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GCRF-START: Enabling Structural Biology in Africa

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The START programme (Synchrotron Techniques for African Research and Technology) funded by the UK Science and Technology Facilities Council through the Global Challenges Research Fund has significantly stimulated African work in Structural Biology, Energy Materials and Catalysis over the last three years.

The Structural biology component funded post-docs, workshops, travel, data collection and a resource centre based at UCT that enabled any of the researchers to access facilities that they did not have in their home environment.

In spite of suffering in the wake of the pandemic the programme has been extraordinarily successful. Please visit <https://start-project.org/> for details.

Among the unexpected positive achievements stemming from the pandemic was the development of an on line CCP4 workshop. This will have important long-term consequences for the development of an emerging cohort of African protein crystallographers.

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