

## **CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN PROMOTING RESEARCH INTEGRITY IN AFRICAN INSTITUTIONS**

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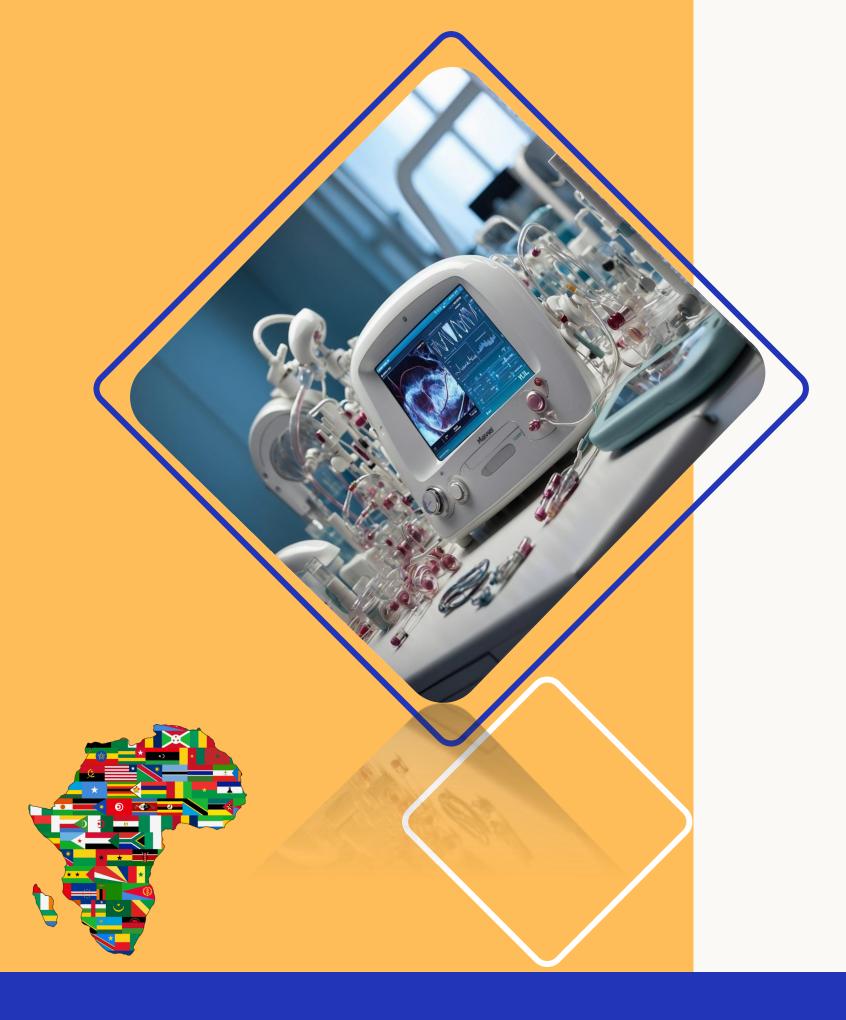






# **Opportunities &**







## Introduction to Research Integrity



## **Introduction to Research Integrity**



Research integrity is critical in ensuring credible research outcomes



However, challenges persist in maintaining integrity within African institutions.



Research institutions play a vital role in creating a positive environment for responsible conduct of research (research institutions, research committees, and academic ```tions)

This presentation focuses on key challenges and opportunities for promoting research integrity in African Research Institutions.



## **Introduction to Research Integrity**

- Research in Africa is crucial for addressing local and global challenges,  $\bullet$ including disease management, infrastructure.etc.
- Robust Research in Africa is essential for generating knowledge for policy- $\bullet$ making, planning, and implementation, especially given Africa's young and fast-growing population.
- However, there is limited understanding of Africa research integrity structures, processes and practices
- African research institutions face challenges limited resources, policies  $\bullet$ and capacity, with has an implication on research integrity.
- Africa is not immune to issues of questionable research practices and research misconduct



# Methodology



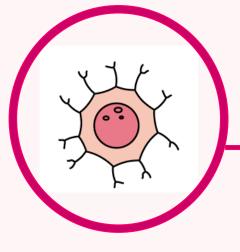
### **SYSTEMATIC REVIEW**

Reviewed research conducted and published in Africa from 2000 to 2023 using databases like PubMed, Google Scholar, Pan African Medical Journal, PLOS, Frontiers, and Research Integrity journal.



