



Concept Note and Provisional Programme

Transforming Knowledge for Africa's Future

International Forum of UNESCO Chairs and Partners convened by the African Union Commission and UNESCO

Under the patronage of H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Addis Ababa, Monday 30 September to Wednesday 2 October 2024

Context

At this inflection point in global development, the future of humanity faces an urgent choice between "breakdown or breakthrough". The "choices we make, or fail to make, today could result in further breakdown and a future of perpetual crises, or a breakthrough to a better, more sustainable, peaceful future for our people and planet". It is an existential choice between continuing on an unsustainable path, or radically changing course. Knowledge is key to radically changing course toward a more just and sustainable future. Knowledge is what gives meaning to the world around us, shapes our understandings, and guides our actions. Yet, dominant models of knowledge generation, validation, distribution, and ultimately use, can no longer respond effectively to the intersecting multi-dimensional crises we face today. Radically changing course to ensure more just and sustainable futures requires a transformation of the ways in which we generate and use knowledge. Additionally, there is need for reformulation of the public dimension of knowledge, science, and innovation, particularly as it has implications within the education and skills development systems in Africa. We must transform knowledge if we are to shape alternative futures of humanity. This is also encapsulated in Agenda 2063, Africa's development blueprint and master plan for transforming Africa into the global powerhouse of the future, with the vision of "An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens, representing a dynamic force in the global arena".⁴

The future of humanity is inextricably linked to Africa's future. Yet, established narratives around the future of the continent continue to reflect the long-standing imbalances in knowledge production and in academic research on Africa. Research remains largely dominated by institutions in, or with close links to, the Global North. Reframing the narrative around Africa's future requires the mobilization of diverse knowledge traditions. Africa is a continent with immense potential for growth and development. However, one of the key challenges hindering progress is the limited access to and utilization of knowledge resources.

¹ UN. 2021. <u>Our Common Agenda</u>. Report of the Secretary-General. New York.

² UNESCO. 2021. <u>Reimagining Our Futures Together: A new social contract for education</u>. Report of the International Commission for the Futures of Education.

³ UNESCO. 2022. <u>Transforming knowledge for just and sustainable futures.</u>

⁴ African Union Commission. 2015. <u>Agenda 2063: The Africa we want.</u>

Transforming knowledge systems is crucial for Africa to overcome the existing barriers and unlock its full potential for sustainable development. The opportunities offered to younger generations for many decades to come will be shaped by how well Africa harnesses knowledge and innovation. There is therefore need for a paradigm shift in how knowledge is generated, shared, and used in Africa, paving the way for a more just, sustainable, and prosperous future. There are profound implications for the futures of higher education and research. A new 'planetary consciousness', drawing upon all the 'archives of the world', is needed to pave the pathways of tomorrow in the context of todays' 'techno-ecological' crises.⁵ Acknowledging, valuing, and mobilizing diverse ways of knowing and understanding the world in the current juncture of global development has implications for the ways in which we design and conduct research, with whom, and for what purposes.

The co-construction of a shared research agenda for the future of Africa must draw from diverse yet complementary forms of knowledge, perspectives and contexts. It implies interdisciplinary, inter-sectoral, cross-cultural, and forward-looking approaches nourished by diverse ecologies of knowledge, which includes valuing and integrating indigenous knowledge systems. A collaborative research agenda further calls for fair and equitable partnerships among universities, think tanks, industry, the youth, as well as civil society organizations, social movements, and communities. More inclusive and collaborative partnerships are key to strengthening the capacity of African research and development ecosystems to transform knowledge generation and use for more just and sustainable futures for Africa and the world.

Aim and objectives

The International Forum of UNESCO Chairs and Partners, *Transforming Knowledge for Africa's Future*, aims to strengthen interdisciplinary and collaborative research capacity in Africa, including through more inclusive and effective South-South and South-South-North research partnerships.

By mobilizing diverse regional and international research networks, the objectives of the International Forum of UNESCO Chairs and Partners are to:

- Examine the implications of diverse future scenarios of Africa for research, science, innovation and development ecosystems on the continent;
- Strengthen collaborative research partnerships and networks between higher education institutions and other research partners in the region and globally;
- Examine and discuss policies and frameworks needed to support knowledge-based economies and innovation-driven societies in Africa;
- Identify and discuss strategies for enhancing access to knowledge, particularly for marginalized communities and underrepresented groups, and dialogue between knowledge systems;
- Discuss the roles of education and capacity-building in nurturing a knowledge-driven society and building a skilled workforce for the future, especially at the tertiary level;
- Create a platform for knowledge exchange, networking, and collaboration among research stakeholders from Africa and beyond.

⁵ Mbembe, A. 2023. <u>Pathways of tomorrow: contribution to thinking commensurate with the planet</u>. Education Research and Foresight Working Paper 32. Par\is, UNESCO.

Approach

Convened within the framework of the African Union Year of Education, the Forum will critically engage with scenarios of projected probable futures and creatively explore alternative possible futures for Africa. In doing so, the Forum will address a range of issues such as: health and well-being; educational transformation; youth, employment, and work; women's rights and gender equality; the ecological and digital transitions; open science, technology and innovation; peace and security; development financing; and governance. The Forum will also explore the implications of these diverse scenarios on research approaches, priorities, and capacity and the way in which networks and partnerships can be diversified in order to strengthen African higher education and research ecosystems. It will therefore contribute to Campus Africa, one of the Flagship Programmes of UNESCO's Priority Africa (2022-2029), and the review process of the African Union's Continental Education Strategy for Africa (2016-2025) and planning for the future. The Forum aims to catalyze a collective effort towards building a knowledge ecosystem that serves the continent's unique needs and aspirations, and ultimately a brighter future for all Africans.

The Forum draws inspiration from the African Union's 2063 vision, as well as the upcoming UN Summit for the Future and the *Pact for the Future*. It will further draw on the report of the International Commission on the Futures of Education, *Reimagining our Futures Together: A new social contract for education (2021)*, the report of the independent expert group on universities and the 2030 Agenda, *Knowledge-driven Actions: Transforming higher education for global sustainability* (2022), as well as UNESCO's Higher Education Roadmap 2030, *Beyond Limits: New ways of reinventing higher education*.

While considering its aim and objectives above mentioned, the Forum will seek to stimulate debate and promote actions through three interrelated approaches: "Envisaging Africa's Future" (Day 1), "Implications for Africa's Research Ecosystems" (Day 2), and "Strengthening Collaborative Research Partnerships across Africa and beyond" (Day 3).

Participants

Organized jointly by UNESCO and the African Union Commission, Department of Education, Science, Technology, and Innovation, the in-person Forum will convene some 500 participants, primarily from the regional and global network of UNESCO Chairs. They will be joined by participants from African and international research partners and networks, policy makers, African think tanks, civil society organizations, industry representatives, youth initiatives as well as other regional and international development partners.

Provisional Programme

Day One – Monday 30 September Envisaging Africa's Future		
	Envisaging Arrica 3 rature	
08:00-09:30	Registration and welcome coffee/tea	
09:30-12:00	High Level Opening Session Room: Nelson Mandela Hall Anthems Welcome	
	Moderator: H.E. Prof. Mohamed Belhocine, Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation. African Union Commission	
	 Ms. Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO H.E. Monique Nsanzabaganwa, Deputy Chairperson, African Union Commission Mr. Claver Gatete, Under Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Africa 	
	Opening Address	
	H.E. Sahle-Work Zewde, President of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and Chairperson of the International Commission on the Futures of Education	
	Launch of the Amharic and Kiswahili versions of 'Reimagining our Futures Together: A New Social Contract for Education', the report from the International Commission on the Futures of Education	
	Interlude	
	Dr. Injairu Kulundu-Bolus, Senior Lecturer, Rhodes University, South Africa	
	Panel Debate: Transforming Knowledge for Africa's Future This Panel brings together leading African thinkers who will bring different perspectives to the theme of the Forum. The speakers will consider the visions of the future presented at the Summit of the Future and Africa's contributions to knowledge, and the role of knowledge transformation in shaping the future of Africa and of the World.	
	Moderator: Mohamed Elfarnawany, Director of Africa Division, UNESCO	
	Keynote Address: H.E. Prof. Mohamed Belhocine , Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, African Union Commission	
	 Prof. Patrick Loch Otieno Lumumba, Founder, PLO Lumumba Foundation, Kenya Dr. Oby Ezekwesili, Senior Economic Advisor, Africa Economic Development Policy Initiative at Open Society Foundation, Nigeria Prof. Paul Zeleza, Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives and Professor of African Studies, Howard University, United States of America Prof. Catherine Odora Hoppers, Research Professor in Pluralistic Societies: Transdisciplinarity, Cognitive Justice and Education, University of Calgary; Professor of Education, Gulu University, Uganda 	
	 Prof. Achille Mbembe, Professor, Wits Institute for Social and Economic Research University of Witwatersrand, South Africa (tbc) 	

