



**AFRICAN RESEARCH MATTERS**  
**Imagining African futures in response to global challenges**

**International Conference**  
**15-18 March 2022**  
**Gaston Berger University, Saint-Louis, Senegal**

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

Organised to celebrate the publication of the inaugural issue of the *Global Africa* journal, this international conference aims to provoke discussion and debate around epistemological challenges, conditions of existence, political economy, social legitimacy and the capacity of Pan-African research to influence the world in the face of global challenges. Plenary sessions and panels with top-level experts will focus on the place of multidisciplinary humanities and social sciences in facilitating critical reflection on the continent and its social, political, cultural, economic and scientific trajectories in the context of globalisation.

This conference is co-organised by Gaston Berger University (GBU) and the French National Institute of Research for Sustainable Development (IRD), in partnership with the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA). This conference is organised in the framework of the "Global Africa" project, supported by the French Development Agency (AFD). It will be accompanied by the "L'escale des livres", scientific book fair at which publishers of books and journals will present their publications.

**15 March**

- 9.00-9.30 am**            **Reception**
- 9.30-11.00 am**        **Opening session**
- 11.00-12.00 pm**      **Inaugural conference**

**African Research Matters: imagining African futures to address global challenges**, by Mame Penda BA, Gaston Berger University (GBU, Senegal)



and Philippe Cury, French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD, France) (to be confirmed)

- 3.00-4.00 pm**      **Conference**
- Global Political Economy of Research and Research Dissemination in Africa**, by Adebayo Olukoshi, Wits School of Governance, South Africa
- 4.00-5.00 pm**      **Discussion**
- 5.30-7.00 pm**      **Conference**
- Humanities and colonial ethnography. African figures**, by Mamadou Diouf, Columbia University, United States.
- 8.00-10.00 pm**      **Round-table dinner event**
- How can sustainability science inform public policy in Africa?**
- Round table discussion moderated by Laurent Vidal, (IRD, Mali), with Olivier Dangles (IRD, France), Thomas Melonio, French Development Agency (AFD, France), Francine Ntoumi, African Academy of Sciences (Congo), Mary Teuw Niane, National Academy of Sciences and Technology (Senegal) and Abdallah Saaf, Centre for Research and Studies in the Social Sciences - Mohamed V University (Maroc)

## 16 March

- 9.00-9.45 am**      **Conference**
- Natural resources and sustainable development in Africa: what alternative governance models do the social and economic sciences have to offer?** by Gaël Giraud (CNRS, France) and Felwine Sarr, Duke University, United States
- 9.45-10.45 am**      **Discussion**
- 11.15-12.45 pm**      **Panels**
- Panel 1: What is the place of African research in the international governance of global issues (health, climate, energy, trade, peace and security)?**
- Moderator: Nadine Machikou, University of Yaoundé II, Cameroon



**Panel 2: Open science and international visibility of African research: obstacles and challenges**

Moderator: Ebrima Sall, Trust Africa, Senegal

**Panel 3: Reimagining African university presses**

Moderator: Rachid Id Yassine, UGB, Sénégal

2.00-2.45 pm

**Conference**

**Evaluation of African research: practices and challenges**

2.45-3.45 pm

**Discussion**

4.30-6.00 pm

**Panels**

**Panel 4: Artificial intelligence and social sciences in Africa**

Moderator: Rachel Adams, Impact Centre - Human Sciences Research Council, South Africa

**Panel 5: Readings and perspectives of transhumanism in Africa**

Moderator: Joseph Tonda, Omar Bongo University, Gabon

**Panel 6: Endogenous languages and knowledge**

Moderator: Ouidad Tebaa, Agence Universitaire de la Francophonie – West Africa

17 March

9.00-9.45 am

**Conference**

**Global challenges, an opportunity to renew interdisciplinary African research?** by Walter Mignolo, Duke University, United States

9.45-10.45 am

**Discussion**

11.15-12.45 pm

**Panels**

**Panel 7: Reflection on environmental humanities in Africa**

Moderator: Souleymane Konaté, Ministry of Higher Education and Research, Côte d'Ivoire

**Panel 8: Research ethics and practices in Africa**

Moderator: Tsikata Dzodzi, University of Ghana



**Panel 9: Is the end of the decolonisation of knowledge in sight?**

Moderator: Seloua Luste Boulbina, philosopher

**2.00-2.45 pm**      **Conference**

**Young people and the future of African and Pan-African research**, by Akosua Ampofo, Institute of African Studies, Ghana

**2.45-3.45 pm**      **Discussion**

**4.30-6.00 pm**      **Panels**

**Panel 10: The position of women in humanities and social science research: how to break the glass ceiling?**

Moderator: Bouchra Sidi Hida, Codesria, Sénégal

**Panel 11: The place of Pan-Africanism in university curricula and research**

Moderator: Giulia Bonacci, IRD, France

**Panel 12: African encounters with itself and the world.**

Moderator: Divine Fuh, Institute for Humanities in Africa (HUMA), South Africa

**18 March**

**9.30-12.00 pm**      **Round table**

**Tékki nafa gui: what innovative, sustainable funding is available for research in Africa?**

Moderator: Célestin Monga, World Bank, United States

**2.00-3.30 pm**      **Round table and public debate**

**At the intersection of knowledge around water: designing the sustainability of the city of Saint-Louis in a climate change context**

Moderator: Pap Sakho, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal

**4.30-6.30 pm**      **Guided tour of Saint-Louis**

**7.00-8.30 pm**      **Closing evening**

