

EVIDev | Evidence for Development **CONFERENCE**

THEME: Optimising the Role of Data, Evidence, and Innovations in Africa's Efforts to Create Wealth, Empower Citizens, and Foster Responsive Governance



Conference Programme



May 6-8, 2025



Hyatt Regency Hotel, Nairobi

PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 6 May 2025



Day 1: Generation and Translation of Scientific Research and Innovations for the Realisation of Agenda 2063

Day 1/ Time	Session
7:15-8:15 AM	Registration (Registration will also take place on Monday, May 5, between 3:00 and 5:00pm) Venue: 6 th Floor
	Session 1: Opening Ceremony Venue: Ballroom MC: Dr Rose Oronje, Director-Public Policy and Knowledge Translation, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP)
08:30-08:45 AM	Kenya National Anthem East African Community (EAC) Anthem Video Interlude, Spoken Word
08:45-9:15 AM	Welcome and Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr Eliya Zulu, Executive Director, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) ● Dr Evelyn Gitau, Chief Scientific Officer, Science for Africa Foundation (SFA Foundation) ● Dr Frejus Thoto, Executive Director, African Center for Equitable Development (ACED) ● Ms. Siziwe Ngcwabe, Director, Africa Evidence Network (AEN) ● Prof. Abdulrazak Shaukat, Principal Secretary, Science, Research and Innovation, Ministry of Education, Government of Kenya ● Prof. Abegaz Berhanu, African Union High Level Panel on Emerging Technologies (APET) ● Prof. Brando Okolo, Senior Advisor, Science Technology and Innovation, AUDA-NEPAD
09:15-09:30 AM	Youth in Innovation Chat: The Role of Youth in Africa's Innovation Ecosystem Moderator: Prof. Jabhera Matogoro, University of Dodoma, Tanzania <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Yohane Chepe, Climate-smart agriculture advocate and innovator, Malawi ● Richmond Yeboah Appau Siaw, Ghanaian entrepreneur and innovator, Ghana ● Angela Waitthera, Digital education youth innovator, Kenya
09:30 – 09:55 AM	Keynote Address: Optimising the role of data, evidence, and innovations in Africa's efforts to create wealth, empower citizens, and foster responsive and inclusive governance Dr Tom Kariuki, Chief Executive Officer, Science for Africa Foundation (SFA Foundation)
09:55-10:05 AM	Guest Remarks: Hon. Dr Jessie Kabwila, Minister of Higher Education, Malawi
10:05-10:20 AM	Official Address: Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba, Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kenya
10:20-10:45 AM	Break

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Day 1/Time	Session
10.45 AM-12:15 PM	<p>Session 2 (Plenary): High-level Panel on integrating STISA 2034 into National Development Agendas Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Eliya Zulu, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP)</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Hon. Julius Migos Ogamba, Cabinet Secretary for Education, Kenya ● Hon. Dr Jessie Kabwila, Minister of Higher Education, Malawi ● Hon. Aziz Sarjoh Kamara, Deputy Minister of Technical and Higher Education – Sierra Leone ● Mr. Patrick Mugisha, Commissioner, Business Development and Quality Assurance - Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Uganda ● Hon. Prof. Naveen G. El-Autouny, Member of Egypt Senate ● Prof. Brando Okolo, Senior Advisor Science Technology and Innovation, AUDA-NEPAD
12.15 - 1:30 PM	<p>Session 3 (Plenary): Science Leadership: Bridging the Gap between Science and Policy Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Evelyn Gitau, Science for Africa Foundation (SFA Foundation)</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Abdoulaye Diabete, Principal Investigator, Target Malaria, Burkina Faso ● Thumbi Mwangi, Co-director CEMA, University of Nairobi ● Prof Richard Okoth Odour, Professor of Molecular Biology, Kenyatta University ● Prof Tatien Masharabu, East African Science & Technology Commission (EASTECO) ● Prof Ikram Guizani, Director, African Leishmaniasis Consortium (ALC) - Institut Pasteur de Tunis ● Dr Naa Doodoo, Senior Research and Policy Analyst, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP)
1.30-2.30 PM	Lunch
PARALLEL SESSIONS	
2.30-3.45 PM	<p>Session 4: Research and innovation for wealth creation to realise Agenda 2063 Venue: Room A</p> <p>Chair: Rose Bote, NEOMA Business School</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Prince Oguguo: Creating Wealth Our Own Way: Status and Directions for Research and Innovation for Wealth Creation in Africa (Issue-framing Paper) 2. Nana Esi Badu-Ansah: Women's economic empowerment and wealth creation in sub-Saharan Africa: An Evidence and Gap map 3. Rachel Lusava: Pedaling towards Prosperity: The Impact of Bicycle Distribution on Rural Livelihoods in Zambia 4. Salome Asena: Empowering Youth Creatives in Kenya: The Impact of the CO-CARE Program



