

PROGRAMME IN DETAIL

Date: Tuesday, 12/Nov/2024	
8:00am	Arrival at Ilorin International Airport <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pick up from the airport • Tour to Al-Hikmah University
12:00pm	Courtesy Visit to the Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin
2:00pm	Conference Tour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome to the EMIR of Ilorin,s Palace • ASO-OKE weaving in Ilorin: A timeless craft • University Zoological Garden
Date: Wednesday, 13/Nov/2024	
7:00am	Departure of buses from Hotel - University of Ilorin Location: DePeace Hotel Located between 35 and 45 minutes from the hotel depending on the traffic.
8:00am - 9:00am	Arrival and registration at the Conference venue
9:00am - 10:30am	Official Opening Session (organized by the Local Organizing Committee - LOC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prof. Wahab Olasupo Egbewole SAN, Vice-Chancellor, University of Ilorin ▪ Prof. Kitaw, President, AfricaLics ▪ Dr. Maruf Sanni, President, NigeriaLics ▪ Dr. Kemi F. Omotesho, Chair of LOC (6th AfricaLics Conference) ▪ Hon. Minister Dr. Bosun Tijani, Federal Ministry of Communication, Innovation and Digital Economy (FMCIDE)
10:30am - 11:00am	Break and group photo session
11:00am - 12:00pm	KN-01: Keynote Address <i>Professor Williams O. Siyanbola, Centre for Energy Research and Development, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria</i> Title: Technological Innovation and Digital Economic Transformation for Sustainable Development in Africa: Opportunities and Challenges
12:00pm - 12:15pm	Brief health break and relocation to rooms where paper parallel sessions take place
12:15pm - 1:45pm	PAPER PARALLEL SESSION A PAPER SESSION A1: INNOVATION MANAGEMENT IN KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (E.G. AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURING, SERVICES): PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES Chair: Prof. R. A. Bello Discussant: Prof. Daniel Kitaw Rapporteurs: Dr. Onifade Banji & Dr. Fatimah o. Etudaiye Location: Basement - University Auditorium <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Firm-level analyses of innovation ecosystems, technological upgrading and performance in South Africa <u>Elvis Korku Avenyo</u> ▪ Exploring the synergistic effects of human capital development and innovation in industrial sector performance in sub-saharan african countries <u>Oluyemi Adeosun, Ayodele Shittu, Ernest Odior</u> ▪ Innovation in Action: An Empirical Study of Business Model Innovation Enablers in Ethiopian Manufacturing Firms. <u>Mulatu Tilahun Gelaw, Eshetie Berhan, Gezahegn Tesfaye Dadi</u>

	<p>PAPER SESSION A2: STRATEGIES AND TECHNOLOGIES TO ENHANCE AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION, RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS Chair: Prof. Oluyemisi B. Fawole Discussant: Dr. Justina Onumah Rapporteurs: Dr. Sijuwade A. Adebayo & Dr. Folusho Bankole Location: Faculty of Environmental Sciences Board room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effects of digital technologies on the productivity of rice farmers in Kwara State, Nigeria <u>Adedayo Olufemi Adekunle</u>, Olanrewaju Raphael Babatunde ▪ Analysis of drivers and profitability of Purdue improved cowpea storage technology use in Benue State, Nigeria <u>Uzoamaka Georgina Asogwa</u>, Eytayo Opeyemi Ayinde ▪ Climate Change Risks to Food and Nutrition Security of Small Holder Farmers in Murang'a County, Kenya <u>Ruth Wambui Wainaina</u> <p>PAPER SESSION A3: 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: OPPORTUNITIES AND IMPACTS OF DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES ON AFRICAN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURES Chair: Prof. O.A Oladipo Discussant: Dr. Maruf Sanni Rapporteurs: Dr. P. Udende & Dr. Ikeolorun S. Olatinwo Location: Geology Conference room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Interrogating Africa's data governance trajectory through technological innovation: how endogenous, how inclusive? <u>Geci Karuri-Sebina</u>, Ogundiran Soumonni ▪ Awareness and preparedness for predictive analytics in Nigeria university <u>Dorcas Sola Daramola</u>, Jumoke Iyabode Oladele, Moruf O. Aileru ▪ Playing with 4IR Technology. Insights into learning by doing in South African services and manufacturing <u>Lotta Takala-Greenish</u> <p>PAPER SESSION A4: ENERGY AND INNOVATION Chair: Prof Eseosa Omorogiuwa. Discussant: Dr. Ann Kingiri Rapporteurs: Dr Yakub Zainab & Engr Etejere Location: LNG Conference room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A Measurement Framework for Understanding the Energy Innovation System in South Africa Ogundiran Soumonni, <u>Rendani Mamphiswana</u> ▪ Factors Affecting the Adoption and Efficiency of Improved Charcoal Stove Innovation among Peri-Urban Households <u>Mercy Funke SALAMI</u>, Kehinde Kikelomo OSASONA, Hussain Kobe IBRAHIM, Oluwatimilehin Deborah BELLO, Khairat ALIYU, Ibunkunoluwa AWOTOYE
1:45pm - 3:00pm	Lunch including AfricaLics Alumni meeting
3:00pm - 5:30pm	<p>PAPER PARALLEL SESSION B PAPER SESSION B1: INNOVATION MANAGEMENT IN KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (E.G. AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURING, SERVICES): PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES Chair: Prof. K. R. Ajao Discussant: Dr. Pamela Mreji Rapporteurs: Dr A. M. Ojuolape & Dr. M. O. Oloyede Location: Basement - University Auditorium</p>