12:00-14:00	Lunch
14:00-15:30	Plenary Panel Discussion Envisaging Africa's Futures
	This panel will critically explore trajectories for Africa's future, prompting reflection on notions of inclusion and sustainability. Speakers will envision alternative futures and their implications, share stories and insights from real-world case studies, and lay out tangible recommendations for capacity building and transformative policymaking.
	Room: Nelson Mandela Hall
	Convenor: Christine Kavazanjian (UNESCO)
	Moderator: Gustavo Merino , Director, Division for Social Policies, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO
	Opening remarks: Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO (video message)
	Keynote: Zainab Usman , Founding Director, Africa Program, Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, United States of America
	 Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
	 Rika Preiser, Co-Chair, UNESCO Chair on Complex Systems and Transformative African Futures. Stellenbosch University, South Africa
	 Kouamé Sylvestre Kouassi, Chairholder, Chaire UNESCO Anticipation, Prospective et Territoires Durables, Université Alassane Ouattara de Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire Kais Hammami, Director for Foresight and AI, Islamic World Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ICESCO) Closing remarks: Rita Bissoonauth, Director, UNESCO Liaison Office to the African Union and Representative to Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
15:30-16:00	Tea/coffee break
16:00-17:30	Parallel Sessions I Following the Summit of the Future, this set of Parallel Sessions includes panel discussions on the main topics addressed within the Pact for the Future. UNESCO Chairholders and other experts will consider some of the possible implications of the Pact for Africa's Future and the complex interrelations between regional and international agendas.
	 What is the Future of the Right to Education? A Consultation with UNESCO Chairs and Partners
	Room: Nelson Mandela Hall Languages: English/French
	Convenor: Rolla Moumne (UNESCO) Moderators: Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning, UNESCO and Abdoulaye Salifou, Head of Education, UNESCO Liaison Office to the African Union and Representative to Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia Opening: H.E. Prof. Mohammed Belhocine, African Union Commissioner in charge of Education, Science and Technology and Innovation (tbc)
	Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO (tbc)
	 Keynote: Moira Faul, Senior Lecturer, Geneva Graduate Institute and Executive Director (NORRAG), Switzerland Faranaaz Veriava, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Education Law in Africa, University
	 of Pretoria, South Africa Mark Bray, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Comparative Education, University of Hong Kong, People's Republic of China

- Winnie V. Mitullah, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Women and Community Health, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- **Guédégbe Samson Igor Bidossessi**, Chairholder, Chaire UNESCO Droits de la personne humaine et de la démocratie, Université d'Abomey-Calavi, Benin
- Jouhaina Gherib, Vice-President, International Association of Universities, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Higher Education for Sustainable Development in Africa and Former President, University of Manouba, Tunisia
- Olivier Arvisais, Professor of Education, Université du Québec, Montréal, Canada
- Susan Osireditse Keitumetse, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on African Heritage Studies and Sustainable Development, University of Botswana, Botswana
- George Openjuru, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Lifelong Learning, Vice-Chancellor of Gulu University, Uganda

Discussant: Emmanuel Ganse, UN SDG Young Leader (2022-2024), Benin

Closing remarks: Sobhi Tawil, Director, Future of Learning and Innovation Division, UNESCO

Rapporteur: Hamdi Addow, Associate Programme Specialist, Section of Education Policy, UNESCO

2. Transforming Learning and Skills Development in Africa to Accelerate SDG4 and Continental Education Strategy for Africa (CESA) Commitments

Room: Small Conference Room 1 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Dean Chen (UNESCO)

Moderators: Dimitri Sanga, Director, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education and **Matthew Robert Goldie Scot**, UNICEF Liaison Office to African Union

Opening remarks:

Sophia Ashipala, Head of Education Division, Department of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI), African Union Commission

Adama Coulibaly, Inspector-General, Ministry of National Education, Côte d'Ivoire

Keynote: Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning, UNESCO

- **Dorcas Beryl Otieno**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Entrepreneurship Education for Sustainable Development, Kenyatta University, Kenya
- Biniam Bedasso, Research Fellow, Centre for Global Development, Ethiopia
- Melisew Dejene Lemma, Associate Professor of Hawassa University, member of the UNITWIN Network on Gender, Media and ICTs, Ethiopia
- Xiaohan Bi, Deputy Director, UNESCO-ICHEI
- Jean-Marc Bernard, Head of Country Programmes, Education.org, United States of America

Closing remarks: Shem Bodo, Senior Programs Officer, Association for the Development of Education in Africa

Rapporteur: Dimitri Sanga, Director, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education

3. International Peace and Security: How can Education Impede or Facilitate Long-lasting Peace?

Room: Small Conference Room 2 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Cecilia Barbieri and Kuany Kiir Kuany (UNESCO)

Moderator: Kelsey Shanks, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Education for Peacebuilding and Human Rights, University of Ulster, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Opening remarks: Cecilia Barbieri, Chief of Section of Global Citizenship and Peace Education, UNESCO

- Meke Meite, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Culture of Peace, Université Felix Houphouët-Boigny, Côte d'Ivoire
- Alain Tschudin, Professor and Senior Researcher & Prospective UNESCO Chair "Gandhi-Montessori-Luthuli" on Education for Peace and Transformative Solidarity, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Ademola Akinyoade, co-Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Peace and Citizenship, Afe Babalola University, Nigeria
- Azeem Badroodien, Co-Investigator, PEER Network, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Closing remarks: Kelsey Shanks, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Education for Peacebuilding and Human Rights, University of Ulster, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

4. How can Open Science foster the Transformation of Knowledge that is Necessary to meet Societal Needs?

Room: Caucus Room 3 Language: English Convenors: Sujatha Raman (Australian National University) and Ismael Rafols (Leiden University)

Moderators: Sujatha Raman, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Science Communication for Public Good, Australian National University, Australia and **Ismael Rafols**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Diversity and Inclusion in Global Science, Leiden University, Kingdom of the Netherlands

- **Temilade Sesan**, International Development Consultant, University of Ibadan, Nigeria
- Louise Bezuidenhout, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Diversity and Inclusion in Global Science, Leiden University, Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Rajesh Tandon, Co-Chair of the UNESCO Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, PRIA, India

Rapporteur: Rita Agha Oluwadarasimi, Member, UNESCO Chair in Science Communication for Public Good, Australian National University, Australia

5. Sustainable Development and Financing for Development

Room: Caucus Room 4 Language: English

Convenors: Charles Hopkins and Katrin Kohl (York University)

Moderator: Katrin Kohl, co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Reorienting Education towards Sustainability, York University, Canada and **Zainal Abidin Sanusi**, Professor, Director, Sejahtera Centre for Sustainability and Humanity, International Islamic University of Malaysia, Malaysia

Opening remarks: Charles Hopkins, co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Reorienting Education towards Sustainability, York University, Canada

- Hilligje van't Land, Secretary General, International Association of Universities
- Abdul Husaini, Coordinator, Regional Center of Expertise (RCE) on Education for Sustainable Development, Nigeria
- Xiaozhou Xu, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Entrepreneurial Education, The Zhejiang University, People's Republic of China
- Michael Kakande, Founder and Chairperson, Resilient 40, Uganda
- Mohammad Nurunnabi, Director, Center for Sustainability and Climate (CSC), Aide to the President and Chair in Accounting Prince Sultan University, Saudi Arabia

Closing remarks: Charles Hopkins, co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Reorienting Education towards Sustainability, York University, Canada

