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UNION BAYREUTH
CONFERENCE '21**

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SCHEDULE

**THURSDAY
JUNE 3**

9.30-11.30 AM
Interactive
Meeting

12.00-1.30 PM
Workshop
Slot 1

2.30-4.00 PM
Workshop
Slot 2

5.30 PM
Cooking
Together

4.30-5.30 PM
Panel Discussion:
Emerging worlds of
African Imaginaries

**FRIDAY
JUNE 4**

9.30-11.00 AM
Workshop
Slot 3

11.30-1.00 PM
Workshop
Slot 4

1.00-3.00 PM
Entrepreneur-
ship Forum

8.00-10.00 PM
Movie
Night

5.30-7.00 PM
Committee
Session 1

4.00-5.00 PM
SimSim
Workshop

3.00-4.00 PM
Opening
Ceremony

**SATURDAY
JUNE 5**

9.30-11.30 AM
Committee
Session 2

12.00-1.30 PM
Committee
Session 3

2.30-4.00 PM
Committee
Session 4

7.00-9.00 PM
Panel Discussion:
Music, film and arts
from Africa to the World

4.30-6.00 PM
Committee
Session 5

**SUNDAY
JUNE 6**

9.30-11.30 AM
Committee
Session 6

12.00-1.30 PM
Committee
Session 7

2.30-4.00 PM
Committee
Session 8

7.30-9.00 PM
Gala Night
and Party

6.30-7.30 PM
Pan-African Parliament
and Closing Ceremony

4.30-6.00 PM
Committee
Session 9

OUR GUEST SPEAKERS

H.E. SALAH HAMMAD



His Excellency Amb. Salah S. Hammad, is the Head of the African Governance, Peace and Security Architectures (AGA-APSA) Secretariat and the Head of the Human Rights and Transitional Justice Unit within the Department of Political Affairs and Peace and Security of the African Union Commission. He holds an LLM Degree in Human Rights and a Doctorate Degree in International Relations with focus on Human Rights. Originally from Sudan, Amb. Hammad studied law and political science in the United States of America. Amb. Hammad has been appointed an Ambassador within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Sudan in 2016 and he was voted as Ambassador for Human Rights by the Arab Council for Human Rights in 2013. Amb. Hammad also served as the President of the African Union Staff Association, a mechanism established to promote the welfare and protect the wellbeing of the Staff. For the past 25 years, he has dedicated his life to world development and human rights. As an international expert, he worked on issues of human rights, humanitarian affairs, refugees and resettlement. He also worked in global development for a number of international and continental organizations.

H.E. SARAH AGBOR



Her Excellency Professor Sarah M. E. Anyang Agbor is the African Union Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology. Before being elected, she was the Deputy Vice-Chancellor in charge of Research, Cooperation and Relations with the Business World at the University of Bamenda-North West Region of Cameroon.



EDMILSON ANGELO



Edmilson Angelo is the Founder and Director of Change 1's Life CIO, an international charity established in 2014 working on the fields of education, energy, health and environment protection in Sub-Saharan Africa since 2014. As the leader of one of the most emerging and dynamic youth-led causes in Africa, Edmilson's work has in the past been recognised by many distinguished institutions such as United Nations under Kofi Annan and Akon Lighting Africa under the Give1Project. He has consulted for a range of national and international public and private bodies, especially within the diplomatic sphere of Angola, and is also an analyst and columnist of African Politics at BBC News and other national and international channels and newspapers such as VerAngola. In 2021, Edmilson was named one of the most influential youths within the Lusophony countries.

ADJANY COSTA



Adjany Costa is an Angolan marine biologist and conservationist from Huambo who has served as the Angolan Minister of Culture, Tourism and Environment. She was the African winner of the United Nations Environment Programme Young Champions of the Earth award and the Angolan First Order of Civil Merit in 2019. She received this in recognition for her community-based conservation work with the Luchaze people of the Eastern Angolan highlands and the Okavango Delta. She is a National Geographic Explorer, and appeared in the 2018 documentary film Into the Okavango. Costa has a Masters degree and is working towards a PhD at the University of Oxford. She was appointed the position of Minister of Culture, Tourism and Environment in April 2020, making her the youngest minister in Angolan history. Today she acts as a consultant to the President João Lourenço.



H.E. GINA BLAY



Her Excellency Amb. Gina Ama Blay is a diplomat, who is Ghana's Ambassador to The Federal Republic of Germany with concurrent accreditation to the three Baltic States, namely, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, since June 2017. Additionally, she also has oversight of Ghana's activities in the UN Climate Change Secretariat which is based in Bonn as well as the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) whose office is based in Hamburg. Before her government appointment Gina was a private Media practitioner with over 30 years of work experience and company management roles. She has served on several corporate boards, including Ghana Telecom, Makola Marketing Company Limited, Ghana News Agency, National Media Commission, World Association of Newspapers and Social Security and National Insurance Trust (SSNIT). In a distinguished career, spanning over 30 years, she has held various positions including Public Relations Officer (Prices & Incomes Board); and Public Relations Manager.