Employed both descriptive and subjective analysis techniques to evaluate the selected studies comprehensively.



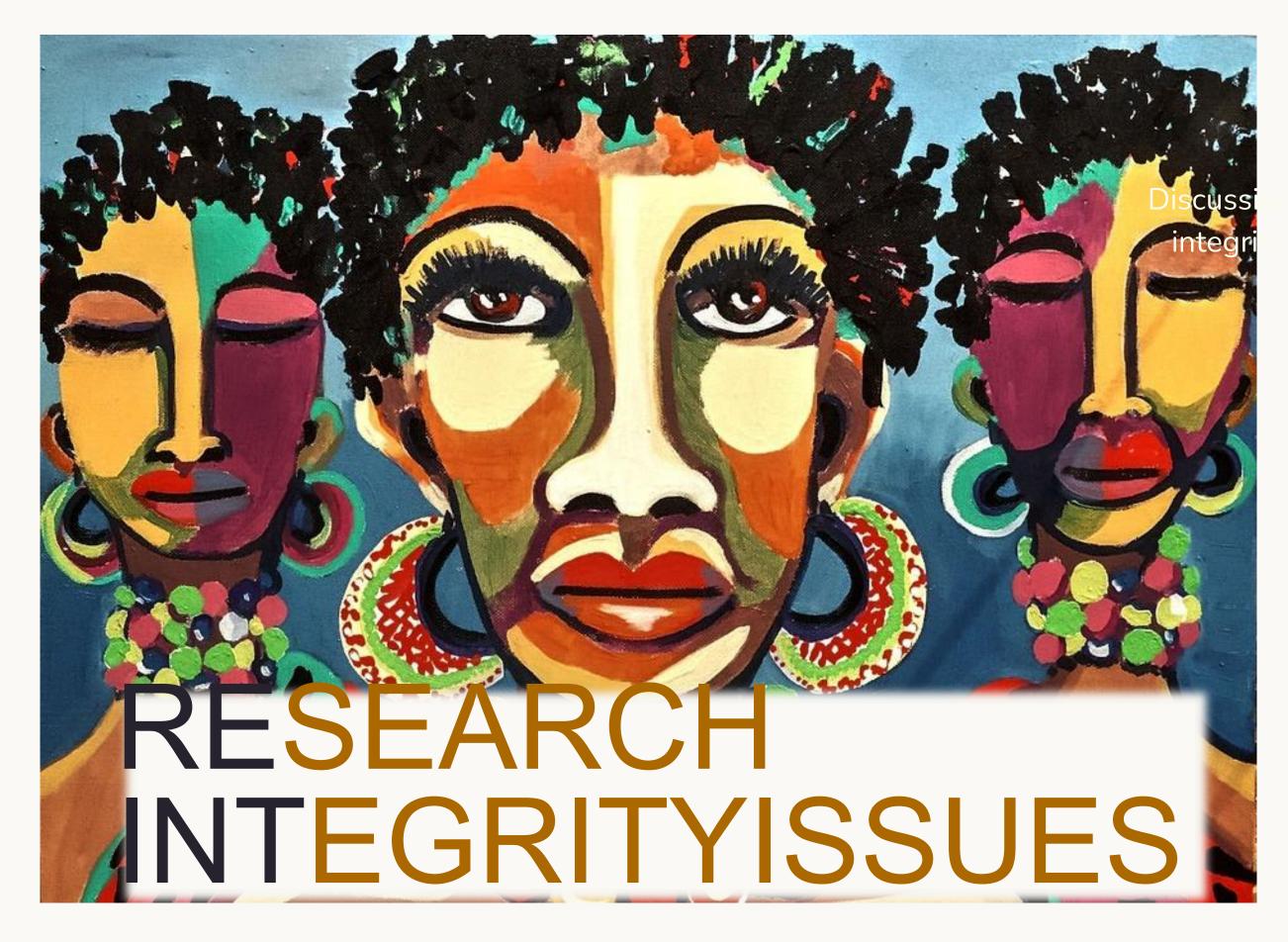


Enabled thorough examination of data to derive conclusions and recommendations on promoting research integrity in African institutions.