Rapporteurs: Anteneh G. Kallo, PhD (c), Addis Ababa University and Lecturer, Hawassa College of Teacher Education, Ethiopia and Ibrahim Akibu Ja'afaru, B.Tech., Estate Surveyor/Valuer, Coordinator/Secretary, Coordinator RCE Minna Youth Network, Nigeria

6. Science, Technology, and Innovation and Digital Cooperation

Room: Caucus Room 5 Language: English

Convenor: Amal Kasry (UNESCO)

Opening remarks: Amal Kasry, Chief of Section for Basic Science, Research, Innovation and Engineering, UNESCO

Workshop moderators:

- Amal Kasry, Chief of Section for Basic Science, Research, Innovation and Engineering, UNESCO
- Widad Mustafa El Hadi, Professor of Information Science, University of Lille, France
- **Keith Holmes**, Research Coordinator, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, UNESCO

Closing remarks: Amal Kasry, Chief of Section for Basic Science, Research, Innovation and Engineering, UNESCO

7. Youth and Future Generations

Room: Caucus Room 6 Language: English

Convenors: Caroline Siebold and Kristina Balalovska (UNESCO)

Moderator: Abdul Rahman Lamin, Programme Specialist, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO Harare

Opening remarks: Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO (video message)

- David Momanyi, Executive Director, Horn of Africa Youth Network, Kenya
- Marleen Temmerman, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Youth Leadership in Science, Health, Gender and Education, Aga Khan University, Kenya
- Kennedy Amone P'Olak, Lecturer, Gulu University, Uganda Rapporteur: Leanne Davey, Consultant, Future of Learning and Innovation Division, UNESCO
- 8. South-South Cooperation to Advance Science, Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development in Africa and the Global South

Room: Caucus Room 10 Language: English

Convenor: Bosen Lily Liu (IESALC, UNESCO)

Moderator: Bosen Lily Liu, Head of Partnership and UN Liaison, UNESCO IESALC Opening remarks: Francesco Pedro, Director, UNESCO IESALC (video message)
Xiaojun Grace Wang, Director a.i. United Nations Office for South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC)

- Eyitayo Olatunde Olakanmi, Associate Professor & UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Manufacturing & Innovation Technologies (UCoSMIT), Botswana
- Nomthandazo Ntlama-Makhanya, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair of Human Rights, University of Fort Hare, South Africa
- Osman Abdulai Ayariga, All-Africa Students Union (AASU), Ghana
- Antoine Kallab, Associate Director, Nature Conservation Center, American University of Beirut (AUB-NCC), Lebanon
- Li Li, Associate Professor at China Agricultural University (CAU), People's Republic of China
- Renato Opertti, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Hybrid Education Innovative Curriculum, Learning, Assessment and Educational Technologies, Universidad Católica, Uruguay; Senior Expert, UNESCO International Bureau of Education, Switzerland

9. Science, Technology and Innovation Foresight for Countries in Africa

Room: Caucus Room 11 Language: English

Convenor: Alexander Sokolov (National Research University – Higher School of Economics, Russian Federation)

Moderator: Alexander Sokolov, National Research University – Higher School of Economics (HSE), Russian Federation

- Mlungisi Cele, CEO, National Advisory Council on Innovation, South Africa
- Petrus Letaba, Professor, University of Pretoria, South Africa
- Driss Guerraoui, Professor, University of Dakhla, Kingdom of Morocco
- Jonathan Calof, UNESCO Chair on Anticipatory Systems for Innovation and Venture Creation, University of New Brunswick; University of Ottawa, Canada; National Research University – Higher School of Economics (HSE), Russian Federation; North-West University, South Africa
- Tanja Hichert, Co-Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Complex Systems and Transformative African Futures, Stellenbosch University, South Africa Rapporteur: Tanja Hichert, Co-Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Complex Systems and Transformative African Futures, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

10. Research Reimagined: Al's role in Africa's future

Room: Caucus Room 12 Language: English

Convenor: Abtar Darshan Singh (Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation, Malaysia)

Moderator and opening remarks: Abtar Darshan Singh, UNESCO Chair on Harnessing Innovations in Technology to Support Teachers & Quality Learning, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Malaysia

- Maurice Nkusi, Head of Instructional Technology, Namibia University of Science & Technology, Namibia
- Patrick Charland, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Curriculum Development, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada
- Jonathan JS Kovilpillai, Program Manager, UNESCO Chair on Harnessing Innovations in Technology to Support Teachers and Quality Learning, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Malaysia
- Janeth Kigobe, Programme Manager, UNESCO Chair on Teacher Education and Curriculum, Open University of Tanzania, United Republic of Tanzania
- Huanhuan Wang, Beijing Normal University, People's Republic of China Rapporteur: Abtar Darshan Singh, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation, Malaysia

17:30-19:30

Welcome Reception and live Ethio-jazz

Day Two – Tuesday 1 October Implications for Africa's Research Ecosystems

09:00-10:00

Plenary Panel Discussion

Futures of Higher Education in Africa

This session considers progress achieved and challenges emerging in the landscape of higher education in Africa. Panelists will discuss the futures of higher education in Africa and share their thinking on what and how higher education can contribute to transforming knowledge.

Room: Medium Conference Hall

Convenors: Abdoulage Salifou and Keith Holmes (UNESCO)

Moderator: Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO
Opening remarks: H.E. Ato Kora Tushune, State Minister of Higher Education, Ethiopia (tbc)
Souleymane Konate, Secretary General, Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l'Enseignement
Supérieur (CAMES), Burkina Faso

Panelists:

- Saidou Madougou, Director, Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI), African Union Commission, Ethiopia
- Mina Kleiche-Dray, Directrice adjointe, Département Sociétés et mondialisation de l'IRD
- Jouhaina Gherib, Vice-President, International Association of Universities, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Higher Education for Sustainable Development in Africa and Former President, University of Manouba, Tunisia
- Alain Kiyindou, Regional Director, Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie (AUF),
 Central and Great Lakes Africa, Cameroon
- Elizabeth Colucci, Director of International Projects, OBREAL

Discussants:

- Pauline Essah, Director of Research and Programmes, Education Sub-Saharan Africa (ESSA), Ghana and United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- George Openjuru, Coordinator, UNESCO Chair on Lifelong Learning, Vice-Chancellor of Gulu University, Uganda

Closing Remarks: Stefania Giannini, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO

10:00-10:30

Overview of UNESCO's Operational Strategy for Priority Africa 2022-2029

UNESCO's Operational Strategy for Priority Africa 2022-2029 will be introduced to outline key objectives, the five flagship programmes, and main expected outcomes for Africa.

Room: Medium Conference Hall

Opening remarks: Firmin Edouard Matoko, Assistant Director-General for Priority Africa and External Relations, UNESCO (video message)

Presenter: Mohamed Elfarnawany, Director of Africa Division, UNESCO

Flagship Programmes

- 1. Campus Africa **Stefania Giannini,** Assistant Director-General for Education UNESCO
- 2. General History of Africa **Stefania Giannini**, Assistant Director-General for Education, UNESCO
- 3. Fostering Cultural Heritage and Capacity Development Lazare Eloundou Assomo, Director of World Heritage, UNESCO
- 4. Harnessing New and Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Development in Africa Rita Bissoonauth, Director, UNESCO Liaison Office Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- 5. Enhance Open Science, Innovation and Technology UNESCO's Initiative Towards Open Access in Africa - **Shaofeng Hu**, Director, Division of Science Policy and Basic Sciences, UNESCO