BRIGHT SIMONS



Bright Simons is the President of mPedigree, a social enterprise working on three continents with governments, Fortune 500 companies and activists to safeguard human health and food security using technology. A career inventor and innovator, his current projects include vaccine quality detection using novel organo-sensors. He is also a Board-level Advisor, with recent appointments to the Microsoft Africa Advisory Council, the Lancet Commission on the Future of Health in Africa, the Center for Global Development's Study Group on Technology, the World Economic Forum's Africa Strategy Group, the Africa Population Health Research Center, and IC Publications, owner of the New African magazine. He is a WEF YGL, TED Fellow, Aspen Braddock Fellow, and the 2016 CNBC African Innovative Business Leader of the Year. In 2016, Fortune magazine named him on their 50 World Greatest Leaders list.



ADHIEU MAJOK



Adhieu Majok is a South Sudan analyst, writer and activist. She co-founded Legacy for African Women and Children Initiative (LAWANCI), a national NGO in South Sudan. She is currently focused on the promotion of peace building, girls and women's rights and youth inclusivity in South Sudan's politics. Her current project in her native country, focuses on resolving grassroots conflicts.

HAMZA GHEDAMSI



Young Tunisian activist, Hamza Ghedamsi is a Senior Technician Biologist, he has an experience of more than 8 years of practice in public health: laboratory of medical biology. Parallel to his work, he is pursuing his studies in a Master's degree in Health Law.

In 2013, he founded the Pan-African Youth Initiative, the NGO - Model African Union (MAU), of which he is the chariperson. With MAU, he provided training on the functioning of the African Union, its organs and tools, as well as the crucial role of youth civil society in Africa. Since 2015, he is a member of the founding group of the international network on education for global citizenship "Learn 2 Change".

In 2019, at the initiative of motivated young activists from different countries (Egypt, United States, Tunisia, Jordan, Lebanon...), he founded the association "Global Youth Network for Goal 16 - GYN16", based in Tunisia and focused on SDG 16.



Emerging worlds of African Imaginaries

Panel Discussion



Pedro Afonso Ivo Franco

Moderator

Consultant and working in Cultural and Creative Industries

On this panel we will discuss the importance of traditions in African cultures, the relationship between and the role of tradition and innovation in shaping and reshaping the way the world perceives Africa's past, present and future. Proposing an interdisciplinary discussion, we will address topics and areas such as Languages, Literature, Narratives, Afrofuturism, Decolonisation and Postcolonialism. Through connecting these topics we intend to highlight the contributions that Africa and the Afrodiaspora are making for themselves and the world.

Guests:



Dr. Oduor Obura

Lecturer at Zetech University, Nairobi



Ytasha Womack

Author of Afrofuturism: The World of Black Sci Fi & Fantasy Culture (2013), filmmaker, dancer, independent scholar



Dr. Roland Ndille

Lecturer of history education at the University of the Witwatersrand Johannesburg



Dr. Vimbai Mtombeni

Senior lecturer in the department of African Languages and Culture at Midlands State University, Zimbabwe



Music, film and arts from Africa to the World

Panel Discussion



Jeannot Moukouri Ekobe

Moderator

Dr. des. In Postcolonial Literature

The panel discussion focuses on the issue of art as a catalyst for building a positive image of Africa and poses the hypothesis that the symbolic domain (art) is a more effective ambassador of Africa's image than the purely political domain. On the stage we will invite young Africans who are entrepreneurs in the artistic field. We want to know with them how art/imagination can participate in the production of a positive and conquering image of Africa, an image to be disseminated slowly in the subconscious of all likely to influence the perception that the world has of this continent.

Guests:



Olivier Madiba

Founder and CEO of Kiro'o Games, Cameroon's first video game studio



Marleyne Bandede

Spoken Word Poet, professional voiceover artist and Afrobeats dancer



Kim Poole

Soul-Fusion Performing Artist and Founding Fellow of the Teaching Artist Institute



Daron Bandeira

Berlin & Zanzibar based freelance photographer



Anicet Nemani

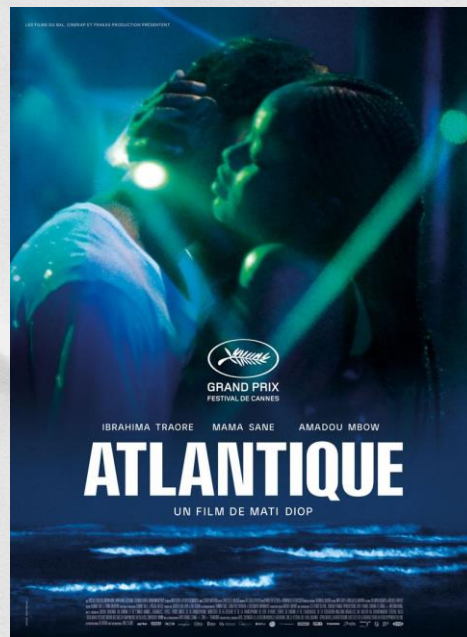
Founder of BiMstr, the music web media of reference in Cameroon



Movie Night

Atlantics

Director: Mati Diop



Along the Atlantic coast, a soon-to-be-inaugurated futuristic tower looms over a suburb of Dakar. Ada, 17, who is betrothed to Omar, is deeply in love with Souleiman, a young construction worker. But she has been promised to another man. One night, Souleiman and his co-workers leave the country by sea, in hope of a better future. Several days later, a fire ruins Ada's wedding and a mysterious fever starts to spread. Little does Ada know that Souleiman has returned.