- **Motivators of R&D Engagement and Technological Acquisition as determinant of firm's innovation performance**
David Olufemi Akindimeji, Oluwatosin E. Ilevbare
- **Firm-specific, market-centric and policy-related determinants of 'commercialization valley of death' encountered by techno-business firms in Uganda**
Ronald Jjagwe, John Baptist Kirabira, Norbert Mukasa

PAPER SESSION B2: STRATEGIES AND TECHNOLOGIES TO ENHANCE AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION, RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS

Chair: Prof. G. B. Adesiji

Discussant: Prof. Elvis Avenyo

Rapporteurs: Dr. Abraham O. Falola & Dr. Kehinde Affinnih

Location: Faculty of Environmental Sciences Board room

- **Impact of edible insects on Food Security: Exploring the driving factors of its Commercialization in the North Central part of Nigeria**
Rosemary Aloga, Abayomi Omotesho, Abdulazeez Muhammad-lawal, Ezekiel Ojediran
- **Local Economic Development in Nigeria Cashew Production: Agricultural Innovation System Approach**
Oluwasegun Tope Fabiyi, Olubunmi Abayomi Omotesho, Opeyemi Eytayo Ayinde
- **Assessment of NSPRI Technological Innovations' Adoption among Users in Nigeria**
Seun Ayodele Adetayo, Mufuliat Oladuntan Olatilewa, Isaac Tunde Oyebamiji, Olusegun Babatunde Aina, Kennedy Chika Achime, Deborah Adedoyin Olabode, Oluwasanjo Biodun Owojaiye

PAPER SESSION B3: 4TH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION: OPPORTUNITIES AND IMPACTS OF DISRUPTIVE TECHNOLOGIES ON AFRICAN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC STRUCTURES

Chair: Prof. K. T. Biobaku

Discussant: Dr. O. Popoola

Rapporteurs: Dr. I. K. Ayinla & Dr. Abdulmusawwir Alli-Oluwafuyi

Location: Geology conference room

- **Determinants of Ethical Use of Artificial Intelligence among Tech Startups**
Joseph Emeka Agbamoro, Ayodele Shittu
- **Drivers of Frontier Technology Adoption in Ghana**
Justina Adwoa Onumah, George Owusu Essegbey, Wilhemina Quaye, Clovis Freire, Erika Kraemer-Mbula
- **Women Entrepreneurs and Transformative Innovation within the 4th Industrial Revolution: Exploring Key Attributes and Characteristics of Women operating in Markers spaces in Nairobi and Johannesburg**
Pamela Adhiambo Mreji

PAPER SESSION B4: INNOVATIONS FOR REDUCED INEQUALITIES IN AFRICA (GENDER, INCOME, HEALTH, HUMAN SETTLEMENTS ETC.) AND INCLUSIVE, PRODUCTIVE, AND DECENT JOB FOR ALL

Chair: Prof. Shade Adekeye

Discussant: Prof. Geci Karuri-Sebina

Rapporteurs: Dr. A. K. Daudu & Dr. W. M. Raheem

Location: LNG Conference room

- **Determinants of digital entrepreneurial intentions among undergraduates in social sciences**
Precious Babalola, Ayodele Shittu
- **Harnessing indigenous knowledge and innovation system for sustainable livestock production: evidence from Nigeria**
Luke Oloruntoba Adebisi, Oluwaremilekun Ayobami Adebisi, Olubunmi Abayomi Omotesho
- **Why innovation policy narratives matter and what helps them change?**
Rajesh Gopalakrishnan Nair, Andy Hall