10.30 – 11.00	Tea/Coffee break
11:00-12:30	Parallel Sessions II These parallel sessions include one on each the five Flagship Programmes of UNESCO's Operational Strategy for Priority Africa (2022-2029) and others on Envisaging Africa's Future: Implications for Africa's Research Ecosystems.
	Flagship Programmes of UNESCO's Operational Strategy for Priority Africa 2022-2029
	 Flagship Programme 1: Campus Africa – Reinforcing Higher Education in Africa Room: Medium Conference Hall
	Closing remarks: Mohamed Elfarnawany, Director of Africa Division, UNESCO Rapporteur: Carmela Salzano, Senior Project Officer, Section for Higher Education, UNESCO
	 Flagship Programme 2: The General History of Africa – Transforming Education and Knowledge Systems Through the Teaching and Learning of the General History of Africa Room: Small Conference Room 1 Languages: English/French Convenor: Mathilde Stoleroff (UNESCO) Moderator: Cecilia Barbieri, Chief of Section, Global Citizenship and Peace Education, UNESCO Opening remarks: Mamadou Ndoye, Expert in Education Policies, former Minister of
	 Augustin Holl, Professor, Chair of the Scientific Committee for the drafting of new General History of Africa volumes, Cameroon Denise Bentrovato, Senior Researcher, University of Pretoria, South Africa Karine Silva, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Education towards Racial Equality, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil Lily Mafela, History and History Education Specialist & Dean, Faculty of Education, University of Botswana, Botswana Rapporteur: Renato Opertti, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Hybrid Education Innovative Curriculum, Learning, Assessment and Educational Technologies, Universidad Católica, Uruguay; Senior Expert, UNESCO International Bureau of Education, Switzerland
	 Flagship Programme 3: Fostering Cultural Heritage and Capacity Development – Innovative Partnerships in Culture: Building Bridges for Sustainable and Socio-economic Development in Africa Room: Small Conference Room 2

Moderator: Lazare Eloundou Assomo, Director of World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Opening remarks: H.E. Nasise Challi Jira, Minister of Tourism, Ethiopia

- Ababa Ayalew, Director General, Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage (ARCCH), Ethiopia
- **Henry Chiwaura**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Preservation and Promotion of cultural heritage for national development, Mzuzu University, Malawi
- Susan Keitumetse, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on African Heritage Studies and Sustainable Development, University of Botswana, Botswana
- Hamady Bocoum, Director, Black Civilizations Museum, Senegal
- **Chimbidzikai Mapfumo**, National Professional Officer, UNESCO Regional Field Office for Southern Africa

Closing remarks: Lazare Eloundou Assomo, Director of World Heritage Centre, UNESCO Rapporteur: Cristina Cusenza, Associate Project Officer for Culture, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa

4. Flagship Programme 4: Strengthening Regional and International Collaboration on Artificial Intelligence Research and Innovation

Room: Caucus Room 3 Language: English

Convenor: Lydia Gachungi and Abdoulaye Salifou (UNESCO)

Moderator: Lydia Gachungi, Communication and Information Regional Adviser, UNESCO Addis Ababa Liaison Office, Ethiopia

Opening remarks: Rita Bissoonauth, Director, UNESCO Liaison Office to the African Union and Representative to Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

- **Sit Fung**, Chief, International Institute of Online Education (IIOE), UNESCO International Centre for Higher Education Innovation, People's Republic of China
- Lishan Adam, Research ICT Africa Network, Ethiopia
- **Souhila Amazouz**, Senior ICT Policy Office, Department of Infrastructure and Energy, African Union Commission, Ethiopia
- Abdoulaye Salifou, Chief of Education, UNESCO Liaison Office Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
- **Taye Girma,** Deputy Director General, Ethiopia Artificial Intelligence Institite, Ethiopia

Rapporteur: Lydia Gachungi, Communication and Information Regional Adviser, UNESCO Addis Ababa Liaison Office, Ethiopia

5. Flagship Programme 5: Enhance Open Science, Innovation and Technology – UNESCO's Initiative Towards Open Infrastructure in Africa

Room: Caucus Room 4 Language: English

Convenor: Amal Kasry (UNESCO)

Moderator: Shaofeng Hu, Director, Division of Science Policy and Basic Sciences, UNESCO and **Amal Kasry**, Chief of Section for Basic Science, Research, Innovation and Engineering, UNESCO

Opening remarks: Shaofeng Hu, Director, Division of Science Policy and Basic Sciences, UNESCO

Keynote: Amal Kasry, Chief of Section for Basic Science, Research, Innovation and Engineering, UNESCO

- Eyitayo Olatunde Olakanmi, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Manufacturing and Innovation Technologies, Botswana International University of Science and Technology, Botswana
- Grace Chibiko Offorma, Professor of Curriculum Studies, University of Nigeria,
 Nigeria
- Widad Mustafa El Hadi, Professor of Information Science, University of Lille, France Closing remarks: Shaofeng Hu, Director, Division of Science Policy and Basic Sciences, UNESCO

Envisaging Africa's Future: Implications for Africa's Research Ecosystems

6. Transforming Research for Just and Sustainable African Futures: Towards New Ecologies of Knowledge

Room: Caucus Room 5 Language: English

Convenor: Leon Tikly (University of Bristol)

Moderator: Leon Tikly, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Transforming Knowledge and Research for Just and Sustainable Futures, University of Bristol, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Keynote: Catherine Odora Hoppers, Research Professor in Pluralistic Societies: Transdisciplinarity, Cognitive Justice and Education, University of Calgary; Professor of Education, Gulu University, Uganda

- **Moira Faul**, Senior Lecturer, Geneva Graduate Institute and Executive Director, NORRAG, Switzerland
- Rajesh Tandon, UNESCO Co-Chair on Community-based Research & Social Responsibility in Higher Education, Founder-Dean, PRIA International Academy, India
- Pauline Essah, Director of Research and Programmes, Education Sub-Saharan Africa (ESSA), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Closing remarks: George Openjuru, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Lifelong Learning, Vice-Chancellor of Gulu University, Uganda

Rapporteur: Leon Tikly, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Transforming Knowledge and Research for Just and Sustainable Futures, University of Bristol, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

7. Embracing Diversity for Africa's Future: Integrating African Knowledge Systems in Education in Africa

Room: Caucus Room 6 Language: English

Convenor: Samuel Amponsah (University of Ghana)

Moderator: Samuel Amponsah, Associate Professor, University of Ghana, Ghana **Keynote: Kewulay H. Kamara**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Futures Education, University of Makeni, Sierra Leone

- Winnie V. Mitullah, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Women and Community Health, University of Nairobi, Kenya
- Wangoola-Wangoola Ndawula, Nabyama (Founder), Mpambo Afrikan Multiversity in Busoga Kingdom, Uganda
- Darla K. Deardorff, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Competences, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Rapporteur: Samuel Amponsah, Associate Professor, University of Ghana, Ghana

8. Rethinking the Curriculum: The Need for Endogenous Education in the 21st Century (Part A)

Room: Caucus Room 10 Language: English

Convenor: Gertrude Namubiru (African Curriculum Association)

Moderators: Jacqueline Onyango, Vice Chairperson and Deputy Curriculum Director, African Curriculum Association (ACA), Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development, Kenya and Belay Kassa, Head of Planning, Organization of Southern Cooperation, Ethiopia

Opening remarks: Ali Kore, Chairperson and Director General, African Curriculum Association (ACA), Chad National Curriculum Centre, Chad

Svein Oesttveit, Director a.i., UNESCO International Bureau for Education

Keynote: H. E. Sheikh Manssour Bin Mussallam, Secretary General, Organisation of South cooperation, Saudi Arabia

- Shubhangi Sharma, Under Secretary General, Organisation of Southern Cooperation, India
- Offorma Grace, Executive member, African Curriculum Association (ACA), Nigeria
- Thomas Osei Kumah, Member, African Curriculum Association (ACA), Ghana Rapporteur: Abdulaziz Kakooza, Curriculum Specialist, African Curriculum Association (ACA), National Curriculum Development Centre, Uganda
- 9. Learning Counts: Spotlight on Basic Education Completion and Foundational Learning in Africa

Room: Caucus Room 11 Language: English

Convenor: Kate Linkins and Pierre Gouëdard (Global Education Monitoring Report, UNESCO)

Moderator: Dimitri Sanga, Director, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education

- **Pierre Gouëdard**, Senior Project Officer (Data & Analysis), Global Education Monitoring Report, UNESCO
- **Sophia Ashipala**, Head of Education Division, Department of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI), African Union Commission (tbc)
- Elifas Tozo Bisanda, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Teacher Education and Curriculum, The Open University of Tanzania, United Republic of Tanzania
- Faranaaz Veriava, Member of the Chair, UNESCO Chair in Education Law in Africa, University of Pretoria, South Africa
- Marleen Temmerman, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Youth Leadership in Science, Health, Gender and Education, Aga Khan University, Kenya

Closing remarks: Dimitri Sanga, Director, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education