Atlantics is a Supernatural Romantic Drama in Wolof, which can be watched with English subtitles.

Join us and watch the movie together on teleparty. Please note that you need to have a netflix account and teleparty on your chrome browser in order to join the event.

After the Film a moderated discussion on Zoom is planned.



SLOT 1 (Thursday 3, 12am)

The role of mobile technology in healthcare

Mariatheresa Samson Kadushi

Founder / CEO - Mobile afya (Afya info company limited) A Tanzanian innovator working to transform digital health in Africa. I have founded Mobile afya, the first USSD application in Africa using internet-free mobile technology to provide basic health information and education in local and native languages starting with Swahili in Tanzania, East Africa. The application is developed by medical professionals, doctors, engineers and tech innovators. I'm passionate about disruptive innovations, human centered solutions and public health with a goal of impacting health and wellbeing of Africans using mobile technology as a transformative medium. I'm a recipient of IVLP - a state fellowship for emerging African leaders under the US Department of State, a NTDs youth champion, a YALI alumni and an alma mater of Kampala International University under ICT (Information, Communications & technology).

Dr. Hilderruth Allan Shoo

A Tanzanian Medical doctor and public health specialist working to advance access to health information for all. I have Co-founded Mobile afya, the first USSD application in Africa using internet-free mobile technology to provide basic health information and education in local and native languages starting with Swahili in Tanzania, East Africa. The application is developed by medical professionals, doctors, engineers and tech innovators. I have an extensive experience in assisting and enabling institutions in healthcare to establish improved working models. I have facilitated and trained healthcare providers in integrating new services and systems such as essential newborn care (ENC) program and assessment of fever case management and referral systems at health facility delivery point. I'm a YALI alumni - a state and regional fellowship program for young African leaders, a graduate of Hubert Kairuki memorial university – Doctor of medicine (MD) and University of Dar es salaam – Master of public health (MPH).

About the Workshop

A session to explore and rethink the healthcare system in Africa and the potential impact of mobile technology. For the past 18 months, the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the loopholes in our healthcare systems, therefore the need for improvements. How can mobile technology play part in it? Mobile Health a component of eHealth is defined by the World Health Organization Global Observatory for eHealth (GOe), as a medical and public health practice assisted by mobile devices such as cellular phones including smartphones, monitoring devices, personal digital assistants, and other wireless technologies. Mobile health technology has shown to improve quality of care, closing health inequalities gap, increase access to health-related information and promote positive health behavior changes. Several studies such mHealth technologies in clinical trial: Opportunities and challenges by (Kakkar, et al.,2018) have shown that there is improvement in patient recruitment and engagement, patient satisfaction, increased coverage, speed and convenience of data capture with use of mobile health technologies.



The African Union's vision for the Silencing the Guns in Africa

Nicolau Miguel

Nicolau has over 7 years of professional experience from multinational organizations. Currently, he serves as program assistant at the Silencing the Guns Unit, Peace and Security Department (AUC). He aspires working towards the aspirations of the AU Agenda 2063. He also represents a German consultancy organization (Part-time), InnoVision Concepts GmbH, for the socio-political and educational projects for Africa Sub-Saharan region. He is alumnus of the Mandela Washington Fellowship program (USA), Public Management course at Virginia Tech – (SPIA - School of Public and International Affairs); and the African Presidential Leadership Program, in Cairo – Egypt. He is a selected delegate as Peace Ambassador for the One Young World Summit 2021. For the Model African Union Bayreuth Conference 2021, as an AU youth volunteer and states-minded young dynamic leader, I aspire to share my perspectives on what needs to be done for the Africa we Want, the role of the youth as key stakeholders for the global agenda.

About the Workshop

The African Union envisions a peaceful, prosperous and integrated Africa in line with its Agenda 2063. In order to silence the guns on the continent, several collective efforts have been in place. The AUMR (Master Roadmap on Practical Steps to Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020) is a strategic document, adopted in January 2017 by the AU Assembly after a Retreat in Lusaka, Zambia in November 2016 convened by the AUPSC (AU Peace and Security Council). The AUMR is composed of 5 aspects: Political, Social, Economic, Legal, and Environmental. The implementation of the initiative for the silencing the guns has been extended for another decade (2030).

