

**University of Nairobi and University of Liverpool sign a Kshs. 68 million for full time postdoctoral training at UoN as well as setting up of a project office at the School of Public Health.**



The Vice Chancellor of the University of Nairobi (UoN) Prof Peter Mbithi signed a collaborative agreement with the University of Liverpool (UoL) on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2018 to release an initial Kshs 68 million (£ 485,631) for full time postdoctoral training at UoN as well as setting up of a project office at the School of Public Health. The ceremony was part of the launch of a £7.7 million project for One Health Regional Network for the Horn of Africa or HORN which in turn was part of £1.5 billion Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) supported by the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA) research support for developing countries.

HORN is an international partnership between UoN, UoL, Addis Ababa University (AAU), Hamelmalo Agricultural College (HAC) of Keren, Eritrea, International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), IGAD-Sheikh Technical Veterinary School (ISTVS), Sheikh, Somaliland and Liverpool School of Tropical

Medicine (LSTM). The mission of HORN is to improve the health and wealth of the people of the Horn of Africa by increasing the local capacity to undertake high quality research. The aim of HORN is to build a regional network of individuals and institutions able to deliver high quality research into the linkage of the health and wealth of people to their livestock and environment, in the context of how people interact now and how they interacted in the past.

Present at the ceremony were the PI of HORN Prof. Mathew Baylis from UoL, the Co-PIs from UoN Dr. Dismas Ongore from the School of Public Health and Dr Joshua Onono from the Faculty of Agriculture and Veterinary Medicine. Also present were Prof. Lucy Irungu, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Production and Extension, Prof. Stephen Kiama, Principal, College of Agriculture and Veterinary Studies, Prof. James Machoki, representing Principal CHS, Prof. Mutuku Mwanthi Director School of Public Health, the Director General of ILRI as well as representatives from all the partner collaborating institutions.

In his address, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Peter Mbithi congratulated the PI and the Co-PIs for work well done. In particular he singled out Dr Ongore for his tenacity and steadfastness in culmination of the launch. He pledged the support of the University in providing the project with all the necessary support possible and urged the partners to fast track the development of world class multidisciplinary and international curriculum. Prof Mbithi added that “The University of Liverpool was well known globally for their distance learning programmes and UoN was keen to develop partnership with UoL through the ODeL campus for such a venture.”