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Day 1/Time	Session
	<p>Session 5: Using digital infrastructure to tackle Africa's challenges Venue: Room B</p> <p>Chair: African Center for Technology Studies, ACTS</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moctar Aboubacar: Bridging the Gaps in Urban Disaster Preparedness: Innovative Risk Assessment Frameworks and Digital Infrastructure for Resilient Urban Communities 2. Grace Njogu: Empowering Marginalised Communities Through Digital Skills Training to Advance SDGs in Africa 3. Naomi Muhiu: Enhancing Soil Carbon Monitoring for Food Security and Climate Resilience in Africa Using Machine Learning 4. Abubakar Sambo: Leveraging Data and Evidence to Drive Africa's Renewable Energy Transition in the Face of Climate Change
	<p>Session 6: Innovations to enhance food production and food security Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Chair: Dr Joanes Atela, African Research and Impact Network (ARIN)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Daniel Musyoka: A data-driven approach in sustainable cold chain innovation for food loss reduction 2. Theophile Kamgang Nzeuleu: Aligning agricultural innovations with agenda 2063 for food security 3. Ndiaye Mamadou: Commercial Integration & Cognitive Insights: Strengthening Food Security in Senegal 4. Mitowanou E. Koffi-Tessio: The comprehensive Africa agriculture development programme (CAADP) at 20: theory of change and lessons learned from NAIPS and RAIPS implementation 5. Milcah Wambua: Enhancing Cassava Research for Climate-Resilient Food Systems in Kenya: A Pathway to Agenda 2063
	<p>Session 7: Innovations in education to achieve Agenda 2063 – Research and inclusion Venue: Room C</p> <p>Chair: Gift Kadzamira, National Council for Science and Technology (NCST)</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Tom Kwanya: Realigning Africa's Research Priorities and Ecosystem to Transform Education, Innovation, Productivity, and Wealth Creation - Issue-framing paper 2. Ann Kingiri: Innovation in the African context is determined by the interactions and capabilities of public and private actors and formal and informal institutions 3. Elizabeth Mutua: Lifelong learning education and training model for youths and people with disabilities 4. Miriam Laiser: Implementing Autism Inclusion: Insights from Participatory Action Research

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Day 1/Time	Session
	<p>Session 8: Digital innovations for health care delivery Venue: Room D</p> <p>Chair: Uzma Alam, Science for Africa Foundation</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. William Wasswa: Advancing Oncology Care in Uganda through Low-Cost Imaging and Data-Driven Digital Platform (ONCIMS). 2. David Nene: Utilising Large Language Models and Knowledge Graphs in Improving Medical Drugs Prescription Process and Advance Healthcare 3. Saifullahi Adam Bayero: Leveraging Digital Health Technologies to Improve Maternal Health Outcomes in Sub-Saharan Africa 4. Isabella Oyier: Field-based innovations in malaria control
	<p>Session 9: Achieving Responsible and High-Performing AI Using Ethics of AI Tools Venue: Room E</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Winston Ojenge, African Center for Technology Studies, ACTS, AI Institute</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hon. John Kiarie – Dagoretti South Member of Parliament Chair of the Parliamentary Committee on Communication, Information and Innovation. 2. Dr George Musumba – Dean, School of Computer Science and Information Technology and Senior Lecturer Thematic Leader in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning – Dedan Kimathi University of Science and Technology 3. Dr Lawrence Nderu – Chairman, Dept. of Computing – JKUAT Founder, JHUB Africa 4. Florence Anyango Ogonjo – Tech Policy Researcher, Advocate of the High Court of Kenya Research Fellow for the AI Policy Center at the Center for Intellectual Property and Information Technology Law (CIPIT) at Strathmore University 5. Brian Omwenga – Community Of Practice
3.45-4:15 PM	Break
4:15-5:30 PM	<p>Session 10 (Plenary): Harnessing AI and digital innovations to accelerate Agenda 2063 progress</p> <p>Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Barbara Glover, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Matthew Grollnek, Lead, Employability and the Future of Work, Mastercard Foundation 2. Fargani Tambeayuk, Director of Public Policy for Francophone SSA and Head of our SSA Cluster on Innovation and Connectivity, Meta 3. Abdelaziz Saidu, Senior Engineer, Cisco Africa 4. Shikoh Gitau, CEO and Founder, Qhala 5. Wanjiku Jean Munyaka, Partner Development Manager, Microsoft Tech
6.00-7.30 PM	<p>AFIDEP Strategy 2030 Launch: Cocktail Note: Attendance by Invitation Only. RSVP Required!</p>