Challenges in African Integration and the Role of African Companies

Helder Eduardo Pinto Afonso

Helder holds a Master's in Governance and Regional Integration from the Pan African University and he is a leading student associative of youth, with an extensive experience in civic engagement and Youth Development programs. He is one of the Community Amplifiers at the Mandela Institute of Development Studies (MINDS). He served as the Program Support Officer at the Centre for Mathematics Science and Technology Education in Africa, in Nairobi, Kenya through African Union, where he was part of the research on the Situational Analysis on the Status of STEM Education towards policy development in Africa with the Association for Development Education in Africa (ADEA).

Helder worked as IT Analyst at Tata Consultancy Service, Chennai India, he also worked as Costumer Technician at the Public Company of Telecommunication, Luanda, Angola. Helder served as the President of The National Student Association of Privates Universities of Angola where he developed the Liquid Startup Lab an initiative that helps young students to transform their ideas into real businesses.



About the Workshop

The African continent has been facing different challenges; the need to have political stability and in achieving its own economic freedom have been a matter of discussion. Major actions were put in place towards the objective of the African Union Agenda2063 and the need to implement the will of the founders of the Africa. The need to understand the African Continental Free Trade Area and its main challenges in African integration is in fact what we are looking at. However, it is considered that AfCFTA is set to be one of the largest market in the world and one of the core for Africa's Development, it is important to understand the key issues for Regional Integration in Africa as well as the forces and the main actors to drive the change aimed. It is important to understand whether the African local industry is ready for the process as well as if the government initiatives consider the need to have a strong local industry. Theories of regional integration suggest that economy of scale, specialization and comparative advantages are result and part of the process of a strong integration. However, it is necessary that these actions look at the need to boost the local industries through PPP in emergent sectors, more so there have to be initiatives that motivates local entrepreneurs to give solutions for the local issues. The governments have to engage private sectors, local organizations and youth led organizations in achieving regional integration.

MAUART SPACE21 invisible BLACK BODIES IN BAYREUTH

Mduduzi Khumalo

The utopian Stammtisch (round table) for participation and co-determination as an un*learning practice is continuity and resistance which will reflect about the artist's research on how BIPOC are legally, formally, and informally excluded from institutional spaces by not being granted rights to legally fight institutional practices of appropriation and how to make universities a more inclusive space for all. One main issue, therefore, is to negotiate legal rights for marginalized students and teachers in university spaces.

While meeting for the Stammtisch we will revisit the MAUART exhibition developed from 2018 on. The exhibition and the discussions will critique and question power dynamics in institutional spaces. This critique is based on personal experiences made in different institutional academic spaces while being an artist. Institutional spaces often cultivate a culture of power, fear, and oppression. These exclusionary mechanisms are especially powerful and exclusionary for marginalized people in terms of intersectionality. The artist will try to open closed spaces by using the means of art. The Stammtisch will pose the following question: What can we learn from art, culture, and continuity in order to open institutional spaces for all?



SLOT 2 (Thursday 3, 14.30am)

Decolonizing education for innovation, storytelling and impact reportage in Africa: enunciating the nuances

Amina Abdulazeez

Amina Abdulazeez works as a Researcher with the UK Open University under the Decolonizing Education for Peace in Africa (DEPA) project. Before joining the (UK Open Uni./PADEAP), she worked as Research and Communications Officer at Savannah Centre for Diplomacy, Democracy and Development (SCDDD), an Abuja Based non-Governmental Think-tank.

In 2019, Amina represented her country in the Model African Union in Addis Ababa Ethiopia, where she actively participated and chaired a committee in the Simulation of the African Committee on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC).

A research enthusiast, with over eight years work experience in public and development sector. her areas of work and research interests includes Public & Development policy, Gender, Education & empowerment, public health, and peacebuilding and conflict resolution, Amina has a spell in community development and advocacy and she enjoys championing the cause of sustainable and equitable development and a world that works for every everyone in it.

About the Workshop

The hegemony of western-inspired education often constrains conversation about decolonization - which often times creates an imbalance in power relations between the so-called 'western' and 'non-western' contexts and discourse about the enormous wealth and resources of the continent. This often times leads to a situation of single story such as the outburst of health epidemics, (from polio, yellow fever, cholera, malaria, typhoid, lassa fever, ebola among others) to debt, corruption and bad leadership.

As much as these western claims are not totally untrue, the aim of this discussion is to enunciate the nuances about the continent of Africa in a frank and open discussion on innovations, concepts and solutions for the challenges of our time as it relates to Pan African Education project.



Made in Africa: how Rwanda can be a gatekeeper for technology in the Great Lakes region

Camila Andrade

PhD candidate in Political Science at Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), with part of the PhD at Universidad Nacional de Rosario (UNR). Master in International Relations at Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC), with field research in Rwanda. Project Specialist at Senac-SC and International Relations Analyst at UNIJORGE-Bahia. She is an assistant researcher at the Brazilian Center for African Studies (CEBRAFRICA) and creator of My Ruanda Brasil. Her research areas are African History, Rwanda, African International Politics and Decentralized International Cooperation (CID).

