



Cardiff University's partnership with the University of Namibia (UNAM), aimed at improving health and reducing poverty in the African country, was the stand-out entry in the International Collaboration of the Year category.

Prior to the Phoenix Project, Namibia had only two state anaesthetists, both of whom were part time. But since the launch of the collaboration in 2014, more than 100 UNAM medical students and Namibian medical officers have been trained in anaesthesia, thanks to training led by Cardiff and a new module developed by UNAM.

Staff from both universities have also established an annual Python open-source software conference to encourage a new generation of software programmers in Africa.

Meanwhile, Cardiff researchers are leading a project to study and support languages in Namibia, and UNAM has opened a Centre for eLearning and Interactive Media with guidance from Cardiff's Wales Centre for Pharmacy Professional Education.

The collaboration between the universities has strengthened teaching capacity and specialist expertise within UNAM and has enhanced Cardiff University's reputation in Africa.

The judges said that the partnership was "truly an outstanding example of international collaboration".

"Clearly supported throughout both institutions, the partnership has gained traction across disciplines and faculties, creating new opportunities for both institutions to innovate and challenge their students and staff," they said.

"This feels like a genuine, long-term commitment to bringing two very different but complementary academic communities together."