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Day 2: Strengthening Evidence-Informed Policymaking in Africa for the realisation of Agenda 2063

Day 2/Time	Session
7:15-8:15 AM	<p>Registration Venue: 6th Floor</p>
7:15-8:15 AM	<p>Side Sessions Session 11: From Data to Action: Developing Evidence-Based Advocacy Campaigns Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Organised by The Coalition for Health Research and Development (CHReaD) in collaboration with AHRIDA</p> <p>Moderator: Sam Makau, AMREF International University</p> <p>Keynote Addresses: Caroline Mbindyo Chief Executive Officer, AMREF Health Innovations</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speak Up Africa 2. WACI Health 3. Stop TB Kenya / Network of TB Champions 4. Zihi Institute/ Ayarhep
	<p>Session 12: Commercialisation of Research and Innovations through Public-Private Partnerships Venue: Room E</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Agnes Lutomiah – African Center for Technology Studies, ACTS</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Tom Ogada – ACTS 2. Dr Tonny Omwansa – CEO, KENIA 3. Mr. Alfred Oduor – ACTS 4. Dr Ellie Osir – IDRC 5. Prof. Almamy Konte – UCAD (Senegal) 6. Dr Martin Ongol – UNCST (Uganda) 7. Dr Vitalis Ogemah – MMUST 8. Dr Nicholas Odongo – ACTS 9. Professor Dr Thomas Bayer- Director Africa Institute, Neu-Ulm University of Applied Sciences (Germany)
	<p>Session 13: Closed Session by SFA Venue: Room C</p> <p>iPEP fellows –DELTAS Policy training participants Networking Breakfast: Fostering Collaboration and Growth</p>
09:00 – 10:30AM	<p>Session 14 (Plenary): Optimising Domestic Financing for Development in Africa Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Keynote Speech by Prof. Victor Murinde, Executive Director, African Economic Research Consortium (AERC)</p>