5:30pm - 6:15pm	Book presentations Books <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mammo muchie , Angetvar Baskaran & Mingfenf Tang (editors} :Title: China-Africa Science, Technology, Innovation collaboration, Springer Nature publisher, 2024 (e-book & printed book) ▪ John Trimble & Mammo Muchie (editors): Title: Appropriate Technology Manifesto: Shifting the Forces of Production to Empower People and Protect the Planet, Africa World Press, 2024 ▪ Mammo Muchie & AN Moloto(editors): The South African Public Sector Administration: Some Critical Contemporary Case Studies., Batale Publishers, South Africa Journals <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ African journal of Science, Technology, Innovation and development Vol.16, No.6:https://www.tandfonline.com/toc/rajs20/current ▪ Volume 14 Issue 1 of Ethiopian e-Journal for Research and Innovation Foresight (Ee-JRIF). https://journals.bdu.edu.et/index.php/eejrif4 ▪ Journal of Creativity Innovation and Social Entrepreneurship (https://sarchi.org/jcise
6:15pm - 7:30pm	Welcome Reception (Cocktails) hosted by the University of Ilorin Location: Multipurpose Hall of the University
7:30pm	Buses departing for hotels

Date: Thursday, 14/Nov/2024	
8:00am	Buses departing from hotels for conference venue Location: DePeace Hotel
8:45am - 10:15am	THEMATIC SESSION A Thematic Session A1: Innovative Strategies for Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa Organizers: NACETEM, STEPRI-CSIR and AfricaLics Location: Basement-university Auditorium <p>A just and inclusive energy transition is increasingly recognized as a crucial consideration for achieving universal access, energy security, and decarbonizing energy systems. This transition must address existing socio-economic and energy inequalities and protect jobs in high-energy intensive sectors. This issue is particularly pressing in sub-Saharan Africa, where the number of people in Africa without access to electricity increased to 600 million in 2022 (IEA, 2022), representing nearly a 2% rise from 2019 partly due of COVID 19 pandemic (Li et al., 1234; Cozzi et al., 2020).</p> <p>Expanding energy access has been an integral part of Africa's energy transition (Dagnachew et al., 2020). For instance, in 2022, South Africa adopted the Just Energy Transition Investment Plan (Blissett, 2023; Winkler et al., 2023), aimed at shifting from coal to cleaner energy systems in an inclusive and economically sustainable manner, without compromising jobs in the other sectors (Musango and Ouma-Mugabe, 2024). Other countries with energy transition plans or strategies include Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Kenya, Namibia, Rwanda (Adewuyi et al., 2020; Komendantova, Singh and Mansaray, 2021; Kruger, 2022; International Energy Agency, 2023; Sefa-Nyarko, 2024).</p> <p>These plans acknowledge the importance of technological innovation in low carbon energy transitions. However, there is limited information on how the transition will happen in a just and socially inclusive manner. More knowledge is needed on how specific energy technologies can drive transformative changes. Energy transitions are systemic and must be managed to ensure the entire energy system's transformation is sustainable (Moallemi et al., 2014). A just and sustainable energy transitions require long-term systemic transformations and significant societal</p>

involvement. Many strategies for engaging society in energy and climate change issues fall short by focusing on isolated forms of participation within specific parts of broader systems (Chilvers et al., 2021). Lastly, gender, as a socio-cultural factor in the energy innovation process, is often overlooked (Khaemba and Kingiri, 2021). There is limited documentation on how energy insecurity affects genders differently within informal settlements (Johnson, Gerber and Muhoza, 2019; Anditi et al., 2022; Chen, Liao and Zhang, 2024). Integrating gender perspectives into energy innovations could significantly enhance adoption rates in informal settlements and improve livelihoods by alleviating energy insecurity and poverty (Chirambo, 2018; Pueyo, Carreras and Ngo, 2020).

The objectives of the panel session are therefore designed to address these critical issues, share insights, and foster actionable strategies to enhance expansion of energy access across the continent. The session aims to bring together experts, policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders to discuss the multifaceted aspects of sustainable energy and its role in Africa's development. The specific objectives include:

- To discuss the major obstacles in the expansion of renewable energy in Africa, including infrastructural, financial, regulatory, and socio-economic.
- To highlight successful projects, technologies, and policies that have effectively increased sustainable energy access in various African regions.
- To discuss just and sustainable energy access initiatives across Africa, addressing the needs of marginalized communities and promoting gender equity.

Structure of the session

Structure of the session (90 minutes, 10 minutes introduction and background, three presentations of max 20 minutes, and 20 minutes of joint discussion)

The session will start with the Chair providing an overview of the research agenda proposed in the AfricaLics Thematic Report on Sustainable Energy Transition in Africa after which the panelists will present ideas and challenges on sustainable energy transition from their own contexts.

