SOAS AFRICA CONFERENCE 2017

IMAGINING AFRICA’S FUTURE: LANGUAGE, CULTURE, GOVERNANCE, DEVELOPMENT

20TH AND 21ST OF JULY 2017

BRUNEI GALLERY LECTURE THEATRE
SOAS UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
PROGRAMME
DAY 1 – 20 JULY 2017

9am-9.30am – Registration

9.30-9.45am - Welcome by SOAS Director Baroness Valerie Amos CH and Conference Convenors Friederike Luepke, Mashood Baderin, Paul Asquith and Angelica Baschiera

9.45- 11.45am – Panel 1
‘Creating and Claiming Identities’

PANELLISTS

Rama Salla Dieng (SOAS University of London) – Land, Culture, Development and Governance in Africa: A Senegalese case study

Rebecca Rwakabukoza (Independent Researcher) – Right to Histories: Using New Media to Re-Package Historical information to Provide Access to Ugandans

Camille Jacob (Portsmouth University) – Language change, elite closure and academic responsibility in postcolonial Algeria

Lutz Marten (SOAS) & Sun Xiaomeng (Beijing Foreign Studies University) – Trajectories of language policies, literature planning, and language ownership in Hausa and Swahili

Robtel Neajai Pailey (University of Oxford) – Between Rootedness and Rootlessness: How Sedentarist and Nomadic Metaphysics Simultaneously Challenge and Reinforce (Dual) Citizenship Claims for Liberia

Amidu Sanni (Lagos State University) – Standardizing African Arabic Orthography for New Knowledge: The Yoruba (Nigeria) Example

CHAIR: Friederike Luepke (SOAS) - Conference Convenor

11.45am-1.30pm – Lunch in Market Place – Brunei Suite

1.30-3.30pm – Panel 2
‘Actors and Perspectives in the future of African development’

PANELLISTS

Kenneth Kapalu Muzata (University of Zambia) – Policy Inconsistencies in Language of Instruction: A Vehicle for the Extinction of Minority Languages in Zambia

Salvatore Mancuso (University of Cape Town) – Rebuilding the future of the Somali legal system: towards a new mixed jurisdictions?

Mari Dumbaugh (University of Basel) – Hidden agendas, unintended consequences: examining the global north’s project of bringing reproductive rights to sub-Saharan Africa, re-imagining the future of family planning interventions

Detlef Muller-Mahn (University of Bonn) – Future-making as space-making: large scale land use change and the transformation of rural Africa

Onyekachi Wambu (AFFORD) – Africa on the Move? Migration and Mobility in 21st Century Africa
Christopher Cramer (SOAS) – *The Industrialisation of freshness and its implications for African development*

CHAIR: Paul Asquith (AFFORD/Centre of African Studies SOAS) - Conference Convenor

3.30- 4pm – Tea break

4 - 5.30pm – GROUP DISCUSSION

Knowledge production, media and access in African studies

with Stephanie Kitchen (International African Institute), Janet Remmington (Routledge, Taylor&Francis Group), Helen Porter (SOAS), Nanjala Nyabola (Independent Researcher), Kadija George (SABLE LitMag)

5.30-6pm – Guided Tour of the photographic exhibition of South African artist Mohau Modisakeng

Meeting point: Brunei Gallery Entrance

6-7.30pm – Keynote lecture – ‘Nigeria between the Past and the Future: Culture, Governance and Development’

by HRH Muhammadu Sanusi II, CON, The Emir of Kano, Former Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria

CHAIR: Stephen Chan (SOAS)

Q&A Session 6.45-7.30pm

7.30-8.30pm – Drink reception

DAY 2 – 21 JULY

9.15-10.00am – Registration and coffee

10.00am-12 pm – Panel 3

‘New visions, new images, new stories’

PANELLISTS

Miriam Pahl (SOAS) – Wars of Existence: Diverging the Trajectories of Technology and the Environment in African Science Fiction

John Simpson (British Council) – Heightened linguistic diversity in African classrooms: the challenge to inclusive education

Judy Kibinge (Film director) - Creating spaces and funding opportunities for East African Artists: the case of Docubox

Louisa Egbunike (Manchester University/SOAS) - Nigerian literature in focus: Writing Nigeria through a ‘new’ lens

Kadija George (SABLE LitMag/University of Brighton) - Creating a festival: inspiring a nation

CHAIR: Nanjala Nyabola (Independent Researcher)

12-1.30pm – Lunch in Market place – Brunei Suite

12.30-1.30 – GROUP DISCUSSION (in ROOM B102)

Alternative forms of Protest in Africa

organised in partnership with The Royal African Society
with James Wan (African Arguments), Jenny Mbaye (City University of London), Nanjala Nyabola (Independent Researcher), Stephen Chan (SOAS) - Co-chairs: Caitlin Pearson (Royal African Society); Anna De Mutiis (Centre of African Studies SOAS)

6.30pm - CLOSING REMARKS by Convenors

6.45-7.15pm - Guided Tour of the photographic exhibition of South African artist Mohau Modisakeng Meeting point: Brunei Gallery Entrance

7.30-11pm – MUSIC PERFORMANCE and CLOSING PARTY in SOAS JUNIOR COMMON ROOM - Main Building Live performance by Coco Mbassi DJ Set by Mogadisco

BRUNEI GALLERY Throughout the two-days conference we will be hosting a special EXHIBITION of South African artist Mohau Modisakeng’s works (currently exhibiting at the 57th Venice Biennale) Curated by Raquel Villar-Pérez (SOAS/CAS) with support from Brunei Gallery


1.30 -3.30pm – Panel 4
‘How Can Africa Claim the 21st Century?’

Alice Nicole Sindzingre (CNRS Paris; SOAS) – Understanding Sub-Saharan Africa’s Growth Paths; The Relevance of the Concept of Cumulative Causation

Alessio Iocchi (L’Orientale, University of Naples) – Security Challenges in the Lake Chad Basin: A narrowing narrative, a broad issue

Jane Bryce (University of the West Indies) – African Futurism: Rewriting the Great Book

Chege Githiora (SOAS) - Language, Linguistics and Governance

CO-CHAIRS: Mashood Baderin (SOAS) - Conference Convenor - and Andrew Thomas (Hunton & Williams)

3.30-4pm – Tea Break

4-6.30pm – FILM SCREENING

Something Necessary (dir. Judy Kibinge, Kenya, 2013, 90 mins) Preview showreel of DOCUBOX films (10 mins)

Followed by an In Conversation between Judy Kibinge, Director, and Lindiwe Dovey (SOAS)