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Day 2/Time	Session
	<p>Presentation: Dr Jackson Otieno, Senior Research and Policy Analyst, AFIDEP - Evidence on tackling inefficiencies in expenditure and innovative financing mechanisms in Africa</p> <p>Chair: Patrick Mugirwa, Ag Regional Director/ Programme Manager, Partners in Population and Development Africa Regional Office (PPD ARO)</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Cleopatra Mugenyi, Senior Fellow, AFIDEP</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms. Chenai Mukumba, Executive Director, Tax Justice Network Africa 2. Mr. Patrick Zimpita, Principal Secretary, Economic Planning and Development, Ministry of Finance, Malawi 3. Prof. John Ele-Ojo Ataguba, Executive Director, African Health Economics and Policy Association (AfHEA) 4. Dr David Ndii, Chairperson, Presidential Economic Advisory Committee, Government of Kenya 5. Hon. Mr. Samuel Atandi, Chairperson, Parliamentary Budget Committee, Kenya 6. Mr. Kwame Owino, CEO, The Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA Kenya) 7. Dr Bona Mukosha Chitah, Lecturer, Department of Economist-UNZA
10.30-11:00AM	Break
11:00-12:00	<p>Parallel Sessions</p> <p>Session 15: Research and innovation for wealth creation to realise Agenda 2063 – II Venue: Room A</p> <p>Chair: Dr Prince Oguguo, Quantify Africa Initiative</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Amos Njuguna: Empowering Youth and Women through Small and Medium Enterprise Development: Leveraging Data, Evidence, and Innovation for Inclusive Wealth Creation in Africa (Issue-framing paper) 2. Christine Kelly: Enhancing evidence use in economic policymaking: lessons and opportunities 3. Xavery Ray: Machine Learning in Agricultural Investment 4. Johra Said Ali: Thermal Activation of Basic Oxygen Furnace Slag as a Heterogeneous Catalyst in Transesterification: Characterisation and Catalytic activity studies 5. Ann Kingiri: Evidence for informing optimisation and scaling of youth and women led clean energy enterprises and business models in Kenya <p>Session 16: Innovations to achieve Africa's energy infrastructure goals for Agenda 2063 Venue: Room B</p> <p>Chair: Dr John Mudany, Board Member, African Institute for Development Policy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Firehiwot Girma: Long-Term Hydropower Planning for Ethiopia: A Rolling Horizon Stochastic Programming Approach with Uncertain Inflow 2. Ernest Mwebaze: Data and AI for informing the EIDM process, city planning and rural green electrification. 3. Abubakar Sambo: Advancing Evidence-Based Policymaking for Energy Security in Africa 4. Abubakar Sambo: Leveraging Data and Evidence to Drive Africa's Renewable Energy Transition in the Face of Climate Change

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Day 2/Time	Session
	<p>Session 17: Using evidence to inform educational policy for development Venue: Room D</p> <p>Chair: Jennifer Nyakinya Network of Impact Evaluation Researchers in Africa (NIERA)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Andile Madonsela: Mapping the State of Evidence-Informed Decision-Making (EIDM) in Africa's Education Sector by the Africa Evidence Youth League 2. Ann Waithaka: Building a critical mass to optimise Africa's development 3. Sahra Ahmed Koshin: Centering Equity and Inclusion in Evidence-Informed Policymaking (EIP) in Somalia: Advancing Women, Female Minorities, and Girls with Disabilities in Higher Education and Research 4. Rachel Nyiracumi: Leveraging Community Data for Policy Influence in Education: Evidence from Help a Child Rwanda's Child Well-being Initiatives
	<p>Session 18: Innovative Vector Control: Shaping Africa's Next Frontier in Malaria Elimination and Public Health Resilience Venue: Room E</p> <p>Moderator: Wiltshire Johnson, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Gansane Adama, Institut National De Sante Publique (INSP), Burkina Faso 2. Dr Charles Mugoya, Target Malaria, Uganda 3. Mr Musa Kwenhangana, AUDA-NEPAD, South Africa 4. Dr Barbara Glover, AUDA-NEPAD, South Africa
	<p>Session 19: Advancing Inclusive Development in Africa: Experiences and Best Practices for Integrating Gender in Evidence-Informed Policymaking Processes Venue: Room C</p> <p>Moderator: Amy Nye, Results for Development</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Violet Murunga (PhD) Research and Policy Analyst, AFIDEP, Kenya 2. Dr Ismael Kawooya (PhD), Senior Research Scientist and Head of Office, ACRES, Uganda 3. Dr Anna Ninsiima (PhD), Lecturer, Makerere University School of Women and Gender Studies, Uganda 4. Dr Isabella Schmidt, Regional Gender Statistics Advisor for East and Southern Africa, UN Women, Kenya
	<p>Session 20: Centering Equity and Inclusion in Accelerating Progress towards the Realisation of Agenda 2063 Goals Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Kenneth Prudencio, Speak Up Africa</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Amanda Sawadogo - General Secretary, Association de soutien aux enfants et femme vulnérables, Burkina Faso 2. Dr Rose Oronje, Director, Public Policy & Knowledge Translation, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) 3. Daisy Isiaho, Co-founder and Chief product Officer - Zuri Health, Kenya. 4. Sam Makau, Communication and Advocacy Officer CHRead, Kenya