Panelists:

- Dr. Maruf Sanni - National Centre for Technology Management (NACETEM)
- Prof. Rasmus Lema - United Nations University - UNU-MERIT.
- Dr. Collins Okello - Gulu University
- Dr. Ann Kingiri - African, African Centre for Technology Studies (ACTS)

Thematic session A2: Agricultural innovation and digital solutions

Organizers: University of Ilorin and NigeriaLics

Location: Faculty of Environmental Sciences Board room

Over the years, agriculture has witnessed a tremendous transformation through innovations. From the earliest plows to the Green Revolution, innovations in agriculture have consistently spurred production activities. For instance, the Green Revolution of the mid-20th century boosted global food production particularly in developing countries through high-yielding crops varieties with the use of synthetic fertilizers. However, looking forward, there are new challenges such as climate change and resource scarcity threatening sustainable production, and a growing global population which continue to undermine efforts towards food security and sustainable environment. Beyond agricultural innovation, the answer lies in leveraging on the power of digital technology

Digital solutions such as precision agriculture, internet of things (IoT), drones and remote sensing, data analytics and artificial intelligence, automatics and robotics, block chain technology, and farm management software harness digital data and computing power to enhance and transform agricultural practices. These smart farming technologies integrate financial and field-level records to ensure real-time comprehensive farm management. By delivering timely, valuable insights, digital solutions enable data-driven decision-making, which promote the adoption of best practices and enhance farm efficiency. As a result, they help reduce losses and maximize profits. Additionally, agricultural innovations seek to address the triple challenge of ensuring

	<p>food security, environmental sustainability, and inclusive livelihoods for farmers. Embracing agricultural innovations and digital solutions will therefore improve the efficiency of farming methods for adequate use of resources, enhance greater productivity, environmental sustainability, and access to new markets. Hence the session will try and answer the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) What is the level of digital literacy and access to digital innovation among small-scale farmers? ii) What is the level of adoption of digital technology in agricultural practice and the resilience of small-scale farmers and how can this be improved? iii) What are the pathways through which digital literacy and digital innovation affects resilience of small-scale farmers? iv) How are digital literacy and digital innovation platforms influencing the adoption of climate smart agricultural technology and development among small scale farmers? v) What are some existing and potential barriers to the adoption of climate smart agricultural technology? vi) How is your Organization used local led research as a pathway to successful Scale of innovation vii) Could you briefly tell us about the project that are scaling innovation in organization and or research <p>Scholars and researchers from different parts of the globe will present in this session and especially the International Center for Evaluation and Development (ICED) will showcase their research output on Agricultural Innovation and Digital Solutions.</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prof. Opeyemi Ayinde ▪ Prof P. Njifort ▪ Ms. Rosalyne Naa Norkor Baddoo ▪ Dr Fabrice Ewolo Bitoto ▪ Dr. Rajesh GK ▪ Dr. Kwadwo Danso-Mensah ▪ Sanne Chipeta
10:15am - 10:45am	Tea break
10:45am - 11:45am	<p>KN-02: Keynote Address <i>Prof. Rasmus Lema, UNU-Merit, The Netherlands</i> Title: The Green and Digital Transformations: Are there windows of opportunity?</p>
11:45am - 12:15pm	<p>Plenary Session <i>Dr. Yedilfana Setarge Mekonnen, Center for Environmental Science, Ethiopia</i> Title: Career Development and Funding Opportunities in Europe with Euraxess Africa Services</p>
12:15am - 1:15pm	<p>POSTER SESSION Location: Multipurpose Hall of the University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effect of Digital Financial Literacy Gap on Farmers' Vulnerabilities Outcomes: Insight from the Nigeria Cashless Policy Enactment <u>Mercy Funke Salami</u>, Opeyemi Eytayo Ayinde, David Akanbi Itiola, Kehinde Kikelomo Osasona, Timilehin Faruq Lawal, Ayomide Abdulazeez Salawu ▪ Bridging Pedagogical Affordances and Disciplinary Contexts: The Role of Institutional Support in Augmented Reality Adoption in Nigerian Higher Education <u>Koledafe, Olawale Sunday</u>; Prinsloo, Paul; Abdullahi, Kehinde ▪ Gender Analysis of Climate Change Mitigation Practices among Rural Households in Ekiti State, Nigeria <u>Adio, Matthew Olufemi</u>; Fakayode, Segun Bamidele; Ayorinde, Omolola Eniola; Ayeni, Matthew Durojaiye ▪ Arabic Culture for Sustainable Development in Nigeria: Potentials and Challenges