About the Workshop

27 years after the Genocide, Rwanda is considered an African model of reconstruction post-conflict, seeing as an example in different themes, like accountability, internal security, environment, etc. With the Vision 2020, the strategic policy that guided the country during 20 years, Rwanda changed a lot of work fields, thinking of a different perspective away from the social machinery of the genocide. In this context, the country has been strengthening ties with its neighbors and having a significant role in regional blocs like EAC and African Union, and international blocs like IOF and the Commonwealth. Considering its foreign policy of expanding to have a global role in international politics, the aim of exposition is to comprehend how Rwanda can be (and act like) a gatekeeper for technology in the Great Lakes region, being part of the campaign of “Made in Rwanda” and “Made in Africa”. In this logic both Africa and Rwanda win in a perspective that Rwanda attracts partners to invest/do business in the region or in the continent, diversifying Rwandan and African relations with other countries. Also, Rwanda as an African gatekeeper helps the country decrease its external dependency, having more room for maneuver.

Sustainable Empowerment; the pathway to Emergence in Grassroot Communities

Clement Ngosong

With close to 3 years of experience with youth empowerment issues, Clement Ngosong is a twenty-year old dynamic leader who inspires and empowers young people with the tools and resources needed to effect change within their communities. Clement is currently pursuing his degree in Electrical and Electronics Engineering at Ashesi University as a MasterCard Scholar and he also serves as the founder of Youths Inspiration, an initiative he founded owing to his strong conviction that the youth can engineer change in every society when supported with the right skills and resources. Since 2018, Clement has impacted and influenced over 2,000 young people in Cameroon, as his counselling, mentorship, and guidance have radically rerouted many students' paths. Clement's work and impact have been acknowledged by several organizations – including the MasterCard Foundation, the Melton Foundation, Clinton Foundation, Talloires Network, Global Changemakers, and Open Dreams. His vision is to see empowered African youths who are solving the most pressing challenges in their communities.



About the Workshop

The Workshop will be focused on shedding light on how local organizations in Cameroon like Open Dreams and Local Youth Corner are driving change in the country through Sustainable Empowerment in Education and Peace Building respectively. The presentation will also introduce the audience to Design Thinking and Theory of Change framework that can be used as a tool for investigating and proposing innovative solutions to the most pressing challenges of our time. The ambitions of the session are to inspire the audience with the amazing work some local organizations in Cameroon are doing, ignite their interest in civic engagement, and to introduce the audience to some of the frameworks they could use to explore challenges within their community.

Everyday Racism: Recognize and Act!

Thierry Kenmegne

Born in Cameroon, Thierry Kenmegne is a professional electrical engineer. Chairman of the board and co-founder of the association AVHS (African Adult Education Center). He is responsible for the implementation of various projects together with the "Center for International Migration and Development" (CIM). He is also active as an education referent for global learning with a focus on sustainable educational development, migration, racism and other development-related topics.

About the Workshop

What exactly does racism mean? What does it mean to experience racism? Which stereotypes do people unconsciously reproduce? Where do racist and discriminatory prejudices hide in everyday life? How am I affected by racism myself – or when do I behave in a racist manner? How can you counteract certain behaviors?

These questions and experiences that the participants bring with them from their everyday context will serve as a basis for discussion. In addition, there will be space to talk about current racist-motivated incidents. At the end we will work out possible ways of dealing with everyday racism.



SLOT 3 (Friday 4, 9.30am)

Reflections on Economic, Social, and Military responses of the COVID-19 in Africa

Jonas Ecke

Dr. Jonas Ecke is a scholar, activist and practitioner. He is a Lecturer at the Department of Humanities and Social Sciences at Ashesi University in Ghana.

His PhD research focuses on the post-return integration of refugee returnees in West Africa. He has also gathered extensive work experiences with international humanitarian organizations in several African countries (e.g. CARE in Ghana and Togo, Mentor Initiative in Liberia and Everyday Peace Indicators project in South Sudan). He works with African students in amplify efforts to make global aid programs adaptable and relevant to local contexts and aspirations.

In addition, he joins scholars and activists around the world to make Covid vaccines accessible to people around the world, regardless of economic background or geographic location, and writes journalistic and academic analyses for sites such as Counterpunch.

About the Workshop

Covid-19 has brought the way our societies operate to a standstill, and catalyzed profound transformation in the way our societies work. On the African continent, where Covid-19 was better managed than anywhere else, the pandemic has brought into the fore how societies leverage immense creativity and decisive actions to address healthcare calamities, present and past, as well as unearthed long-standing inequities. This workshop will give the attendees an opportunity to reflect on how their societies have changed, and bring this reflection into conversation with the research on African economic, social and military Covid-responses conducted by Dr. Ecke, Dr. Elena Rosca, senior lecturer at Ashesi University, as well as their students, who have captured African Covid responses from diverse national and methodological perspectives as part of an international research project coordinate by Connecticut College.

