



African Climate and Environment Center
Future African Savannas

ANNUAL PHOTO REPORT

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Global Centres
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service





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EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN STUDIES (ECAS9)

- Date: May 31 - June 3, 2023
- Location: University of Cologne, Germany

The ninth edition of the European Conference on African Studies (ECAS9) was held at the University of Cologne, hosted by the Global South Studies Center (GSSC). The conference hosted 1900 delegates from 80 countries where 1400 papers were presented across 245 panels/roundtable addressing the theme “African Futures”. AFAS organized a panel on the theme “Adapting to and Combating Climate Change in Africa’s Drylands”.

AFAS Panel: “Adapting to and Combating Climate Change in Africa’s Drylands”

The panel addressed the uncertain future of Africa’s drylands and savannas due to the combined threats of climate change and biodiversity loss.

An international group of speakers from various disciplinary and regional backgrounds presented eight papers on the theme. AFAS associate Jesse Owino and AFAS Ph.D. student Timothy Downing from the University of Nairobi presented their research.



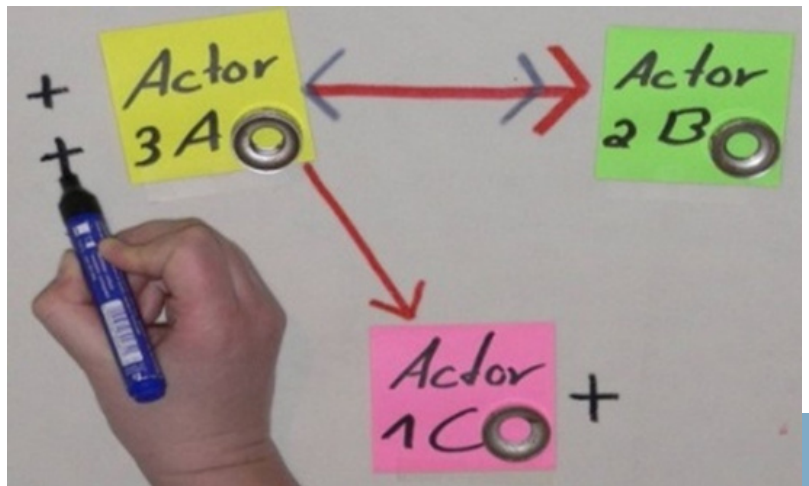
Outcomes: The AFAS panel facilitated fruitful discussions among the panel participants, contributing to a comprehensive exploration of climate change adaptation and biodiversity conservation in Africa’s drylands.

SCIENCE COMMUNICATION WORKSHOPS

BY LEADING EXPERTS FOR SCHOLARSHIP HOLDERS OF THE DAAD GLOBAL CENTRES

Description

A series of Science Communication workshops was co-organized with the TRAJECTS centre in an urgent need for soft skill training for master and PhD students which was open to all DAAD Global Centres. This initiative provided the scholarship holders with more networking opportunities to connect through shared activities. Three online workshops took place with participants from six centres.



Workshop 1

September 2023

Communication to a scientific audience



Workshop 2

October 2023

Communication with general public and policy



Workshop 3

December 2023

Engagement strategies in demand-driven research

INTERDISCIPLINARY WORKSHOP ON INTERACTIONS BETWEEN HUMANS AND WILDLIFE



- Date: October 23- 27, 2023
- Location: University Hospital Bonn, Germany

An interdisciplinary workshop on Interactions between Humans and Wildlife took place in Bonn, involving 20 international participants, in collaboration with non-academic partners from the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Naturschutzbund Deutschland (NABU). The workshop initiative stems from the DAAD Global Centres, G-WAC (German-West African Centre for Global Health and Pandemic Preparedness) and AFAS, which aim to think globally about climate, environment, health, and pandemic issues in the globalized world, developing solutions adapted to local conditions.

Key points discussed

1. Understanding Human-Wildlife Interactions: Delving into the activities of both humans and wildlife to comprehend the factors leading to interactions.
2. Analysis of Climate Change and Land Use: Undertaking preliminary steps toward analyzing the impact of climate change and land use changes on pathogen spillovers.
3. Bridging Disciplinary Gaps: Identifying the knowledge gap among various disciplines and striving for a holistic understanding of pandemic management.



Outcomes: The workshop sets the foundation for future collaborative efforts, aiming to bridge disciplinary divides and enhance our collective understanding of a unified approach to managing pandemics.



“SPPI’S SECOND P” BREAKFAST BUSINESS MEETING IN NAIROBI

- Date: November 14, 2023
- Location: Villa Rosa Kempinski Hotel, Nairobi Kenya

AFAS held a breakfast meeting with a focus on the business sector led by Prof. Dr. Daniel Olago. The goal was to contribute cutting-edge research and innovative ideas through industry linkage in the SPPI’s within the African savannas as well as to connect AFAS students to stakeholders for tailored master education, research projects, internships, and mentoring. This would benefit both the students and the host organizations, making science work for policy and practice.





Join our SPPI's second "P" network

Explore Business Opportunities with Us!

About Us

The African Climate and Environment Center - Future African Savannas (AFAS) aims to tackle Climate Change and Biodiversity Loss in African savannas using Nature-based Solutions (NbS) at the Science-Policy-Practice Interface (SPPI).

Our Focus:

-  Science-Policy and Practice
-  Nature-Based Solutions
-  African Savannas

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STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP IN ABIDJAN

- Date: November 28, 2023
- Location: Hôtel Famille Mondiale, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

EXPLORING PROFITABLE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

The second edition of our stakeholder workshop took place on November 28 at the Hôtel Famille Mondiale in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire.