	<p><u>Abdulkareem, Jamiu Saadullah</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assessing the Impact of Entrepreneurial Health Education Programs on the Health Outcomes of female sex workers in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria <u>Kafayah Adeola Jidda</u>, Adijat Mojisola AbdulRaheem, Jamiu Tosin AbdulQudus, Qazeem Onaolapo AbdulRasaq, Adebusola Oluwatosin Oyeyemi, Oluwatoni Adeleke ▪ Assessment of Youth Participation in Agriprenurship and Digital Financial Inclusion in Rural Nigeria <u>Osasona, Kehinde; Ayinde</u>, Opeyemi; Salami, Mercy; Ogunjobi, Veronica; Okunloye, Yanmife; Paul, Blossom; Fayemi, Adeola ▪ Harnessing STI indicators for sustainable innovation and digital transformation policies in Nigeria <u>Rahila Christopher Wakawa</u>, Sanni Maruf, Abdulhamid Usman, Sa'adatu Aminu Garba, Kazeem Abubakar, Aderonke Mary Ademola-Ajibade ▪ Evaluating the impact of government budgetary allocations on science, technology and innovation (STI) outcomes in Nigeria: a decadal analysis Emeka Joseph, <u>Aderonke Mary Ademola-Ajibade</u>, Valentina Usang Thompson-Adewole, Oluwadamilola Ajuwon, Kazeem Abubakar, Rahila Christopher Wakawa ▪ Farm mechanization innovation capacity and rice productivity: evidence from small scale rice farmers in Kwara state, Nigeria. <u>Abiola Adebunmi Olarinre</u>, Opeyemi Eytayo Ayinde, Adedolapo Kemi Ajala ▪ Assessment of youths' involvement in soilless farming activities in Ogun state, Nigeria <u>Mobolaji Omolabake Musa</u>, Gbolagade Benjamin Adesiji, Adeseye Oluwasikemi Awoyemi, Manomsi Wasona Mallum ▪ Causative Analysis of Industrial Growth and Alleviation of Multidimensional Poverty in Nigeria <u>Kelechi Nnamdi</u>, Anthony Onah, Onyinye Mgbemena ▪ Making a case for responsible governance of artificial intelligence in self-driving cars <u>Gbenga-Fabusiwa, Love</u> ▪ Socio-economic Determinants of Technological Capability among Informal Foodservice Operators in Southwestern Nigeria: An Exploratory Study <u>Adedeji, Funke</u>
1:15pm - 2:15pm	Lunch break
2:15pm - 3:30pm	<p>PAPER PARALLEL SESSION C PAPER SESSION C1: INNOVATION MANAGEMENT IN KEY ECONOMIC SECTORS FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT (E.G. AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURING, SERVICES): PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES Chair: Prof. R.A. Gbadeyan Discussant: Dr. Oluyemi Adeosun Rapporteurs: Dr. O. W. Kareem & Dr. N. Sadiku Location: Basement - University Auditorium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Special economic zone incentives, innovation and export performance of firms in Nigeria John Adeoti, <u>Olufemi Popoola</u>, Joshua Afolabi ▪ Assessing the Impact of Innovation Capability on Small Enterprises Survival During Crisis <u>Funke Susan Medun</u>, Khaled Guesmi ▪ Influence of Circular Economy Implementation on Financial Performance of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises in Nigeria <u>Caleb Muyiwa ADELOWO</u>, Yusuf Opeyemi Akinwale <p>PAPER SESSION C2: STRATEGIES AND TECHNOLOGIES TO ENHANCE AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION, RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS. Chair: Prof. A. Muhammad-Lawal</p>