The role of young people in the fight against Infodemic and Misinformation on social media platforms

Sandra Delali Kemeh

Ms. Kemeh is the current chairperson of the Africa Youth Advisory Board (AYAB) for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) under the African Union Commission (AUC). She is also the focal point for achieving Priority 2 on the board, which is: Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk. Ms Kemeh has extensive experience in meaningfully engaging young people in DRR through her experience from the United Nations Major Group for Children and Youth (UNMGCY) DRR working group, where she was the focal point for West and Central Africa for two years. Through holding consultations, co-developing side events and workshops, reviewing policy among other tools of engagement, she has advocated for meaningful youth inclusion and facilitate the capacity building of young people in DRR processes.



Ms. Kemeh has been meaningfully involved in DRR intergovernmental process on the African Union level, through Biennial meetings, Africa Working Group on Disaster Risk Reduction (AWG DRR) meetings and the Africa Risk Platform (AfRP) for Disaster Risk since 2014. Her engagement in these processes was pivotal to the formation of AYAB DRR. Her academic and research interest has accorded her the status of a young scientist on the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR) Programme and a fellow of the African Good Governance Network (AGGN) which is sponsored by The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD). She has a joint masters from the United Nations University - Institute of Environment and Human Security and the University of Bonn, Germany. Ms. Kemeh also has working experience with multiple UN agencies such as the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), and the German development agency (GIZ) on pragmatic approaches in reducing climate risks.

About the Workshop

The theme of this year's Model African Union Conference "Made in Africa. Innovations, Concepts and Solutions for the Challenges of our Time" is to be the foundation of a progressive portrait of the African continent. With rising numbers of African youth becoming Facebook and Twitter users in Africa, social media is becoming an important tool for facilitating interpersonal communication. Unfortunately, media reports suggests that infodemic and misinformation are on the rise on social media platforms. This is a cause for concern as infodemic and misinformation causes confusion, fear and panic which ultimately stagnates progress in society. Meanwhile, it should be noted that, young people between the ages of 13 and 30 constitute Africa's heaviest users of social media.

The workshop seeks to discuss how young people can use social media responsibly to reduce the occurrence of infodemic and misinformation. It will also provide a platform to amplify responsible social media etiquette and exchange of experiences in fighting infodemic and misinformation on social media platforms.

Youth Empowerment through skill development & Innovation

Kester Audu

Kester Audu has over 10 years of educational and professional work experience. Kester is passionate and committed to Innovation, Corporate Business Transformation & Entrepreneurship in Africa. He initiated and coordinated the Thinking and Learning Lab (A leadership and Mentorship Platform for Start-ups and Graduates) for 3 years. He has coached and mentored businesses in areas such as, Agritech, Agribusiness, Education, Fintech, HealthCare, Logistics, IoT and Artificial Intelligence among others. Kester brings in his experience in Innovative Venture Support and Business Development Process. His coaching and mentoring instincts comes with valuable industry insights within major sectors in Nigeria, & he provides in-depth & practical knowledge about political, socio-economic activities in Nigeria and his extensive network allows for accessible information and adequate resourcing. Some of Kester's footprints can be traced within the following ecosystem.



About the Workshop

The aim of the Workshop titled “Youth Empowerment through skill development & Innovation” is to have an open discussion with participants about youth empowerment in Nigeria and Africa through skill development and innovation. With an introduction to the Startup and Innovation Ecosystem in Nigeria as an example of Youth Empowerment the Workshop aims to find Pan-African solutions for African skill-development and interconnections in the Startup ecosystem.

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Innovation in a New Era of Regional Integration

Caroline Obure

Caroline is a Communications & Program manager with the University of Nairobi, a Regional Integration Consultant, an “African voice on the ground”, authority in the training and practice of Regional Integration. Caroline’s work focuses on Managing and Implementing Regional Integration Programs, Health Systems Strengthening for UHC, Assessing, Measuring & Monitoring Regional Integration, among others. Caroline is an Alumnus of Institute of Regional Integration and Development (IRID) at The Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Moi University and African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (IDEP United Nations) - “Making AfCFTA Work”. Caroline has been a panelist in many Regional Integration forums. She is an ardent believer in the African Agency & Agenda 2063 and is passionate about “Winning hearts for Africa” through raising awareness of the African shared heritage.

About the Workshop

For 57 years, the African Union has made slow but steady progress in its efforts towards integration; The Africa Unions Agenda 2063 is the Africa’s blueprint and master plan that envisions “The Africa We Want” which is a Pan-African Vision of “An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens, representing a dynamic force in the international arena”. This vision is underpinned by seven key aspirations, a 10-year implementation framework and the agenda 2063 flagship projects which encompass amongst others infrastructure, education, Trade, science, technology, arts and culture as well as initiatives to secure peace on the continent.

COVID-19 pandemic which began as a simple localized outbreak in Wuhan, China in December 2019 quickly propagated across the globe, threatening the existence of humanity, global economic integration, value chain supplies and human mobility in general. As of 28th May 2021, nearly 169 million confirmed cases of COVID-19 infections had been recorded around the globe with more than 3.5million people having succumbed to the disease (WHO, 2021).