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Day 2/Time	Session
12:00 – 12:10 PM PM 12:10-1:30 PM	<p>SESSION INTERMISSION</p> <p>Session 21: Youth Innovators Panel Venue: Room A</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Jabhera Matogoro, University of Dodoma</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Richmond Yeboah Appau-Siaw, Ghana 2. Angela Waithera, Kenya 3. Yohane Chepe, Malawi 4. Joseph Yaw Berkoh, Ghana
	<p>Session 22: Strengthening national gender observatories: Building inclusive data ecosystems for policy impact in West Africa Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Rodrigue Castro Gbedomon, African Center for Equitable Development (ACED)</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Hararou Nassirou Kassoumou, Director General of the Observatory for Family, Women, and Children (OFFE) of Benin. 2. Ms. Foureratou Issoufou, Permanent Secretary of the National Observatory for the Promotion of Gender (ONPG) in Niger. 3. Ms. Augustin LAVRY, Training and Employment Systems Specialist at the National Observatory for Equality and Gender (ONEG) in Côte d'Ivoire. 4. Ms. Marie Madeleine Wanemanegre, Director General for the Promotion of Women and Gender in Burkina Faso.
	<p>Session 23: Building a Robust Research and Innovation Ecosystem for Sustainable Development Venue: Room B</p> <p>Moderator: Aisha Mugo, Mawazo Institute</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Miriam Loivotoki, Founder, Buyegi Trust Fund/Unique Child Academy 2. Dr Elizabeth Mutua, Lecturer, Dedan Kimathi University 3. Milcah Wambua, Research Officer, Food Safety Project, Egerton University 4. Dr Firehiwot Girma, Researcher, Hydropower Planning, CEO, Incode Engineering Solutions PLC 5. Sahra Koshin, Director, Somali Gender Hub 6. Prof Macpherson Mallewa, Vice Chancellor, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences, Malawi
	<p>Session 24: Strengthening STI Capacity for Emergency Preparedness in Health Crises Venue: D</p> <p>Moderators: Uzma Alam, SFA Foundation & Alice Norton, Pandemic Sciences Institute, Oxford University</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Merveille Essetcheou –Biostatistician-University of Abomey-Calavi 2. Dr Elvis Temfack – Head R&D and Clinical Trials Coordination Mechanism, Africa CDC 3. Albertina Ngomah – Knowledge Translation Officer-Zambia National Public Health Institute 4. Dr Valentin Bognan KONE Centre Suisse de Recherches Scientifiques en Côte d'Ivoire 5. Caxton Murira- Program Manager Clinical Research and Trials Community-SFA Foundation

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Day 2/Time	Session
	<p>Session 25: Advancing Maternal and Child Health: Innovations, Evidence, and Impact Venue: E</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Kireki Omanwa, Kenya OB/Gyn Society</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Moses Obimbo- Highlighting community-driven maternal health solutions 2. Mainga Hamaluba-innovative clinical trial design 3. Annette Nakimuli, Calestous Juma Fellow, Makerere University
1.30-2.30 PM	Lunch
2.30-3.45 PM	<p>Session 26 (Plenary): The central place of citizen evidence in accelerating Africa's Agenda 2063 progress Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Natasha Kimani, Regional Director, Futurelect</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Andrew Dabalen, Chief Economist, World Bank Africa 2. Ms. Dorothy Jemator, Vice Chairperson, Commission on Administrative Justice 3. Hon. Mercy Kiiru Wanjau, Secretary to the Cabinet, Government of Kenya 4. Prof. Winnie Mitullah, Research Professor, Institute for Development Studies, University of Nairobi
3.45-3.55 PM	SESSION INTERMISSION
3.55-5.10 PM	<p>Parallel Sessions</p> <p>Session 27: Advancing Inter-Regional Evidence-Informed Policymaking (EIP) Practice in Africa Venue: Room A</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Rose Oronje, Director-Public Policy and Knowledge Translation, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP), Kenya</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ms Siziwe Ngcwabe, Director, African Evidence Network, South Africa 2. Prof Boniface Dulani, Director of Surveys, Afrobarometer, Malawi 3. Dr Frejus Thoto, Executive Director, African Center for Equitable Development (ACED), Benin 4. Prof Alex Rio Ario, Director General Ugandan National Public Health Institute/ President for African National Public Health Institutes, Uganda 5. Dr Charlotte Ndum, eBase, Cameroon <p>Session 28: Utilising STI indicators for informed science policy decision making Venue: Room B</p> <p>Moderator: Prof Rebecca Hanlin, University of Johannesburg and Dr Ellie Osir, International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Kenya</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Il-haam Petersen, Chief Research Specialist, CeSTII, South Africa 2. Dr Almamy Konte, Cheikh Anta Diop University, Senegal 3. Mr Geoffrey Sempiri, Project Coordinator, Uganda National Council for Science and Technology, Uganda