	<p>Discussant: Dr. A.D. Adeyeye Rapporteurs: Dr. O. J. Omolekan & Dr. A. T. Jimoh Location: Faculty of Environmental Sciences Board room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technology and food security in Africa: can Artificial Intelligence adoption end the hunger crisis? <u>Fabrice Ewolo Bitoto</u>, Edmond Noubissi Domguia, Paul Tadzong Mouafo ▪ Does Biomass Value Web have any Impact on Household Livelihood Security? Evidence from Maize Farming Households in Nigeria. <u>Oluwafemi Oyedeji</u> ▪ Effect of Financial Innovation on the Use of Stress-tolerant Maize Technology: Area Yield Index-Insurance among Smallholder Farmers in Oyo State, Nigeria Opeyemi Eytayo Ayinde, Olubunmi Abayomi Omotesho, <u>Sinmidele Mercy Jacob</u> <p>PAPER SESSION C3: APPROPRIATE POLICIES FOR INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE ERA OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION STRATEGY FOR AFRICA (STISA), 2024, AGENDA 2063 AND THE SDGS. Chair: Prof. J.K.Odusote Discussant: Dr. Rendani Mamphiswana Rapporteurs: Dr. H. U. Hambali & Dr. T.D. Akpenpuun Location: Conference Room - Chemical Engineering Department</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Factors influencing agri-technology development and planned commercialization in public Ghanaian research institutions <u>Rosalyn Naa Norkor Baddoo</u>, Irene Susanna EGYIR, Akwasi MENSAH-BONSU, Yaw Bonsu OSEI-ASARE, Freda Elikplim ASEM, Caleb Muyiwa ADELOWO, Hanna PARK, Taeyoon KIM ▪ Forecasting STI Indicators (Enablers) for Nigeria Using AI: Insights on Human Capital, Infrastructure, and Regulatory Frameworks towards STYIP <u>Kazeem Abubakar</u>, Blessing Enyojo Momoh, Ukamaka R. Ugwu, Olushola Odusanya, Olalekan Akinbo, Ademola- Ajibade A. Mary, Rahila C. Wakawa ▪ Health of the Innovation Ecosystem in South Africa <u>Amy Mutua</u>, Stacey-Leigh Joseph, Geci Karuri-Sebina <p>PAPER SESSION C4: CLIMATE CHANGE AND INNOVATION Chair: Prof Nkechi Izuogu Discussant: Dr. Gregory Mvogo Rapporteurs: Dr. Mercy Salami Location: LNG Conference room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Reducing Climate vulnerability in Africa: is Technological innovation a solution? Hermann Doel TOUKAM ▪ Antecedents of Climate Innovation Adoption for Power Generation: A case of Households in Lagos State <u>Andrew Olatubosun Oriola</u>, Adeyemi Oluwaseun Adepoju, Olalekan Aquila Jesuleye
3:30pm - 4:00pm	Tea break
4:00pm - 5:30pm	<p>PAPER PARALLEL SESSION D PAPER SESSION D1: STRATEGIES AND TECHNOLOGIES TO ENHANCE AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION, RESILIENCE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ITS IMPACTS. Chair: Prof. I. Ogunlade Discussant: Dr. Caleb Muyiwa Adelowo Rapporteurs: Dr. A. O. Akanbi & Dr. I. Kareem Location: Faculty of Environmental Sciences Board room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender Analysis of Smallholder Farmers' Involvement in Postharvest Management of Cassava in Kwara State, Nigeria <u>Deborah Adedoyin Olabode</u>, Kemi Funmilayo Omotesho, Abimbola Lois Olabode ▪ Understanding farmers' perceptions and factors determining the adoption of Good Agricultural Practices: Evidence from the Cashew nut Production in Côte d'Ivoire

	<p><u>NONLOUROU ZIE SILUE</u>, RACHIDI ABOUDOU, CHIAPO CHRISTOPHE ADASSE, ALEXANDRE ASSEMIEN</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opportunities for Innovation and Social Inclusion in the Cashew Nut Value Chain: Evidence from Southwest Nigeria <u>Adeduntan Oluwaseyitan Segun-Olasanmi</u> <p>PAPER SESSION D2: INNOVATION FOR SOCIAL INCLUSION AND CONFLICT MANAGEMENT Chair: Prof M.O Yusuf Discussant: Dr. Ann Kingiri Rapporteurs: Dr. Ajani Hamed & Dr. Olawale S. Koledafe Location: LNG Conference room</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Gender, entrepreneurship and innovation performance in Nigeria’s informal sector <u>Adedamola David Adeyeye</u>, Festa N Okrigwe, Abiodun Egbetokun ▪ A study of technological alliance and performance of indigenous bakery industry in osun state, Nigeria <u>Abiodun Isaac Oyebola</u>, Olufemi Isaac Abuloye, Funke Tawakalitu Adedeji
5:45pm	Buses leaving from the conference venue to hotels
7:00pm	Buses leaving hotels for conference dinner venue (where applicable)
7:30pm - 9:30pm	<p>Conference Dinner Location: DePeace Hotel Dress code: African attire/ traditional dress</p>
9:30pm	Buses will take participants not staying at the hotel where the conference dinner is held back to their hotels.

Date: Friday, 15/Nov/2024	
8:00am	<p>Buses leaving from hotels for conference venue Participants to bring their luggage if going directly to the airport from the conference venue</p>
9:00am - 10:30am	<p>THEMATIC SESSION B Thematic Session B1: STI Indicators for Measuring Digital Transformation: Gaps and Challenges Organizer: CeSTII and NACETEM Location: Basement-university Auditorium</p> <p>Increasingly, African states recognise the significance of science, technology and innovation (STI) measurement for assessing progress towards the SDGs and STI Strategy for Africa (STISA) targets, as well as monitoring STI policy achievements at a national level. A concern is that STI measurement is heavily reliant on concepts and theories transposed from the experience of high-income countries, begging the question of relevance.</p> <p>A decade ago, Lorentzen (2011: 80) identified a critical problem for innovation measurement: that despite some progress in theory development, there is little certainty that “what we aim to measure in Africa is what should indeed be measured”. He questioned the extent to which emerging new indicators were able to capture the kinds of technological change, knowledge and capabilities characterising innovation in the contexts of low- and lower-middle income countries (LICs). One reason is that there is insufficient attention paid to the developmental challenges of LICs, in the field of innovation studies in general. Most of what did exist is country-specific empirical studies that did not theorise how the economic structures and dynamics of African LICs differ from those in upper middle- and high-income countries. Lorentzen surfaced a lacunae in the field - a dearth of theoretical and conceptual research exploring the nature and patterns of technological upgrading, learning and innovation in the context of the poorest economies. Over the decade since, the emphasis in the field is shifting, from a conceptual focus on the contribution of innovation to economic growth, to interrogating how innovation drives inclusive</p>