Economic disruptions caused by COVID-19 have resulted in an unprecedented stagnation and in some cases collapse of international trade in 2020 (UNCTAD, 2020). The International Monetary Fund projected that, world trade volume of goods and services will contract by 10.4 percent in 2020 and grow by about 8 percent in 2021. The subdued trade volumes reflect in part, possible shifts in supply chains as firms re-shore production to reduce vulnerabilities from reliance on foreign producers. While all countries are expected to suffer large drops in exports and imports, tourism- dependent economies will experience larger declines due to restrictions of travel and consumers fear of contagion. Oil exporters have suffered a severe terms-of-trade shock with the decline in oil prices.

This session will be hinged on the 3rd Flagship project, Establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), innovations, concepts and solutions around “Making AfCFTA Work” in the era of Covid 19 pandemic”

Engaging in sustainable development in the COVID-19 Era: case study of Sao Tomé and Príncipe

Bruno Dias Vaz da Silva

Bruno D. Silva, current leader of the NGO- YFC (Yoth For Christ) in Sao Tome and Principe and Coordinator of the Participatory Management of Mangroves project in São Tomé by the NGO OIKOS Cooperação e Desenvolvimento, graduated in Economic and Business Sciences / Business Management from the university Lusíada of STP. He provides consulting services in organizational management for companies and organizations. He collaborates with different national bodies on issues related to the social, economic and cultural development of his country. His biggest dream is to make his country a place where local residents like and want to live.

About the Workshop

The present workshop wants to challenge its participants to tackle challenges endorsed by the COVID-19 pandemic in Sao Tome and Principe (STP) through creativity and teamwork. STP is an archipelago divided into six districts and the Autonomous Region of Principe, located 350 km off the West African coast. With a fragile economy, the country is driven by agriculture, tourism and foreign investment. With the COVID-19 pandemic, STP's economy was directly affected, especially by losses in the tourism industry. According to the World Bank, 9.5% of the country's Gross Domestic Product has contracted, potentially causing the country's first recession since 1990.

From the presentation of this case study, the participants will be challenged to create solutions that aim to corroborate to overcome the challenges evidenced by the pandemic in STP that hinder the sustainable development of the country. The methodology proposed for the activities will be the "Design Thinking", an iterative process in which we seek to understand the user, challenge assumptions, redefine problems and create innovative solutions, through a human-centric approach.



SLOT 4 (Friday 4, 11.30am)

Building African Women's Self Agency Through Sex- Education

Lolo Cynthia Ihesie

Lolo Cynthia is a women's rights advocate, sexuality educator, and advocacy officer at Niyel. Recognized by Leading Ladies Africa, Lolo Cynthia Ihesie is listed as one of the 100 most influential, powerful, and innovative Nigerian women in 2020. She is the first Nigerian UNHCR- Telling the real story media ambassador and an Aspen New Voices Fellow 2020. In 2019, she was recognized as Y! Naija media person to watch and the recipient of the social media for social good award. She created a comprehensive sexuality education toolkit – My Body Is Mine - a human rights-based and gender-focused approach to sexuality education addressing scientifically accurate information. However, it also goes beyond information by helping young people to explore positive values regarding their sexual and reproductive health. Her curriculum includes discussion about family life, culture and gender roles, media and body image, consent, relationships and also addresses human rights, gender equality, discrimination, and sexual abuse. The My Body Is Mine toolkit is used by both parents and schools in Nigeria, USA, UK, India, South Africa and Ghana. Her MYBIM Children consent posters have been translated into three languages (English, Portuguese and French) and used by over 50,000 people worldwide. Her initiative "No Day Off" initiative tackles period poverty and improves class attendance in school girls by providing them with washable and reusable sanitary pads. Under this initiative, she partnered with the State Government in Nigeria and trained over 250 trained school girls and adolescents on how to make their own reusable sanitary pads and how to nurture proper menstrual healthy hygiene. She also employs digital media advocacy and sex chat events to go beyond teenagers by targeting young women and urging them to get on modern contraceptives by providing free condoms and on-the-spot contraceptives

About the Workshop

It is not uncommon to hear people whisper the word - sex- like a dirty word. The taboo and shame around that word are heightened in Africa especially amongst women as it's viewed as an act that devalues us. This shame and stigma have perpetuated ignorance and dangerous narratives that rob women of agency around their bodies and identities. It has denied women the existence of a fundamental aspect of their being except they choose to use it to serve men. Living with these societal rules make it difficult for women to act independently or make free choices of what they do with their bodies without fear of punishment, My workshop will highlight the transformative power of comprehensive sexuality education on girls and women towards finding their self-agency and identity. It will reveal the connecting dots between becoming empowered through accurate information and making informed decisions about your life and body.