#### **DESCRIPTIVE AND SUBJECTIVE ANALYSIS**

#### **COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION:**





## of the research issues in Africa.



#### HIGH-PROFILE CASES OF MISCONDUCT

Notable incidents in South Africa (e.g., Prof. Werner Bezwoda) involving fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism. Rising trends of student cheating and plagiarism reported.

#### ACADEMIC DISHONESTY IN KENYA:

Research shows prevalent misconduct among students and faculty, with a lack of national and institutional mechanisms to address issues like fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism.

#### NEED FOR ETHICAL RESEARCH PRACTICES:

Research misconduct threatens the integrity and credibility of research in Africa. Enhanced efforts to promote ethical practices are essential to ensure the quality and reliability of research outcomes.



### WIDESPREAD MISCONDUCT IN NIGERIA

Studies reveal significant research misconduct among researchers, including authorship conflicts, data falsification, and plagiarism. Pressures from sponsors and inadequate regulations contribute to challenges in Research Integrity

#### **COMMON ISSUES ACROSS COUNTRIES**

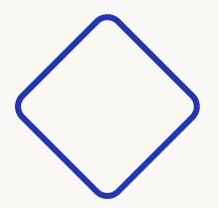
Persistent problems with fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism in South Africa, Nigeria, and Kenya, affecting both students and faculty.

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## Challenges, Opportunities, & Strategies



# S U engo

## Limited **Resources:**

Scarcity of funding and resources leads to questional research practices, and research misconduct due to pressure on researchers.

## Institutional Capacity:

Lack of resources and infrastructure may limit ability to create conducive environment for responsible conduct of research



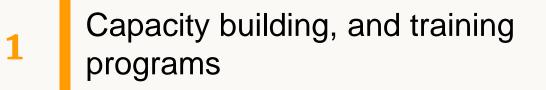
**Historical and Policy Barriers:** Colonial legacies, restrictive policies, and lack of autonomy limit collaboration and create negative perceptions about the quality of African research.



## Awareness and **Training Deficits**

Insufficient awareness and training programs on research integrity and ethics result in a poor understanding of ethical principles and increased scientific misconduct..