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Day 2/Time	Session
	<p>Session 29: Harnessing Evidence for an Inclusive Green and Digital Future of Work in Africa Venue: Room C</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Julius Gatune - Maastricht School of Management</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Katharina Mengede, Head of Digital Economy, GIZ 2. Kudzai M. Mubaiwa, Green and Digital Transition Advisor, GIZ 3. Dr Caroline Mbaya, ACTS 4. Dr Eunice Omwoyo, ACTS 5. gDIH Innovator
	<p>Session 30: Sustaining Investments in Africa's Population and Demographic Dividend in the Context of a Changing Global Funding Landscape Venue: Room D</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Naa Dodua Dodoo, AFIDEP</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Nurudeen Alhassan, AFIDEP 2. Mr. Stephen Mulinge Ndambuka, National Council for Population and Development, Kenya 3. Dr Eliud Moyo, Director of Partnerships, Kenya Institute for Public Policy Research and Analysis (KIPPR)
	<p>Session 31: Enhancing Food Production for realisation of Agenda 2063 Goals Venue: Room E</p> <p>Chair: Prof. Temitope Sogbanmu, University of Lagos</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Themba Kumwenda: Adoption and impact of sustainable land management on maize crop productivity and food security 2. Anja Aune Selmer: Improving WFP's school feeding programme outcomes through gender and inclusion sensitive evaluations 3. Clayton Hazvinei: Establishing African 'green zones of food security' and sustainable agricultural production through Staple Crops Processing Zones (SCPZs): Experiences, Challenges and Prospects 4. Martin Mwenda: Harnessing Innovations in Agriculture for Food Security in Africa: A Collaborative Initiative. 5. Misteru Tesfaye Woldeyohannes: Novel biotechnological tools and their role in food security and climate change in Africa: Lesson learnt from recent achievements in Ethiopia
	<p>Session 32: Innovations in business development for wealth creation Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Chair: Prof. Amos Njuguna, United States International University</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tamadaho Makandjou Todè Candide: Optimising Local Governance with Evidence-Based Data 2. Brenda Ogutu: Implementing the Cooperative Resilience Measurement Index (CRMI) for Cooperatives in Uganda

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Day 2/Time	Session
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Kellen Kiambati: Unlocking Digital Work Opportunities: Tackling Supply-Side Constraints in Kenya – A Mixed-Method Study 4. Elysée HOUEDJOFONON: Impact of Innovation Support on Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Performance and the Strengthening of Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion: The UAC Startup Valley Case in Benin
6.00-9.00 PM	Kenyan Night (Dinner & Entertainment)

Day 3: Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Governance - Domestication of the STI Strategy for Africa (STISA) 2034

Day 3/Time	Session
8:30 – 08:40 AM	<p>Session 33: Guest Lecture: The Role of Science, Technology & Innovation in Africa's Development Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: By Prof. Tatien Masharabu Principal Officer Innovation and Technology, EASTECO</p>
08:40 – 9:55 AM	<p>Session 34 (Plenary): The Status of Innovation in Africa: Where did we succeed, where did we fail? Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Prof Brando Okolo, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Reaboka Morakabi - Programme Officer - Science, Technology and Innovation, SADC 2. Prof Tatien Masharabu, East African Science & Technology Commission, EASTECO 3. Mr. Deo Kamweya, Chief Resource Mobilisation & International Cooperation, COMESA 4. Dr Nyambe Sinyange: Director of the Zambia Field Epidemiology Training Programme (FETP) -Zambia National Public Health Institute 5. Mr. Patrick Mugisha: Commissioner: Business Development and Quality Assurance- Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Uganda
9:55 – 11:10 AM	<p>Session 35 (Plenary): Empowering African R&D: Practical Pathways to Resilience and Impact- Solutions from Emerging Leaders Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Kedest Tesfagiorgis, Gates Foundation</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Collen Masimirembwa, President & CEO, African Institute of Biomedical Science & Technology 2. Isabella Oyier, Head, Biosciences Department, KEMRI-Wellcome Trust Research Program 3. Nicki Tiffin, Professor, University of Western Cape, South Africa National Bioinformatics Institute 4. Yaw Bediako, co-founder & CEO, Yemaachi Biotech
11.10-11.40 AM	Break