Rapporteur: Pierre Gouëdard, Senior Project Officer (Data & Analysis), Global Education Monitoring Report, UNESCO

10. Assessing Al Research and Innovation Capacities for Africa's Leapfrogging in the 4th Industrial Revolution

Room: Caucus Room 12 Language: English

Convenors: Hugue Ngandeu Ngatta and Yoslan Nur (UNESCO)

Moderators: Hugue Ngandeu Ngatta, Programme Specialist for Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, UNESCO and **Yoslan Nur**, Programme Specialist for Natural Sciences Regional Office for Eastern Africa, UNESCO

- **Diana Nyakundi**, Research Fellow at Research ICT Africa, Lead National Researcher for the Readiness Assessment Methodology, Kenya
- Claude Migisha, Digital Development Expert, Lead National Expert for the Readiness Assessment Methodology, Rwanda
- **Joyce Nakatumba-Nabende**, Senior Lecturer, Department of Computer Science, Makerere University, Uganda
- Andrew Masila, Innovation, IT Research and Development Lead, Safaricom, Kenya
- Sharola Odipo, Founder and President, Women in Al Africa, Kenya
- **Leah Davina Junck**, Senior Researcher, University of Cape Town and Research Consultant, Global Centre on Al Governance, South Africa

Rapporteur: David Nderitu, Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, History and Religious Studies, UNESCO Chair on Bioethics, Egerton University, Kenya

12:30-14:00 Lu

Luncr

14:00-15:30	Plenary Panel Discussion The International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development & the Futures of Science, Technology and Innovation in Africa (Part 1) This plenary session will discuss strategies for empowering universities and explore ways to nurture sciences in Africa and beyond, advancing inclusion, diversity, equality, freedom and accessibility in science, technology and innovation. Participants will discuss the roles of universities and centres of excellence in transforming knowledge for Africa's Future. Room: Medium Conference Hall Convenor: Amal Kasry and Lin Wang (UNESCO) Moderator: Sobhi Tawil, Director, Futures of Learning and Innovation Division, UNESCO Keynote speeches: Shaofeng Hu, Director, Division of Science Policy and Basic Sciences, UNESCO Sabine Becker-Thierry, Executive Officer, Office of the Rector, United Nations University Headquarters Saïdou Madougou, Director, Department for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation, African Union Commission (tbc)
	 Sanaa Alsarghali, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Human Rights, Democracy and Peace, An Najah National University, State of Palestine
15:30-16:00	Tea/coffee break
16:00-17:30	
10.00 17.50	 Plenary Panel Discussion The International Decade of Sciences for Sustainable Development & the Futures of Science, Technology and Innovation in Africa (Part 2) Room: Medium Conference Hall Moderator: Amal Kasry, Chief of Section for Basic Science, Research, Innovation and Engineering, UNESCO H.E. Mr. Ato Kora Tushune, Minister of Higher Education, Ethiopia Souleymane Konaté, Secretary General, Conseil Africain et Malgache pour l'Enseignement Supérieur (CAMES), Burkina Faso Sujatha Raman, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Science Communication for the Public Good, the Australian National University, Australia Patrizio Bianchi, Representative of the Network of Italian UNESCO Chairs (ReCUI), Italy Hugue Ngandeu Ngatta, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, UNESCO Rapporteur: Lin Wang, Project Officer of Basic Sciences, Research Innovations and Engineering Section, Natural Sciences Sector, UNESCO

Day Three – Wednesday 2 October

Strengthening Collaborative Research Partnerships and Networks across Africa and beyond

09:00-10:00

Strengthening Collaborative Research Partnerships and Networks

This session will explore strategies to re-balance knowledge and research partnerships for mutual learning and sustainable development. Speakers and participants will explore what it would take to strengthen authentic collaborative research partnerships that empower researchers, institutions and knowledge systems for Africa's future.

Room: Medium Conference Hall

Convenors: Keith Holmes and Abdoulaye Salifou (UNESCO)

Moderator: Sobhi Tawil, Director, Futures of Learning and Innovation Division, UNESCO

Keynote Address: Mina Kleiche-Dray, Director of Research & Deputy Director, Department for Scientific Societies and Globalization, Institut de recherche pour le développement (IRD) (tbc)

- Sonia Bahri, Advisor to the President, French National Commission for UNESCO
- Marema Toure, President, Association of African Women for Research and Development (AFARD-Senegal) / Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA)
- **Obed Ogega**, Programmes Manager, African Academy of Sciences
- Fulgence Likassi-Bokamba, Commissioner for Education, Research and Social
 Development, Communauté économique et monétaire de l'Afrique centrale (CEMAC)
- Taya Owens, US Mission to UNESCO, United States of America
- Abdelbasset Ben Hassen, President, Arab Institute for Human Rights
- William Blake, Director of the Sustainable Earth Institute, University of Plymouth,
 United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Rapporteur: Keith Holmes, Research Coordinator, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, UNESCO

10:00-11:30

Parallel Sessions III

1. Putting African Indigenous Knowledge to work for the Future of Africa

Room: Medium Conference Hall Languages: English/French

Convenor: Rajesh Tandon (PRIA)

Welcome remarks: George Openjuru, Vice-Chancellor, Gulu University, Gulu, Uganda **Shaofeng Hu**, Director, Division of Science Policy and Basic Sciences, UNESCO

- Hélène Kienon-Kabore Timpoko, University Professor (CAMES), Archaeologist, Historian, Anthropologist, Université Félix Houphouët-Boigny de Cocody, Côte D'Ivoire
- Wangoola-Wangoola Ndawula, Nabyama (Founder), Mpambo Afrikan Multiversity in Busoga Kingdom, Uganda
- Alois Porokwa, Maasai Elder, Executive Director, NALEPPO, Manyara, United Republic of Tanzania
- Alice Lamwaka, Director of Indigenous Medicine, Gulu University, Uganda
- Heike Winschiers-Theophilus, Chair on Digital Technology Design with Indigenous Peoples, Namibia Institute of Science & Technology, Namibia

Closing remarks: George Openjuru, Vice-Chancellor, Gulu University, Gulu, Uganda Rapporteur: David Monk, Co-Coordinator, African K4C Centre, Gulu University, Uganda

2. Round Table on Partnerships, with Development Partners of UNESCO and the African Union Commission

Room: Small Conference Room 1 Languages: English/French
Convenor: Julien Pellaux, (UNESCO)

Moderator: Svein Oesttveit, Director a.i., UNESCO International Bureau for Education

- Quentin Wodon, Director, UNESCO International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa, Ethiopia
- **Sophia Ashipala**, Head of Education Division, Department of Education, Science, Technology and Innovation (ESTI), African Union Commission
- Leon Tikly, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Transforming Knowledge and Research for Just and Sustainable Futures, University of Bristol, United Kingdom
- Susan Osireditse Keitumetse, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on African Heritage Studies and Sustainable Development, University of Botswana, Botswana
- John Villiers, Programme and policy officer, European Union Delegation Rapporteur: Keith Holmes, Research Coordinator, UNITWIN/UNESCO Chairs Programme, UNESCO
- 3. Transforming Knowledge: Creating a Future within the Present through Education

Room: Small Conference Room 2 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Florence Ssereo (International Bureau of Education, UNESCO)

Moderator: Overson Shumba, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Mathematics, Science, and Technology Teacher Education for Sustainable Development, Copperbelt University, Zambia

Keynote: Florence Ssereo, Programme Specialist, International Bureau of Education, UNESCO

- Patrick Charland, Chairholder, Chaire UNESCO de développement curriculaire, Université du Québec à Montréal (UQAM), Canada
- Abtar Kaur, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Malaysia
- **Dominica Dipio**, Professor, Makerere University, Uganda
- Renato Opertti, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Hybrid Education Innovative
 Curriculum, Learning, Assessment and Educational Technologies, Universidad Católica
 del Uruguay; Senior Expert, UNESCO International Bureau of Education, Switzerland
 Rapporteur: Paul Mushi, Jordan University College, United Republic of Tanzania

4. Stronger Higher Education and Impactful Doctoral Education for a Stronger African Continent

Room: Caucus Room 3 Language: English Convenors: Hilligje van't Land (IAU) and Jouhaina Gherib (La Manouba University)

