### The Royal Society

# Science & Technology for Africa

### Martyn Poliakoff & Claire McNulty



# **The Royal Society**

- Founded in 1660, the oldest Academy of Science
- 5 Officers (President, etc)
- 1350 Fellows
  + 150 Foreign Members
- 130 staff
- Independent of the UK government





# **About Me**

•Foreign Secretary and Vice-President of the Royal Society

- •Born London (UK) 1947 (Russian father)
- •Studied in Cambridge,
- •Have been at Nottingham since 1979

### •Research Professor in Chemistry, working in Green Chemistry



# **University of Nottingham**

44,000 students in UK, Malaysia & China UK Rankings No 2: Chemistry Research No 3: Physics Research No 3: Chemical Engineering



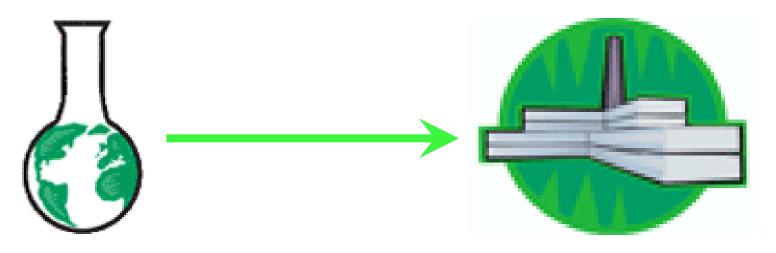


### Professor Sebsebe, Honorary Graduate Nottingham, 2010



# Green Chemistry (early 1990s)

# Cleaner approaches to making chemicals & materials





# **1<sup>st</sup> Pan Africa Green Chemistry Congress, Addis Ababa Nov 2010**



Pan Africa Chemistry Network

### 1<sup>st</sup> PACN Green Chemistry Congress

15-17 November 2010, UNCC, UNECA, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia



















www.rsc.org/pacngreenchem





laigine of Owns Number 2018

- G Generate Wealth not Waste
- R Regard for All Life & Human Health
- E Energy from the Sun
- E Ensure Degradability & No Hazards
- N New Ideas & Different Thinking
- E Engineer for Simplicity & Practicality
- **R** Recycle Whenever Possible
- A Appropriate Materials for Function
- F Fewer Auxiliary Substances & Solvents
- **R** Reactions using Catalysts
- I Indigenous Renewable Feedstocks
- C Cleaner Air & Water
- A Avoid the Mistakes of Others

### Then

### ልምድ ማገኝት ይፈልጋሉ?

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> ስምዕን ፖሊደኮቭ (Simon Poliakoff)

### Impact Factor 5.5 www.rsc.org/GreenChem

### and Now

# **Green Chemistry**

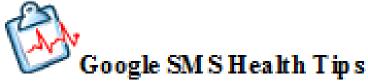
Cutting-edge research for a greener sustainable future





# Science & Technology: An Engine of Economic Growth





Find tips on sexual & reproductive health (family planning, maternal & child health, HIV/AIDS, STI/STDs)



#### Google SMS: ClinicFinder

Use ClinicFinder to find a clinic near you, the clinic's telephone number and services offered.



#### Google SMS: Farmer's Friend

Get access to weather forecasts and critical agriculture information, such as tips on planting, pest management and disease control. (Targeted at farmers to help improve their livelihood)



### **NERICA: New Rices for Africa**

 Science contributing to development

### **New rice**

- grows well in poor conditions,
- outgrows weeds, resistant to pests and diseases,
- gives higher yields





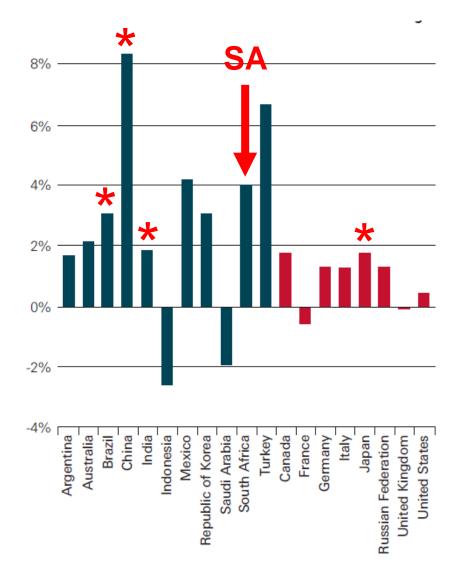
"We in Africa must either begin to build our scientific and technological training capabilities or remain an impoverished appendage to the global economy" Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda

> Knowledge, networks and nations Global scientific collaboration in the 21st century



### **Emerging Economies: Impact of S&T**

 BRIC countries (Brazil, Russia, India & China) have prioritised science and innovation and increased their investment in R&D





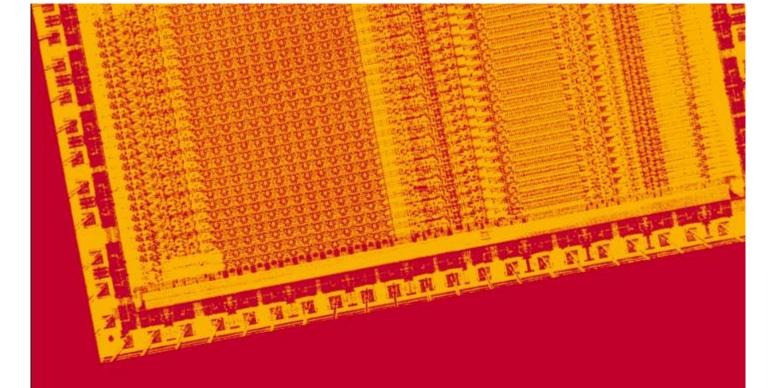
# China's long term plan for S&T

"We need to depend even more heavily on S&T progress and innovation in order to achieve substantial gains productivity and advance the overall economic and social development in a coordinated and sustainable manner"



### **Promoting S&T in the UK**





# The Scientific Century securing our future prosperity



### The Scientific Century (March 2010)

- Context: Threatened cuts on education/R&D
- **Aim**: To highlight the value of science and innovation and the UK's future prosperity
- Outcome: 6 key recommendations to secure the UK as a "vanguard of international science" and to promote economic growth



### **Scientific Century: 6 recommendations**

- 1.Science & Innovation (S& I) at the heart of a strategy for long-term economic growth
- 2. Prioritise investment in excellent people
- 3. Strengthen government's use of science
- 4.Reinforce the UK as a hub for global S & I
- 5.Better align S & I with global challenges
- 6.Revitalise science & mathematics education



**The African Academies** at the Royal Society **Oct 2011** 





- S - Support new ideas & creative thinking
- C Champion evidence-based policymaking
- I E - Instill independence in everything we do
  - Engage policymakers, industry & public
- N Nurture promising young researchers
- C Collaborate across Africa & internationally E Emphasise socioeconomic value of science
- I Inspire future leaders in research & policy
- N Network with influential stakeholders
- A Align research & policy advice with need
- F Follow good governance practices
- **R** Recognise & reward excellence
- **I** Identify areas for African leadership
- C Communicate with clarity & passion
- A Address issues of topical relevance

### **Influencing Policy Makers**

Minister for Education Ato Demeke in Nottingham Jan 13<sup>th</sup> 2011 The 13 Principles for Greener Africa

Oga



# **Young African Researchers**

# A good career structure

You have been taken out from a place where you have been relatively useless and you have been empowered to become useful. We are scared because nobody wants to return home to become redundant after you have learnt to become useful. – Chukwudi Chinwe



# The Royal Society & EAS

- Very positive relationship
- Sharing knowledge & expertise
- Working together towards a shared vision



### Science in Africa

Sweta Saxena

Tracey Elliot

Chris Ennew

Support new ideas and creative thinking Champion evidence-based policymaking Instill independence in everything we do Engage policymakers, industry and the public Nurture promising young researchers Collaborate across Africa and internationally Emphasise socioeconomic value of science Inspire future leaders in research and policy Network with influential stakeholders Align research and policy advice with need Follow good governance practices Recognise and reward excellence Identify areas for African leadership Communicate with clarity and passion Address issues of topical relevance Support new ideas and creative thinking Champion evidence-based policymaking

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