and sustainable development (Allard and Williams, 2020; Rodriguez et al., 2020; Park et al., 2017; Pansera and Owen, 2018a). The volume and creativity of such research is so great that Godin et al (2021) recently were able to compile a substantial handbook on 'alternative innovation', responding to the need for new and different imaginaries.

Despite this shift, ten years later, Diyamett (2021) echoed the challenge raised by Lorentzen, arguing that the field of innovation studies can in fact be detrimental to poor economies, if it does not build "empirically informed theoretical propositions" explaining how technological capabilities can be built. She emphasised how vital such conceptual foundations are for evidence-informed innovation policy. Indeed, a recent review using more sophisticated bibliometric techniques interrogated whether the gap identified by Lorentzen still persisted. Lema et al (2021) found that there had been little change in the primary focus on middle-income emerging economies, increasingly China (see also Joseph et al 2021). Despite the fact that the literature on innovation and development had increased four-fold over the decade, research on LICs was fragmented, and remained marginal (Lema et al 2021).

This session therefore attempts to encourage and prioritise attempts to fill the gap in the literature and hence, policy spaces. Building on a recent bibliometric research study on the current state of STI measurement in Africa, the session informs the conversation around future research on STI measurement in Africa, towards the goal of creating contextually-relevant STI indicators (Kruss et al 2023). The session contributors share the premise that we require a stronger empirical and conceptual research base to inform shifting policy and measurement objectives.

The session will start with the Chair providing an overview of the research agenda proposed in the AfricaLics Thematic Report (Kruss et al 2023; <https://africalics.org/thematic-chair-report/>).

The panel will present recent research addressing four research agenda topics:

- Measuring progress and the impact of digital technologies and the fourth industrial revolution
- STI measurement towards advancing the SDGs and understanding impact
- Creating quality data sets
- Empirically grounded research on innovation measurement in the informal sector

Panelists:

- Dr. Glenda Kruss - CeSTII, HSRC
- Dr. Maruf Sanni - NACETEM
- Dr. Ann Kingiri - ACTS
- Dr. Il-haam Petersen - CeSTII, HSRC
- Dr. Amy Kahn - CeSTII, HSRC
- Dr. Yasser Buchana - CeSTII, HSRC
- Dr. Nazeem Mustapha - CeSTII, HSRC
- Dr. Oluseye Jegede - Ravensbourne University London/VCAD

Thematic Session B2: Excellence in Research and International Publishing.

Organizer: AfricaLics Secretariat in collaboration with VFP alumni and journal editors

Location: Faculty of Environmental Sciences Board room

Ensuring excellence in research on Innovation and Development studies research and publishing in international journals is a demanding exercise. It requires thorough knowledge of theory and methods in the field of Innovation and Development as well as specific knowledge on how to target journals, engage in academic conversations, and create high-quality, unique academic papers bringing new and relevant knowledge, concepts, or theories to the table.

Considerable efforts have been made to enhance research quality in African Innovation and Development Studies research in the past 10 years. Even so, only a fragment of the journal articles published in journals outside the African continent are written by African scholars. The reasons are numerous and stretch from a perceived lack of relevance of papers focusing on African issues and contexts among journal editors over repetition of knowledge already published, to uncritical use of scientific methods and inadequate quality of submitted articles e.g. due to language issues or flaws in the structure and flow of the articles.

Against this background, this thematic session will focus on key issues related to achieving excellence in research and international publishing in the field of Innovation and Development.

Structure of the session:

The Chair will start by briefly setting the scene. Members of the panel will then speak on the different topics listed below. Finally, the session will include an open discussion on excellence in research and international publishing.

Panelists:

- Dr. Pamela Mreji - Technical University of Kenya
- Dr. Justina Onumah - STEPRI-CSIR, Ghana
- Prof. Adegboyega Adisa Fawole - University of Ilorin
- Dr. Abiodun Egbetokun - DeMontfort University, Leicester, United Kingdom
- Prof. Rasmus Lema - UNU-Merit
- Prof. Mammo Muchie - Tshwane University of Technology

Thematic Session B3: Unlocking the Potential Green Charcoal Innovations to Mitigate Climate Change in Northern Uganda.