Moderators: Wondwosen Tamrat, President, St Mary's University, Ethiopia and Hilligje van 't Land, IAU Secretary General

Welcome remarks: Jouhaina Gherib, Vice President, International Association of Universities, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Higher Education for Sustainable Development in Africa and Former President, University of Manouba, Tunisia Hilligje van't Land, Secretary General, International Association of Universities (IAU)

Keynote Address: Nana Aba Appiah Amfo, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ghana

- Abdul-Rasheed Na'Allah, Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Abuja, Nigeria
- Sunungurai Dominica Chingarande, Vice-Chancellor, Women's University in Africa, Zimbabwe
- Jouhaina Gherib, Vice President, International Association of Universities, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Higher Education for Sustainable Development in Africa and Former President, University of Manouba, Tunisia

Rapporteur: Hilligje van't Land, Secretary General, IAU

5. Transforming Knowledge through Higher Education for the Future of Work and Beyond

Room: Caucus Room 4 Language: English

Convenor: Carmela Salzano (UNESCO)

Moderator: Abdoulaye Salifou, Head of Education, UNESCO Liaison Office to the African Union and Representative to Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Opening remarks: Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning, UNESCO

- Titus Ngatia, Director, Future of Education & Work in Africa (FEWA), Conference 2024, C.E.O Effortless Insight Africa, Kenya
- Willy Ngaka, UNESCO Chair in Literacies, Green Skilling and Capacity Development for Sustainable Communities in Africa, Kyambogo University, Uganda
- Eyitayo Olatunde Olakanmi, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Sustainable
 Manufacturing and Innovation Technologies, Botswana International University of Science and Technology, Botswana
- Andrew Masila, Innovation, IT Research and Development Lead, Safaricom, Kenya
- Osman Abdulai Ayariga, All-Africa Students Union (AASU), Ghana
- **Glenda Cox**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Open Education and Social Justice, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Rapporteur: Carmela Salzano, Senior Project Officer, Section for Higher Education, UNESCO

6. Fostering Global Partnerships: Advancing Sustainable Postsecondary Research
Collaboration between African Higher Education and Historically Black Universities in the
United States

Room: Caucus Room 5 Language: English

Convenor: M. Christopher Brown II (Payne Center for Social Justice)

- M. Christopher Brown II, Executive Director and Research Scientist, Payne Center for Social Justice, Thurgood Marshall College Fund, United States of America
- N. Joyce Payne, Founder, Payne Center for Social Justice, Thurgood Marshall College Fund, United States of America
- Tymon M. Graham, Director of Research Strategy, Payne Center for Social Justice, Thurgood Marshall College Fund, United States of America
- **Nico Elema**, Director, Centre for Collaboration in Africa, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Mohamed Camara, Professor of African Studies, Howard University, United States of America
- Taya Owens, US Mission to UNESCO, United States of America
- Paul Zeleza, Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives and Professor of African Studies, Howard University, United States of America

Rapporteur: Jose Luis Guzman, UNESCO

7. Transforming Knowledge for Africa's Future: Rethinking the Role and Contribution from the Social Sciences and the Humanities

Room: Caucus Room 6 Language: English Convenors: Hugue Ngandeu Ngatta (UNESCO) and Obed Ogega (The Academy of Sciences)

Moderators: Hugue Ngandeu Ngatta, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, UNESCO and Tabue Nguma, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education

Opening remarks: Abdul Rahman Lamin, Programme Specialist, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO Harare

Keynote: Tanja Hichert and Rika Preiser, Co-Chairholders, UNESCO Chair on Complex Systems and Transformative African Futures, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

- Christine Noe, Principal, College of Social Sciences, University of Dar es Salaam, United Republic of Tanzania
- Julius Gatune, Assistant Professor Maastricht School of Management (MSM),
 Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Conservation on Anticipatory Socio-Technical Systems,
 Dedan Kimathi University of Science and Technology (DeKUT), Kenya
- David Nderitu, Lecturer, Department of Philosophy, History and Religious Studies, UNESCO Chair on Bioethics, Egerton University, Kenya

Closing remarks: Obed Ogega, Programmes Manager, African Academy of Sciences Rapporteur: Saida Abdul Ramadhan, Programme Officer, African Academy of Sciences

8. Transforming lives, shaping futures: Enhancing student health and well-being in Higher Education

Room: Caucus Room 10 Language: English

Convenors: Daphnee Blanc and Patricia Machawira (UNESCO)

Moderator: Alice Saili, National Programme Officer, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO

Welcome remarks: Didier Jourdan, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair Global Health and Education, Université Clermont-Auvergne, France

Amon Chaka, Professor, Manicaland State University of Applied Science, Zimbabwe Keynote: Peter Wells, Chief of Education, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO Harare and Alice Saili, National Programme Officer, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO

- Martin Lemond, Student, Kabwe Institute of Technology, Zambia
- Eunice Manela, Student, Copperbelt University, Zambia
- Chidochashe Mudzingwa, Student, Masving Polytechnic, Zimbabwe
- Lovemore T Mlambo, Student, Manicaland State University of Applied Sciences, Zimbabwe
- Amon Chaka, Professor, Manicaland State University of Applied Science, Zimbabwe
- Harrison Phiri, Professor, Technical and Vocational Teachers' College, Zambia
- Viola Nilah Nyakato, Professor, University of Science and Technology, Uganda
- Vincent Nacidze, Cluster Coordinator, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO Harare
- Marleen Temmerman, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Youth Leadership in Science, Health, Gender and Education, Aga Khan University, Kenya

Rapporteur: Pennelope Kasere, Consultant, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO Harare

9. Youth Participation, Intergenerational Learning and Sustainable Futures

Room: Caucus Room 11 Language: English

Convenor: Catherine M. Jere (University of East Anglia)

Moderators: Ahmmardouh Mjaya, Co-Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Adult Literacy and Learning for Social Transformation, University of Malawi, Malawi and **Tizita Lemma Melka**, Assistant Professor, University of Bahir Dar, Ethiopia

- Catherine M. Jere, Co-Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Adult Literacy and Learning for Social Transformation, University of East Anglia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- Ahmmardouh Mjaya, Co-Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Adult Literacy and Learning for Social Transformation, University of Malawi, Malawi
- Abiy Menkir Gizaw, Assistant Professor, University of Bahir Dar, Ethiopia
- Tizita Lemma Melka, Assistant Professor, University of Bahir Dar, Ethiopia

Rapporteur: Abiy Menkir Gizaw, Assistant Professor, University of Bahir Dar, Ethiopia

10. Bringing the World Together: Achievements and Future Possibilities for Exchanges with Africa

Room: Caucus Room 12 Language: English

Convenor: Miki Sugimura (Sophia University, Japan)

Moderator: Miki Sugimura, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Education for Human Dignity, Peace and Sustainability, Sophia University, Japan

- Charles Hopkins, co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Reorienting Education towards
 Sustainability, York University, Canada
- Katrin Kohl, co-Chair, UNESCO Chair in Reorienting Education towards Sustainability, York University, Canada
- **Kazuhiro Yoshida**, Coordinator, UNITWIN Network of Africa-Asia University Dialogue for Educational Development, Hiroshima University, Japan
- **Darla Deardorff,** Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Intercultural Competences, Stellenbosch University, South Africa
- Eri Yamazaki, University Education Administrator (UEA), Sophia University, Japan
- **Miki Sugimura**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Education for Human Dignity, Peace and Sustainability, Sophia University, Japan

Discussant: Salma Ahmed, Education Policy Specialist, Norway

11:30-13:00

Parallel Sessions IV

1. Promoting Gender Equality in and through STEM Education

Room: Medium Conference Hall Languages: English/French

Convenor: Elspeth McOmish and Tabue Nguma (UNESCO)

Moderator: Marema Touré Thiam, Sociologist and Vice President, Scientific Committee, CODESRIA, Senegal

Opening remarks: Elspeth McOmish, Programme Specialist, Section of Education for Inclusion and Gender Equality, UNESCO

Keynote: Quentin Wodon, Director, UNESCO International Institute for Capacity Building in Africa