## **Opportunities**



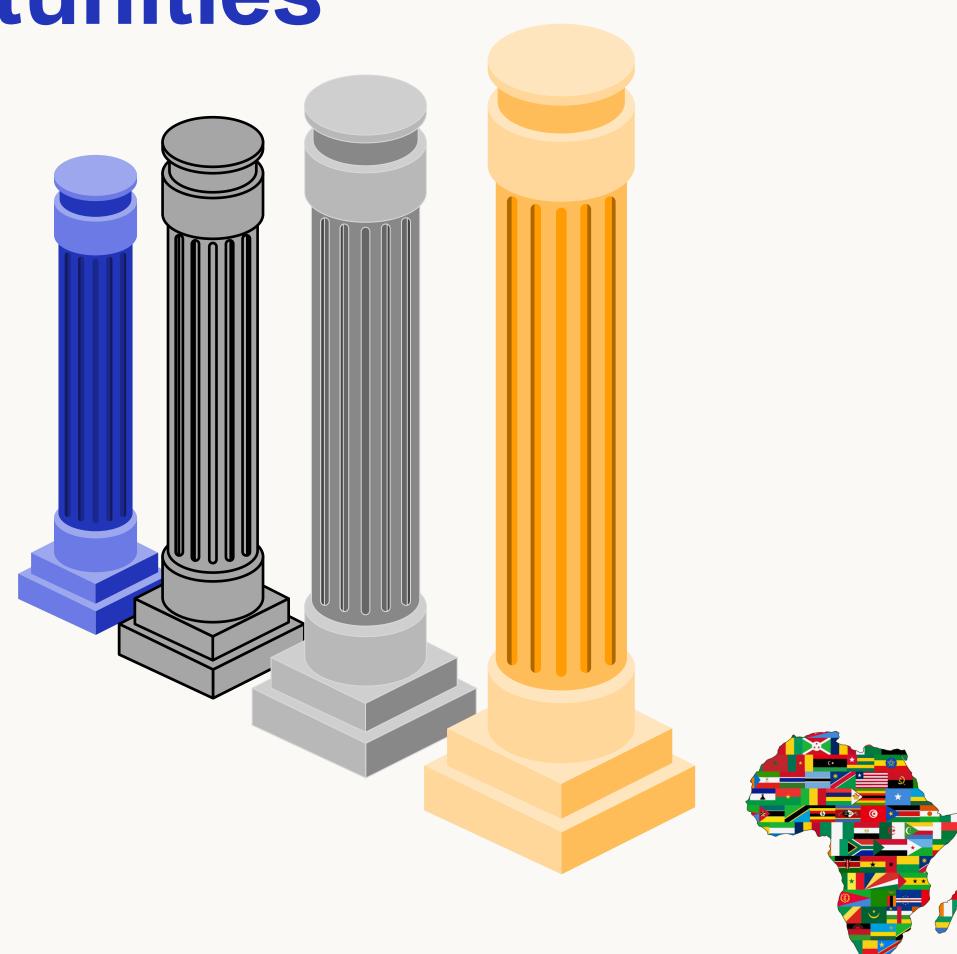
Creating policies and guidelines

Creating structures and systems (Office of Research Integrity)

Awareness. 4

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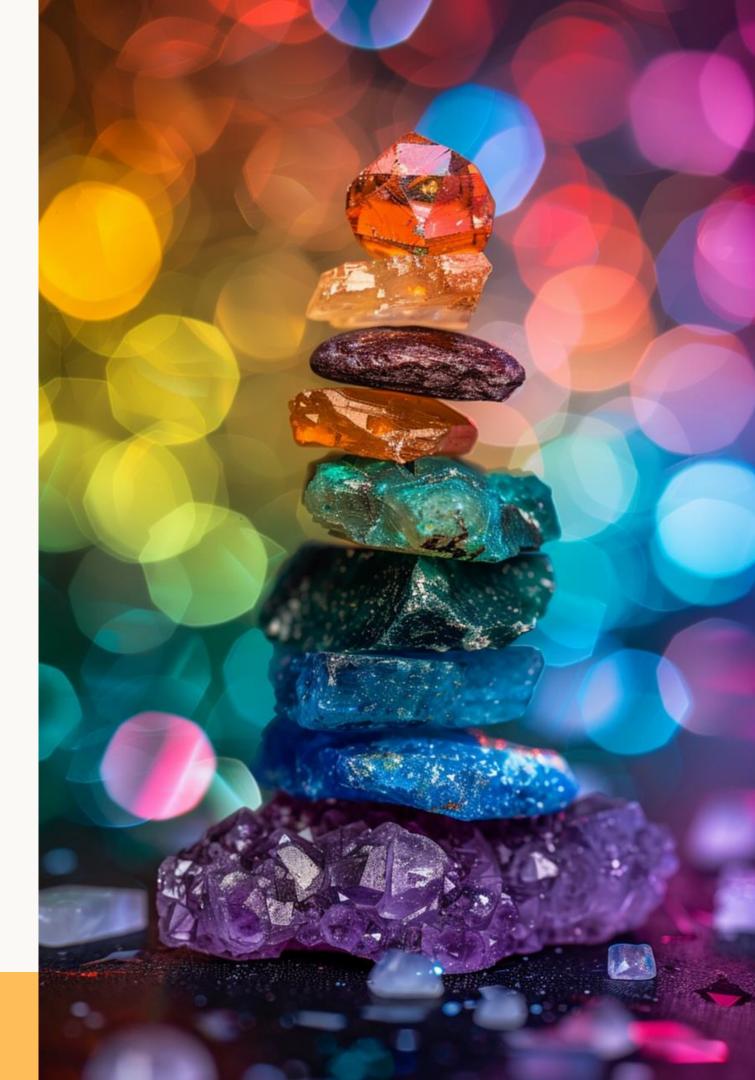
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# Conclusion







- improving the quality and impact of research.

## CONCLUSION

Promoting research integrity in African institutions is crucial for

Unique challenges like limited resources and historical factors must be addressed to maintain research integrity effectively.

Strategies such as capacity building, collaboration, and awareness raising offer a roadmap for fostering responsible research conduct, enhancing credibility, and contributing to Africa's development.

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## Thank You