Workshop with Elizabeth Wathuti (Kenyan climate activist and the founder of Green Generation Initiative)

Elizabeth Wathuti

Elizabeth Wathuti is a passionate environmentalist and climate activist from Kenya. She is the founder of Green Generation Initiative (GGI), and the Head of Campaigns and coordinator of Daima coalition for the protection of urban green spaces at the Wangari Maathai Foundation. She is a full member of The Greenbelt Movement, board member of the Elephant neighbors center and a youth council member of the International Reserva: The Youth Land Trust. Due to her outstanding passion, leadership and personal commitment to environmental conservation and societal issues, she received the Wangari Maathai Scholarship Award from The Greenbelt Movement, Kenya Community Development Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation. She has previously served as the chairperson of Kenyatta University Environmental Club and holds a Bachelor's degree in Environmental studies and Community development. She has been honored internationally with The Diana Award 2019 for going above and beyond in her daily life to create and sustain positive change. Her environmental conservation efforts were also recognized by the Duke and Duchess of Sussex. Elizabeth was a regional finalist for Africa for the UN Young Champions of the Earth 2019 due to the impact that Green Generation Initiative which nurtures young people to be conscious of the environment while promoting green projects has had. While attending the climate change conference of parties (COP25) in Madrid, Spain, she received the young climate champion 2019 award from the Green Climate Fund (GCF). She was also named by the Commonwealth as a regional finalist for Africa and Europe for the 2020 Commonwealth Youth Awards for excellence in development work. Elizabeth has showcased her climate action solutions in over 10 high level international conferences such as; Global Landscapes Forum in Germany, 12th International seminar on sustainable regions in Spain and also the UNFCCC resilient frontiers conference that took place in Songdo, South Korea in April 2019, No Planet B international forum in Lisbon, Portugal which took place on the 29th February, 2020 and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) African presidential dialogue in Ethiopia among many others.

Linking Women to Careers of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics)

Gloria Nassary

Gloria Nassary is a young Tanzanian leader, working towards promoting the Sustainable development goals; gender equality, education, youth livelihood, economic growth and environment. She is a researcher at the Youth Think Tank Program with MasterCard Foundation and Restless Development. She has worked with YUNA, UNC, CYNESA Tanzania, Sahara ventures, JamiiForums and Capacitate Consulting, Tanzania International Model United Nations Assembly as a Vice President, Young Leaders Forum, Women Advancing Africa; TED global; Bayreuth Model African Union, Sahara Sparks 2018, KAN Festival deputy director (MS-TCDC), International Student Energy Summit. In 2016, the United Nations Tanzania Office awarded her an award of Tanzania SDG champion as the among first 50 trained champions to appropriate and recognize her role in implementation of SDG in Tanzania. Gloria is a researcher and currently working as a project lead of the Youth and Philanthropy and as well as a southern regional coordinator for Innovation for Change Africa Hub through the Africa Philanthropy Network (APN).

Gloria is currently interning at United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as a Communications and Partnership Intern.



The path forward goes through unpaved roads

Guilherme Prezotti

With a degree in veterinary medicine from the Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais in his native country of Brazil, and a master's degree from Texas Tech University, Guilherme Prezotti has abundant experience in the fields of sustainable development, agricultural enhancement, and environmental conservation. He has cultivated a global perspective, working in over half a dozen countries, including Malawi and Mozambique. Guilherme currently serves as the Global Science Project Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy, and his recent projects involve working with small-scale farmers to overcome challenges in crop and livestock productions while minimizing environmental degradation.

About the Workshop

The African continent is home to over 1.2 billion people and 60% of its territory is arable land. It has many resources that can contribute to its success including a young workforce. Guilherme's workshop titled "The path forward goes through dirt roads" explores the questions: What are the opportunities for sustainable, long term development for rural Africa? What are the roles that rural African youth can play in the continent's future to combat climate change and ensure adaptation? Can this critical time create a moment we can seize to spring into action?

Roadmap towards sustainable innovations in Africa

Kelvin Ebuka Ude

An award winning community development and youth engagement expert with experience spanning over years working with social enterprise, youth led organizations and civil society initiatives. A 2018 Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Open Minds Young Voices fellow, a 2019 African Young Leaders Fellow, Accra Business School, Member 2019 Model African Union Addis Ababa, certified leadership development expert from EQUIP John C. Maxwell, MBA in Global Leadership and Management from Accra Business School. A graduate of The African Centre for Leadership Strategy and Development (Centre LSD Set 13) Kelvin Ebuka Ude is a global leadership speaker, management consultant and youth engagement expert. A certified result-orientation, project coordination, foresight development professional, and an experienced partnership development, Monitoring and Evaluation, with intriguing interpersonal and communication skills and understanding people management skills, evident from his role as former coordinator Progressive Youth for Africa Leadership and Empowerment Initiative (PYAFRICA), Pioneer Coordinator, FES Open Minds Young Voices, a network of proactive youths trained to champion advocacies in youth development, project management, social democracy, leadership, Conflict resolution, climate change and gender based issues and currently the National Project Director, Renew Nigeria Movement.

About the Workshop

It is important that with the present realities we look into adaptability of ideas and business models. It has also become glaring that what worked might not work now, therefore, in designing business models we must consider its workability and adaptability to the new normal. Workshops like this should focus on helping participants look for innovative and sustainable ways of building enterprises that are afro-centric and yet global in standard.



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