- Adama Sow, Associate Professor Director of Studies, University Research and Training Center for Internet Technologies, Cheick Anta Diop University, Senegal
- Simone Yankey-Ouattara, Acting Coordinator, African Union International Centre for Girls' and Women's Education in Africa (AU/CIEFFA), Burkina Faso
- Mariam Abbas Ibrahim Abdelghafour, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Women, Science and Technology, Sudan University of Science and Technology, Sudan
- Fatima Ouahmi, Professor, Faculty of Education Sciences, Université Mohammed V, Kingdom of Morocco
- Armand Abanda, Chairholder, Chaire UNESCO Partenariat stratégique et institutionnel pour l'accès des jeunes et des femmes aux technologies de l'information et de la communication en Afrique Centrale, Institut Africain d'Informatique, Cameroon
- **Sithobile Priscilla Dube**, Lecturer, National University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Medicine, Zimbabwe

Closing remarks: Awa Bousso Dramé, Researcher in Coastal Sciences, GIS & AI, & UNESCO-L'Oréal For Women in Science Laureate, Senegal

Rapporteur: Yoslan Nur, Programme Specialist, Natural Science Sector, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa

2. Research Cooperation and Capacity Development in Water

Room: Small Conference Room 1 Languages: English/French

Convenors: Rahmah Elfithri and Alexandros Makarigakis (UNESCO)

Moderators: Masheleni Hambani, UNESCO Liaison Office to the African Union and Representative to Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and Nico Elema, AUDA-NEPAD Southern African Network of Water Centres of Excellence (SANWATCE), Stellenbosch University International, South Africa

Opening remarks: Borhene Chakroun, Director, Division for Policies and Lifelong Learning, UNESCO

- **Syed Mohammed Zaidi**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Desalination and Water Treatment, Qatar University, Qatar
- Hilma Rantilla Amwele, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Sustainable Water Research
 for Climate Adaptation and Saline Agriculture in Arid Environments, Namibia
 University of Science and Technology, Namibia
- Annelyse Niangoran, Chair Member, UNESCO Chair "Eau, Femmes et pouvoir de décisions", Université Félix Houphouët Boigny, Côte d'Ivoire
- Cherifa Abdelbaki, Chair for Sustainable Development and Resilience: Addressing Climate Change, Water Security, Food Sustainability, and Energy Resilience (SUDARE), Algeria
- Ramiro Pillco Zola, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Ecohydrology for Sustainable Water Management, Universidad Mayor de San Andrés, Plurinational State of Bolivia
- **Eric Foto**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Water Management, Université de Bangui, Central African Republic
- Chiara Biscrini/ Maura Marchegiani, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Water Resources Management and Culture, University for Foreigners in Perugia, Italy
- Onemayin David Jimoh, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Integrated Flood Management and Water Resources, Federal University of Technology, Nigeria
- Omogbemi Omoloju Yaya, Director, Regional Centre for Integrated River Basin Management (RC-IRBM) Centre under the auspices of UNESCO, Nigeria
- Abdullah Alghafri, UNESCO Chair on Aflaj Studies-Archelohydrology, University of Nizwa, Oman
- Nihal Ben Amar, LAMSIN Laboratory, Tunisia

Rapporteurs: Patience Awopegba, Education Programme Specialist, UNESCO Nairobi Office and Yoslan Nur, Programme Specialist, Natural Science Sector, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa

3. Africa Also Knows: Possibilities and Prospects for Early Childhood Care and Education to Become the New Frontier of Knowledge for the Future We Want in Africa

Room: Small Conference Room 2 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Yoshie Kaga (UNESCO)

Moderator: Nodumo Dhlamini, Director of ICT Services and Knowledge Management, Association of African Universities, Ghana

Keynote: Hasina Ebrahim, co-Chair, UNESCO Chair on Early Childhood Education, Care and Development, University of South Africa, South Africa

- **George Evans Owino**, Coordinator, Knowledge Generation Working Group of African Union Cluster for Early Childhood Education and Development, Kenya
- Oumar Barry, co-Chair, UNESCO Chair on Early Childhood Education, Care and Development, University of Cheikh Anta Diop of Senegal, Senegal
- Meseret Zelalem, Deputy CEO and Chief of Programmes, African Centre for Early Childhood Development, Ethiopia
- Pauline Essah, Director of Research and Programmes, Education Sub-Saharan Africa (ESSA), United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Rapporteur: Yoshie Kaga, UNESCO

4. Enhancing Collaborative Research Partnerships through Generative AI

Room: Caucus Room 3 Language: English

Convenor: Abtar Darshan Singh (Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation) and Janeth Kigobe (Open University of Tanzania)

Opening remarks: Abtar Darshan Singh, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Harnessing Innovations in Technology to Support Teachers and Quality Learning, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Malaysia

- Janeth Kigobe, UNESCO Chair Program Manager, Open University Tanzania (OUT), United Republic of Tanzania
- Jonathan JS Kovilpillai, Program Manager, UNESCO Chair on Harnessing Innovations in Technology to Support Teachers and Quality Learning, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Malaysia
- Maurice Nkusi, Manager, Academic Development & Support, University of Science & Technology, Namibia
- Patrick Charland, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Curriculum Development, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada

Rapporteur:: Abtar Darshan Singh, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Harnessing Innovations in Technology to Support Teachers and Quality Learning, Asia Pacific University of Technology & Innovation (APU), Malaysia

5. Health and Education: Innovating for Sustainable Development Focus – Human rights and Sexual, Reproductive and Affective health

Room: Caucus Room 4 Languages: English

Convenor: Joëlle Mignot (Université Paris Cité)

Moderator: **Didier Jourdan**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair Global Health and Education, Université Clermont-Auvergne, France

- Marleen Temmerman, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Youth Leadership in Science, Health, Gender and Education, Aga Khan University, Kenya
- Joëlle Mignot, Co-Chair, Chaire UNESCO en Santé sexuelle et droits humains, Université Paris Cité, France

Rapporteur: Joelle Mignot, Co-Chair, Chaire UNESCO en Sante sexuelle et droits humains, Université Paris Cite, France

6. Presentation of the "African Heroes" Edutainment Video Game

Room: Caucus Room 5 Language: French

Convenor: Tabue Nguma (UNESCO)

Presenter: Tabue Nguma, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education

• Gabriela Ramos, Assistant Director-General, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO (video message)

7. Enhancing Arts and Culture Education through Research Cooperation

Room: Caucus Room 6 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Cristina Cusenza (UNESCO)

Moderator: Cristina Cusenza, Associate Project Officer for Culture, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa, UNESCO and **Scheherazade Feddal**, Programme Specialist for Education, UNESCO Regional Office for Eastern Africa

Welcoming remarks: Joel Kipkemboi Kiboss, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Culture and Arts in Education for Sustainable Development, Kabarak University, Kenya

Keynote: Angela Martins, Acting Director for Social Development, Culture and Sport, African Union Commission

• Joel Kipkemboi Kiboss, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Culture and Arts in Education for Sustainable Development, Kabarak University, Kenya

• **Jill Margaret Pribyl**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Dance for Global Citizenship Education, University of Kisubi, Uganda

Closing remarks: Maylene Cotto-Andino, Ph. D. Associate Professor and Coordinator, Network for the Culture of Peace Chairs, Fundación Cultura de Paz, Spain Rapporteur: Denzia Hazoume, UNESCO

Thematic Meetings I

8. Building Research Partnerships to Advance Production and Use of New Historical Knowledge: UNITWIN Network on the General History of Africa

Room: Caucus Room 10 Language(s): English

Convenors: Lamine Diagne and Abdul Rahman Lamin (UNESCO)

Moderator: Abdul Rahman Lamin, Programme Specialist, UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa, UNESCO Harare

Welcome remarks: Lamin Diagne, Programme Specialist, Social and Human Sciences Sector, UNESCO

Keynote: Augustin Holl, Professor, Chair of the Scientific Committee for the drafting of new General History of Africa volumes, Cameroon

- Idrissa Bah, Professor and Head of History Department, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal
- Lily Mafela, Professor of History and History Education, University of Botswana,
- Mohamed Camara, Professor of African Studies, Howard University, United States of America
- Karine Silva, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Education towards Racial Equality, Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina, Brazil

Closing remarks: Paul Zeleza, Senior Advisor for Strategic Initiatives and Professor of African Studies, Howard University, United States of America Rapporteur: Mathilde Stoleroff, UNESCO

