[www.acu.ac.uk/beyond-2015](http://www.acu.ac.uk/beyond-2015)

 @HEbeyond2015

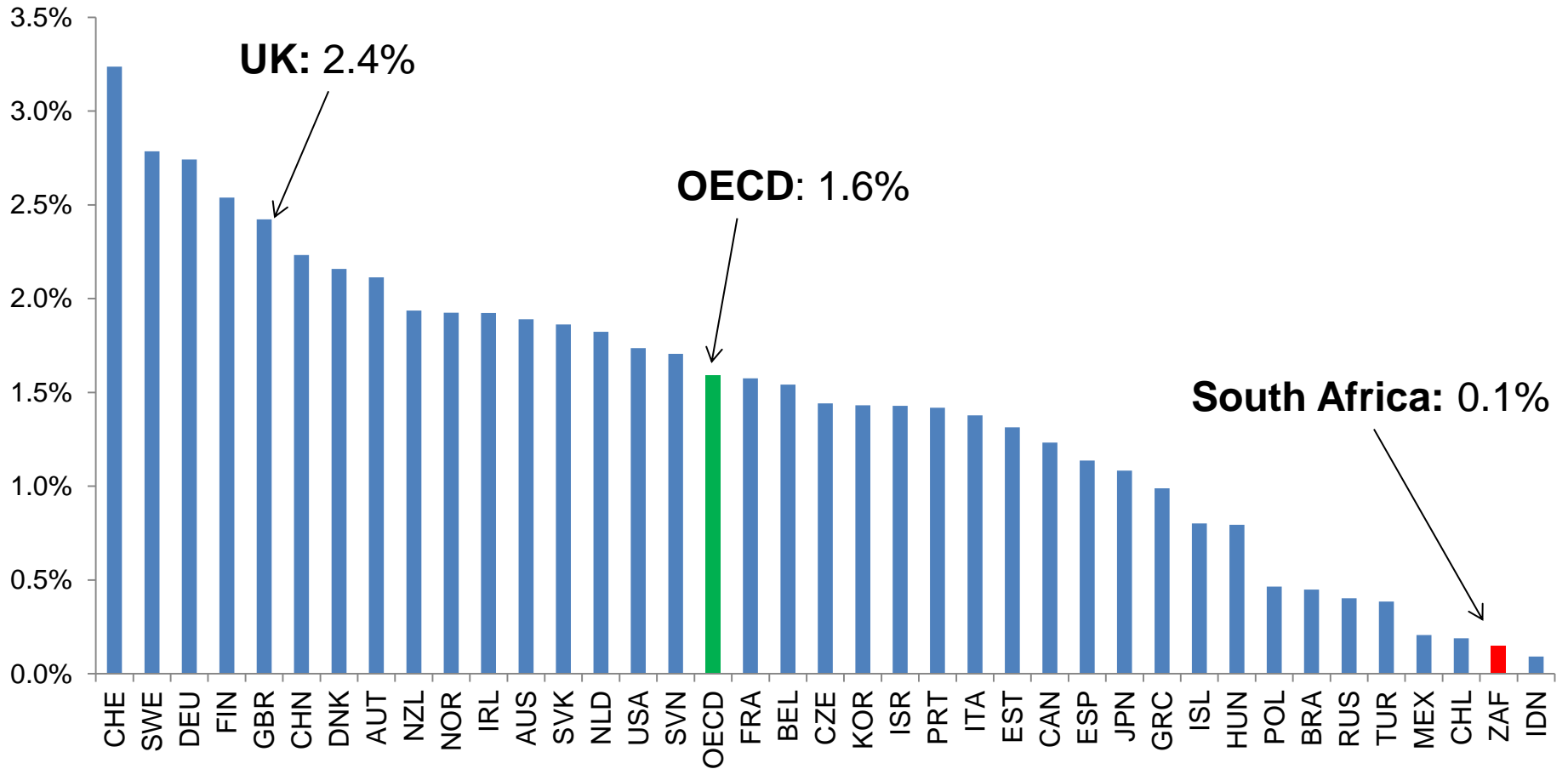
 HE beyond 2015

# The situation now?



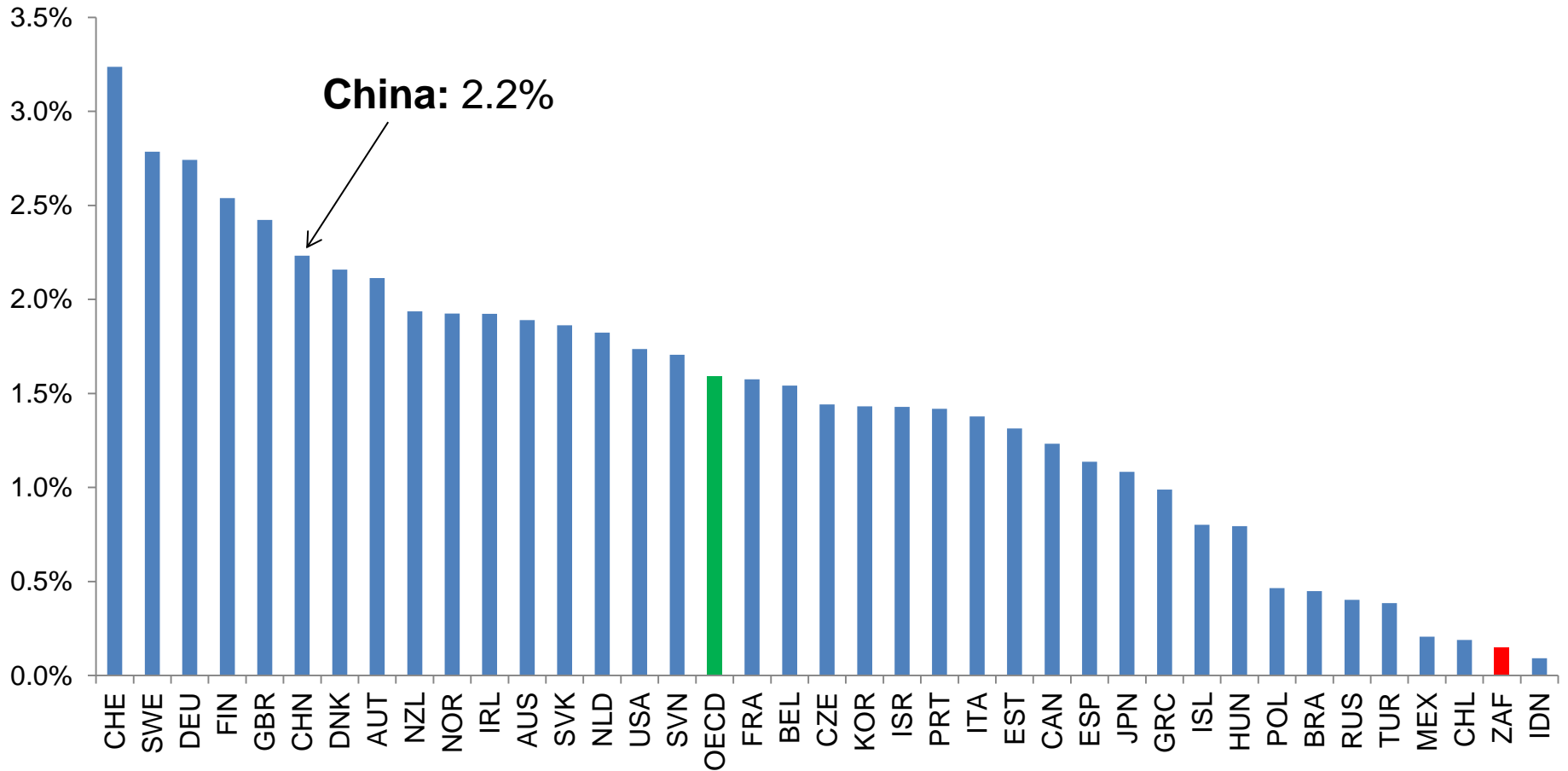
**Estimated percentage of age cohort that will complete doctoral education (2011)**

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## Faculty with doctorates:

Ghana:	28%
Mozambique:	15%
Uganda:	12%

Tetty (2010)

# Challenges and solutions?

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# DocLinks

Connecting African & European Doctoral Candidates





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Connecting African & European Doctoral Candidates



DocLinks  
Connecting African & European Doctoral Candidates

PhD candidates and early career researchers,  
EU-Africa network

1,684 members

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## Group Profile

This group is created within DocLinks project, supported by Erasmus Mundus Programme of the European Commission. The network is to facilitate discussion and future cooperation between PhD candidates and early career researchers in Europe and Africa. Members are welcome to share ideas and insights about current or future research on any topic as well as any issues relevant to their PhD.

## Group Members in Your Network

## About this Group

**Created:** May 28, 2012

**Type:** Networking Group

**Members:** 1,684

**Subgroups:** 1

**Owner:** [Evelina V.](#)

**Managers:** [Kristina Ferkovic](#)

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# Early career support

"Greater recognition and support for researchers in their immediately post-PhD years is critical to ensure that available talent is not lost. Unless we collectively address this, the brightest African scholars are liable to sink beneath waves of administration and teaching, rarely to be encountered in research communities again"

(Harle, 2011)

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# STARS

## Topics

- Research planning
- Finding funding
- Managing research
- Managing time
- Collaboration
- Publishing
- Ethics
- Supervising students
- Communicating to non-academics



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# International or domestic?

“Escalate the numbers of doctoral graduates through external intervention programmes, for which there is successful precedent in recent South African history”

(ASSAf, 2010)

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# International or domestic?

2400 doctorates  
983 since year 2000



COMMONWEALTH  
SCHOLARSHIPS

93% completion  
44 months

77% return rate

# Conclusions

1. International links and consolidate opportunities
2. Doctoral and early career support closely linked
3. International and domestic solutions

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