Organizers: Gulu University, Uganda, Aalborg University and University of Copenhagen, Denmark

Location: Geology Conference room

Prepared as a case for a thematic session based on the collaborative and multidisciplinary research project with the same name as the panel: Unlocking the Potential of Green Charcoal Innovations to Mitigate Climate Change in Northern Uganda (UPCHAIN), funded by the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA).

The importance of the panel lies in its focus on practice change, alongside the more technical aspects of greencharcoal innovation. The innovation of green charcoal is understood as deeply integrated with changes insocial, cultural and technical practices. Each practice adds up to a practice architecture in which practices are interconnected and a configuration of each other (Kemmis & Grootenboer, 2008), which means that a singlepractice (e.g. the use of green charcoal) cannot be transformed without changing the whole practice architecture (semantics, materials, space-time and social aspects) that keep existing practices in place.

Inspired by a concept of inclusive innovation adopted by scholars in South Africa (Kruss, Adeoti, & Nabudere,2015), we are particularly concerned with exploring innovation in green charcoal practices as a participatory approach, building on localised experiences from households and schools, and from green charcoal producers and facilitators. Inclusive innovation focuses on both the formal and informal economies. In Uganda, accordingto the World Bank and ILOSTAT, the informal economy accounts for about 72 per cent of enterprises, 78 percent of the labour force and about 51 per cent of GDP (2022). In order to improve livelihoods and engage all communities in a transformation of fuel use and cooking practices, the research presented here examines innovation in relation to both the informal and formal economies.

To fully understand the complexity of the transformation process as a change in practices, we are further inspired by the concept of 'expansive learning' (Engeström, 2001)., which emphasises change as a socio- cultural and socio-technical process, driven by identifying the tensions and contradictions in the activity systems of green charcoal innovations.

The research goes through three phases: (1) Problem identification: questioning, historical and current empirical analysis. (2) Experimenting: modelling, testing and implementing; (3) Learning: reflecting and concluding on the new practices. A change lab (CL), using a mix of participatory data collection techniques, supports the process of expansive learning (Virkkunen, 2013). We are in the second phase of the experimentation phase, in transition to scaling up the design experiments.

Three sites have been selected for the studies and as partners: Gulu town, Pabbo (Amuru district) and Adjumani(Adjumani district) refugee settlements. Principles for site selection include urban, peri-urban and rural lifestyles; types of households; types of producers (smallholder farmers, entrepreneurs, fast-growing agricultural sectors); schools as a nexus for change; and Adjumani District with its particular challenges of extreme depletion of natural resources due to the massive influx of refugees and a welcoming host community.

	<p>The novel contribution of this panel is the comprehensive and interdisciplinary research approach that explores the entangled practices of green charcoal, including innovation as a process of change, examining the production side of green charcoal along with the business, social and cultural aspects of adoption and change.</p> <p>Structure of the session The session will begin with the chair providing an overview of the UPCHAIN research case, focusing on changing practices, expansive learning, and participatory approaches to inclusive innovation. In the panel, researchers will present recent research from the UPCHAIN case, which cut across the themes of the AfricaLics Research Conference. Structure of the session (90 minutes, 10 minutes introduction and background, four presentations of max 15 minutes, and 20 minutes of joint discussion).</p> <p>Panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dr. Collins Okello - Gulu University ▪ Prof. Lone Dirckinck-Holmfeld - Aalborg University ▪ Dr. Geoffrey Tabo Olok - Gulu University ▪ Prof. Arne Remmen - Aalborg University ▪ Dr. Agatha Alidri - Gulu University ▪ Dr. Fredrick Amanyire - Gulu University ▪ Dr. Kevin Aber - Gulu University
10:30am - 11:00am	Tea break
11:00am - 12:00pm	<p>KN-03: Keynote Address <i>Dr. Angella Ndaka, International ICT Consultant, Ghana</i> Title: Seeing like the market: Unmasking the politics of AI and data-driven economies in Africa. <i>With response from Prof. Geci Karuri-Sebina, Wits University, South Africa.</i></p>
12:00pm - 1:30pm	Lunch break - including informal meetings (national LICs or other)
1:30pm - 2:00pm	<p>Conference closing session Chaired by Prof. Opeyemi Ayinde, Secretary General of NigeriaLics. Will include info on the host and location of the AfricaLics Conference 2026 and a brief vote of thanks by AfricaLics Secretary General, Dr. Ann Kingiri.</p>
2:00pm	Tea break
2:30pm	Buses leaving for the airport (and hotels for those not leaving on 15 th November)