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Thursday, 8 May 2025

Day 3/Time	Session
11.40AM-12:55PM	<p>Parallel Sessions</p> <p>Session 36: Aligning National and Regional STI Policies with STISA 2034: Leveraging APET's Expertise in Strategy, Regulation, and Implementation of STISA 2034 Venue: Room A</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Barbara Glover, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof Abegaz Berhanu - AU High Level Panel on Emerging Technologies (APET) 2. Dr Wasswa William, Mbarara University of Science and Technology 3. Prof Abubakar Sambo, Usmanu Danfodiyo University, Sokoto 4. Dr Rachel Chikwamba, South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research 5. Prof Emmanuel Kaunda, Vice Chancellor, Lilongwe University of Agriculture and Natural Resources
	<p>Session 37: Sustainable Financing for Primary Health Care: Strategies and Innovations Venue: Room C</p> <p>Moderator: Melissa Wanda, PATH</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. World Bank 2. Strathmore University School of Business 3. Department of Health Care Financing, Ministry of Health, GoK 4. London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
	<p>Session 38: Innovative Financing Mechanisms for STISA 2034 Implementation Venue: Room B</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Wasswa William, AU High Level Panel on Emerging Technologies (APET)</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mr. Chris Okonji, Programme Officer AUDA NEPAD 2. Gift Kadzamira, Director General, National Commission for Science and Technology Malawi 3. Dr Robert Karanja - Co-founder and Chief Innovations Officer at Villgro Africa 4. Prof. Mfutso Bengo, Kamuzu University of Health Sciences, Malawi
	<p>Session 39: Institutionalising Evidence-Informed Policymaking: Lessons across contexts to help Africa realise its development goals Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Amy Nye, Results for Development (R4D)</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Amadou Gueye, Cheikh Anta Diop University of Dakar, Senegal 2. Dr Violet Murunga, Research and Policy Analyst, AFIDEP 3. Dr Vincent Were, Kenyatta University, Kenya 4. Dr Pauline Ngimwa, Ag. Executive Director, PASGR

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Thursday, 8 May 2025



Day 3/Time	Session
	<p>Session 40: Beyond Protection: Enabling Equitable and Trusted Data Ecosystems in Africa</p> <p>Background and Rationale Venue: Room D</p> <p>Moderator: Bylhah Mugotsistya, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC)</p> <p>Presenters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Engelbert Luchuo, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) 2. Daniel Mwanga, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) 3. Tatenda Kavuu, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) 4. Michael Ochola, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bonface Ingumba, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC) 2. Moustapha Tall, African Population and Health Research Center (APHRC), CARTA, Gate Catalysed representative
12:55 – 1:55 PM	<p>Session 41: The role of AI, big data, and digital platforms in strengthening STI governance: Who Owns the Words? Governance of African Language Data in the Age of AI Venue: Room: A</p> <p>Moderator: Mr. Mark Irura Gachara – Mozilla Foundation</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Lilian Wanzare, Maseno University, Kenya 2. Dr Melissa Omimo, Centre for Intellectual Property and Information Technology – CIPIT, Strathmore University, Kenya 3. Samuel Rutunda (Digital Umuganda, Rwanda) 4. Britone Mwasaru, Mozilla Fellow, Mombasa, Kenya <p>Session 42: Status of Innovation in Africa and how this is contributing to acceleration progress towards the realisation of Agenda 2063 Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Dr Ann Kingiri, African Center for Technology Studies, ACTS</p> <p>Panelists</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Prof. Philippe K. Mawoko, Former Executive Secretary, African Observatory for Science, Technology and Innovation (AOSTI), Congo 2. Prof. Almamy Konte, Former Executive Director of the African observatory of STI (AOSTI) in Malabo, Senegal 3. Dr Roselida Owour, Director of Research Development, Ministry of Education, Kenya 4. Prof. Tom Ogada, Executive Director, ACTS, Kenya 5. Dr Martin Ongol, Ag. Executive Secretary, Uganda National Council for Science and Technology, Uganda