Theme

The workshop had the theme “Achieving Profitable Nature-based Solutions for Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity Conservation.” Among the participants were stakeholders from businesses, policymakers, NGOs, and scientists. Fruitful discussions arose on exploring avenues for making Nature-based Solutions (NbS) not only profitable but also financially sustainable.



Outcomes

The workshop provided a crucial nexus for connecting AFAS students with stakeholders for tailored master education, research projects, internships and mentoring, benefiting both the students and the host organizations. The event also contributed to cutting-edge research and innovative ideas through linkages in the SPPI interface.



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STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP IN NAIROBI

- Date: December 14, 2023
- Location: Movenpick Hotel, Westlands Nairobi

EXPLORING PROFITABLE NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS

The second edition of the stakeholder workshop in Nairobi took place on December 14 at the Movenpick Hotel, Westlands Nairobi.

Theme

Both stakeholder workshops in Abidjan and Nairobi had the theme “Achieving Profitable Nature-based Solutions for Climate Change Adaptation and Biodiversity Conservation” and the participants were from the same sectors. The workshops were organized parallelly and had similar programs.



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Outcomes

The workshop provided a crucial nexus for connecting AFAS students with stakeholders for tailored master education, research projects, internships and mentoring, benefiting both the students and the host organizations. The event also contributed to cutting-edge research and innovative ideas through linkages in the SPPI interface.



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CI-WEH WORKSHOP WITH ABCD AND CAIDERA GLOBAL CENTRES

- Date: November 20 - 24, 2023
- Location: Hôtel Famille Mondiale, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Three DAAD Global Centres met for the workshop on Climate Change Impacts on Water Environment and Health (CI-WEH) in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire. The workshop aimed to explore the nexus between water, environment, and health by bringing together experts from the centres and stakeholders such as alumni of CIPSEM TU Dresden, and seek future joint research opportunities to address the manifold challenges ahead. There was a field trip to a local water dam and the WASCAL/CEA-CCBAD Center of Excellence.



Outcomes: By the end of the workshop, the participants identified opportunities for future cooperation to synthesize the ideas presented by the experts during the event.

STUDENTS & ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

African Climate Summit 2023

- Date: September 4 - 6, 2023
- Location: Nairobi, Kenya

AFAS students Nouhou Zoungrana, Yvonne Wambui Githiora, Claire Anulisa Adhiambo and Adrian Leitoro at the African Climate Summit 2023.



78th United Nations General Assembly (#UNGA78)

- Date: September 17, 2023
- Location: UN Headquarters in New York, USA

AFAS master student Nouhou Zoungrana at UNGA78.



Adaptation Futures 2023

- Date: October 2 - 6, 2023
- Location: Montreal, Canada

AFAS master student Nouhou Zoungrana at Adaptation Futures 2023, where he presented an e-poster highlighting his research results.



Global Youth Climate Summit 2023

- Date: October 4 - 7, 2023
- Location: University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

AFAS master student Millicent Atieno as one of 200 in person delegates at the Global Youth Climate Summit 2023.



@Petro Damian

GEO BON Conference 2023

- Date: October 10 - 13, 2023
- Location: Montreal, Canada

AFAS master student Nouhou Zoungrana at UNGA78. He presented a poster and gave a talk about his master research results.



Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) Nairobi 2023 Hybrid conference

- Date: October 11 - 12, 2023
- Location: UN Avenue, Gigiri Nairobi, Kenya

AFAS master students Claire Anulisa Adhiambo, Adrian Leitoro and Stella Ndagire at GLF Nairobi 2023 Hybrid conference.





World Climate Research Program (WCRP) Open Science Conference

- Date: October 23 - 27, 2023
- Location: Kigali, Rwanda

AFAS master student Liza Mungatia at (WCRP) Open Science Conference.

28th meeting of the Conference of the Parties (COP 28)

- Date: November 30 to December 12, 2023
- Location: Dubai, United Arab Emirates

AFAS master student Nouhou Zoungrana at COP28. Among the activities he was involved in were organising a side event focusing on water and engaging with Burkina Faso's national delegation



STUDENTS FIELDWORK

We are proud to present the fieldwork experiences from four students, each focusing on distinct research topics.

ATUD Yvette Cecile

- Date: May 5 to July 10, 2023
- Location: Lagdo Subdivision, North Region, Cameroon

Research topic:

Local soil restoration techniques used as farming practices by women for maize cultivation in Lagdo Subdivision, North Region, Cameroon.



AKPOTERAI Lawrence

- Date: July 31 to August 5, 2023
- Location: Old Oyo National Park, Nigeria

Research topic:

Impacts of Climate Change and the Adoption of Nature-based Solutions for Conservation and Restoration of Humid Savannas (Old Oyo National Park).



NDAGIRE Stella

- Date: July 29 to August 11, 2023
- Location: Isingiro District, Kabingo Subcounty, Uganda

Research topic:

Assessment of Woody Plant Species Diversity under Different Agroforestry Systems in Savanna Areas of Uganda: A Case Study of Kabingo Sub-County, Isingiro District.



ADHIAMBO OKINYI Anulisa Claire

- Date: August 6 - 12, 2023
- Location: Hola, Tana River County, Kenya

Research topic:

Evaluating the potential of Agroforestry Systems in Enhancing Climate Change Adaptation and Livelihood Improvement in Tana River County.



STUDENTS' GRADUATION

- Date: December 15, 2023
- Location: Brazilian Rodizio, Nairobi, Kenya

The graduation of the first cohort of the AFAS master students took place on December 15, in Nairobi, Kenya. The students received a certificate of completion for the AFAS fellowship program and enjoyed a graduation ceremony and farewell lunch, where they celebrated together with AFAS team members.



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