9. Education Futures Network for Epistemic Justice and the Knowledge Commons (EpiNet) – New Research Connections and Partnerships

Room: Caucus Room 11 Language(s): English
Convenors: Prachi Srivastava (Western University) and Leon Tikly (University of Bristol)

Moderator: Leon Tikly, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Transforming Knowledge and Research for Just and Sustainable Futures, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Opening remarks: Catherine Odora Hoppers, Research Professor in Pluralistic Societies: Transdisciplinarity, Cognitive Justice and Education, University of Calgary; Professor of Education, Gulu University, Uganda

- **Moira Faul**, Senior Lecturer, Geneva Graduate Institute and Executive Director (NORRAG), Switzerland
- Rajesh Tandon, Founder and President, PRIA and UNESCO Co-Chair in Community Based Research and Social Responsibility in Higher Education, India

Rapporteur: Leon Tikly, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Transforming Knowledge and Research for Just and Sustainable Futures, University of Bristol, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

	 10. Intersections of Intercultural Communication/Education and Digital Literacies: Exploring Modalities for Developing Intercultural Competencies Room: Caucus Room 12
	Stellenbosch University, South Africa
13:00-14:30	Lunch
14:30-16:00	Parallel Sessions V
	1. Comparative Practices and Structural Transformations: Essential Elements of the Research Agenda for "The Africa We Want"
	Room: Medium Conference Hall Languages: English/French
	Convenor: Charlie Mballa (University of Alberta)
	 Moderator: Léonard Matala-Tala, Associate Professor (HDR Lecturer), University of Lorraine, IRENEE, France; CAP-Afriques, Canada Welcoming remarks: Dimitri Sanga, Director, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education and Charlie Mballa, Associate Professor, Faculté Saint-Jean, University of Alberta; Director of the Center for Analysis and Prospective on Africa (CEIM – UQAM), Specialist in Foreign Policy Administration, Canada Keynotes: Léonard Matala-Tala, Associate Professor (HDR Lecturer), University of Lorraine, IRENEE, France; CAP-Afriques, Canada and Malick Sané, Professor, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal Léonard Matala-Tala, Associate Professor (HDR Lecturer), University of Lorraine, IRENEE, France; CAP-Afriques, Canada Moritié Camara, Full Professor, Alassane Ouattara University of Bouaké, Côte d'Ivoire Charlie Mballa, Associate Professor, Faculté Saint-Jean, University of Alberta; Director of the Center for Analysis and Prospective on Africa (CEIM – UQAM), Specialist in Foreign Policy Administration, Canada Rapporteur: Charlie Mballa, University of Alberta, Canada Decolonizing the Training of the Next Generation of African Researchers: The African
	 Decolonizing the Training of the Next Generation of African Researchers: The African Knowledge for Change Centre Room: Caucus Room 3

3. Transforming Future African Education through Responsible and Human-Centered Artificial Intelligence in Education

Room: Caucus Room 4 Language: English

Convenor: Ronghuai Huang (Beijing Normal University)

Moderators: Huanhuan Wang, Beijing Normal University, People's Republic of China and Ahmed Tili, Associate Professor, Beijing Normal University, People's Republic of China Welcome remarks: Changwei Qin, Secretary-General of the Chinese National Commission

for UNESCO

Quentin Wodon, Director, UNESCO-IICBA

Keynotes: Dharm Singh, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Secure High-performance Computing for Higher Education and Research, Namibia

Gong Wang, Director of Analysis, Testing and Supercomputing Center of Shanghai Normal University, People's Republic of China

- Dorothy Joy Laubscher, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Multimodal Learning and Open Educational Resources, North-West University, South Africa
- Admasu Tsegaye, Professor & Former President of Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia
- Marleen Temmerman, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Youth Leadership in Science, Health, Gender and Education, Aga Khan University, Kenya
- Qian Zhang, representative from DFRobot, People's Republic of China
- **Jipeng Ruan,** Founder and Chairman of Beijing Jinsha River Technology Co., Ltd., People's Republic of China

Closing remarks: Haijun Zeng, Co-Dean, Smart Learning Institute, Beijing Normal University, People's Republic of China and Ahmed Tili, Associate Professor, Beijing Normal University, People's Republic of China

Rapporteur: Huanhuan Wang, Beijing Normal University, People's Republic of China

4. Producing and Using Data to Strengthen Higher Education Policies and Practices

Room: Caucus Room 5 Language: English

Convenor: Jose Luis Guzman (UNESCO)

Moderator: Jose L. Guzman, ED/Futures of Learning and Innovation, UNESCO

- Cesar Guadalupe, Former member of the WHEC2022 Technical Expert Group;
 Professor, Universidad del Pacífico, Peru
- Hilligje van't Land, Secretary General, International Association of Universities (IAU)
- Daniel Omanyo, Research Policy Manager for East Africa, Education, ESSA

Rapporteur: Jose Luis Guzman, UNESCO

Thematic Meetings II

5. UNESCO Chairs on Higher Education: South-South University Cooperation Network

Room: Small Conference Room 1 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Bosen Lily Liu (IESALC)

Moderator: Bosen Lily Liu, Head of Partnership and UN Liaison, UNESCO IESALC

6. Network for the Culture of Peace Chairs

Room: Small Conference Room 2 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Federico Mayor Zaragoza and Maylene Cotto (Fundación Cultura de Paz)

Moderator: Maylene Cotto-Andino, Ph. D. Associate Professor and Coordinator, Network for the Culture of Peace Chairs, Fundación Cultura de Paz, Spain

7. Information Session: How to establish a UNESCO Chair or UNITWIN Network?

Room: Caucus Room 6 Languages: English/French

Convenor: Maya Prince and Inga Nichanian (UNESCO)

8. UNESCO Chairs on Open Educational Resources Room: Caucus Room 10 Language: English Convenor: Tel Amiel (Universidade de Brasilia) **Tel Amiel**, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair in Open Education and Technologies for the Common Good, Universidade de Brasilia, Brazil Glenda Cox, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Open Education and Social Justice, University of Cape Town, South Africa Rory McGreal, Chairholder, UNESCO-COL Chair in Open Educational Resources, Athabasca University, Canada María Soledad Ramírez Montoya, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Open Educational Movement for Latin America, Monterrey Institute of Technology and Higher Education, Mexico 9. UNESCO Chairs on African Cultural Heritage and Expression Room: Caucus Room 11 Languages: English/French Convenor: Lazare Eloundou Assomo (UNESCO) 10. Rethinking the Curriculum: The Need for Endogenous Education in the 21st Century (Part Room: Caucus Room 12 Language: English Convenor: Gertrude Nambuiru (African Curriculum Association) Moderators: Gertrude Namubiru, Secretary General, African Curriculum Association (ACA)- National Curriculum Development Centre, Uganda and Jacqueline Onyango, Vice Chairperson and Deputy Curriculum Director, African Curriculum Association (ACA), Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development, Kenya Loyce Chisale, Curriculum Specialist, African Curriculum Association (ACA) - Malawi institute of Education, Malawi Shubhangi Sharma, Under Secretary General, Organisation of Southern Cooperation, Paul Mushi, Assistant Lecturer, Mzumbe University, United Republic of Tanzania 16:00-16:30 Tea/coffee break 16:30-17:00 Closing Plenary Room: Medium Conference Hall Moderator: Mr. Dimitri Sanga, Director, UNESCO Office in Dakar and Regional Bureau for Education **Words of Appreciation** Alexandre Navarro, Secretary General, French National Commission for UNESCO

Dorcas Beryl Otieno, Chairholder, UNESCO Chair on Entrepreneurship Education for Sustainable Development, Kenyatta University, Kenya

Summary of main messages from the Forum

Mr. Sobhi Tawil, Director, Future of Learning and Innovation Division, UNESCO

Closing remarks

Ms. Rita Bissoonauth, Director, UNESCO Liaison Office to the African Union and Representative to Ethiopia, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

H.E. Prof. Mohamed Belhocine, Commissioner for Education, Science, Technology and Innovation. African Union Commission

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With the generous support of the African Union and the governments of France, Sweden and Switzerland, as well as the technical support of the following partners:















