

# Varsities to benefit from Sh220m research fund

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Kenyan universities are among institutions to benefit from a Sh220 million grant to boost scientific capacity.

According to the Regional Initiative in Science and Education (RISE), the funds would be given through three research groups to strengthen science teaching in sub-Saharan Africa universities.

Dr Thomas Egwang, executive director of the African Academy of Sciences in Nairobi, welcomed the initiative.

RISE, which aims at strengthening higher education in science and engineering by increasing the number of PhD and MSc scientists and engineers in Africa's universities, is supported by a \$3.3 million (Sh214.5 million) grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York and the New Jersey Science Initiative Group at the Institute of Advanced Study.

President of Carnegie Corporation Vartan Gregorian said in a press statement: "The establishment of a regional scientific research centre is in response to demands in Africa for more and better university instructors.