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	<p>Session 43: Transforming health systems for realisation of Agenda 2063 Goals Venue: Room B</p> <p>Chair: Melissa Wanda, PATH</p> <p>Presenters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Peter Kasadha: Integrating the experiences of Knowledge Translation professionals to design a holistic Evidence informed decision-making (EIDM) training curriculum. 2. Simon Josiah: Financial and non-financial information flows in the Kenya health sector: a pathway to health system accountability 3. Ronald Munatsi: Using Rapid Evidence Synthesis Platforms to Institutionalise Evidence-Informed Decision Making in Low Resourced Health Systems
	<p>Session 44: Leveraging Digital infrastructure for realisation of Africa's Agenda 2063 Goals Venue: Room C</p> <p>Chair:</p> <p>Presenters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Caroline Nakalema: Enhancing access to digital tools for evidence synthesis. The Living EIDM ToolMap 2. Peter Mulindwa: Leveraging Next-generation Digital Technologies in an Electronic Evidence Base for policy-relevant Evidence Syntheses: Digital Hive 3. Gideon Abako: Aligning National Artificial Intelligence Strategies for Optimised Government Decision Making: Lessons from Kenya, Nigeria and Zambia
	<p>Session 45: Transforming Education systems for realisation of Agenda 2063 Goals Venue: Room D</p> <p>Chair: Dr Edwin Byusa, Help a Child Rwanda</p> <p>Presenters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obichi Obiajunwa: Challenges and prospects of bridging research commercialisation gaps towards transforming education 2. Nora Ndege: Towards systemic reforms of the global research publishing system: opportunities and policy pathways 3. Angela Burton Mboma: Equity and Inclusion in Higher Education: Developing a Framework to Navigate the Barriers for Sustainable Learning 4. Carolina Viana: Innovate to Educate: Evidence-informed policies for inclusive and equitable learning in East Africa
1.55-2.55 PM	Lunch
3.00 - 3:45 PM	<p>Session 46 (Plenary): Guest lecture: Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme – WHO AFRICA Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Chair: Dr Evelyn Gitau, Science For Africa Foundation (SFA Foundation)</p> <p>Presenter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof Charles Wisyonge, Head of Vaccine Preventable Diseases Programme –WHO AFRICA



PROGRAMME

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Day 3/Time	Session
3.45-4.15 PM	<p>Session 47 (Plenary): Beyond COVID-19: Sustaining Africa's Genomic Surveillance Gains Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Sofonias Tessema, Implementation Science Expert, Africa CDC</p> <p>Presenters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Samuel Oyola, Senior Scientists, International Livestock Research Institute 2. Dr Isabella Oyier, Head, Biosciences Department, Kenya Medical Research Institute
4.15-5.30 PM	<p>Session 48 (Plenary): Reframing Africa's STI financing amid current global geopolitical shifts Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Moderator: Lilian Mutengu, SFA Foundation & Engelbert Luchuo-Head of International Programs, APHRC</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Jordan Kyongo - Head of the East Africa Research & Innovation Hub, FCDO 2. Dr Anthony Mveyange, Director of Programs Synergy, APHRC
5:30 – 5:40 PM	<p>Session 49: Closing Ceremony, MC – Maria Stella Namyalo, African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD) Venue: Ballroom</p> <p>Reflections from Conference delegates</p> <p>Closing Remarks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dr Tom Kariuki, Chief Executive Officer, Science for Africa Foundation (SFA Foundation) 2. Dr Eliya Zulu, Executive Director, African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP) 3. Prof Brando Okolo, Senior Advisor, Science, Technology, Innovation AUDA-NEPAD
	END OF CONFERENCE



CONVENERS



PARTNERS



Evidence for Development Conference

Optimising the Role of Data, Evidence, and Innovations in Africa's Efforts to Create Wealth, Empower Citizens, and Foster Responsive Governance



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