

The 1st Annual NTU Eastern Africa Centre Symposium

Inclusive Research Evidence for Innovation and Change in Africa

Fostering connections for knowledge exchange through innovation, entrepreneurship and humanitarian partnerships



Wednesday, 28th February 2024.

Lecture Theatre 5, Newton Building, City Campus, Nottingham Trent University





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The 1 st Annual NTU Eastern Africa Centre Symposium Inclusive Research Evidence for Innovation and Change in Africa Wednesday, 28 February 2024					
				Time	Session
				12.45pm	Arrival, Registration and Refreshments
13.10pm	Introductions				
	Professor Cillian Ryan				
	 Pro Vice-Chancellor International, Nottingham Trent University Professor Mazeda Hossain 				
	 Professor Mazeda Hossain Director Eastern Africa Centre and Prof of Global Health, Nottingham Trent University 				
13.30pm	Panel Discussion One				
	Developing an agenda for inclusive research by integrating African innovation and entrepreneurship				
	Introduction				
	Panel Chair: Prof Dr Amon Simba				
	Director, AfrIE Research Hub, Nottingham Trent University				
	Entrepreneurial Behaviour Research				
	Professor Paul Jones				
	Chief Editor, International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour Research				
	Information Technology & People				
	 Associate Professor Mumin Abubakre Associate Editor Information Technology & People 				
	Developmental Entrepreneurship				
	 Professor Michael Morris Chief Editor Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship 				
	Discussion and Questions				
	 Prof Dr Amon Simba Nottingham Trent University 				
14.30	Panel Discussion Two				
	Can implementation frameworks shape the distribution of knowledge and resources?				
	Introduction				
	Panel Chair: Professor Mazeda Hossain				
	Director of the NTU Eastern Africa Centre and Professor of Global Health				
	Adapting an implementation science tool				
	Dr Enrica Leresche				
	Department of Global Health and Development, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine				
	Implementation frameworks				
	Ms Cordelia Lonsdale				
	Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises programme, Elrha				

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	Application of implementation mechanisms in humanitarian settings
	 Dr Charles Tolnò Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF), Guinea
	Mr Rodolfo Rossi
	Health Coordinator, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
	Conclusion and ways forward
	Dr Enrica Leresche
	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
15.30pm	Panel Discussion Three
	African Innovation & Entrepreneurship Research (AfrIE) Hub Launch: Developing inclusive innovation and entrepreneurship research
	Introduction
	Professor Jo Richardson
	Associate Dean for Research, Nottingham Business School
	Panel Chair
	Prof Dr Amon Simba
	Director – AfrIE Research Hub, Nottingham Trent University
	Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainability
	Prof Dr Susan Müller
	Bern University of Applied Sciences, Business School, Institut Innovation and Entrepreneurship – Bern, Switzerland
	Statistical, Social and Economic Research
	Prof Dr Peter Quartey
	Centre for Migration Studies, University of Ghana
	Entrepreneurship and Poverty
	Professor Michael Morris
	McKenna Center for Human Development and Global Business at the University of Notre Dame – Indiana, United States
	Global Health and Entrepreneurship
	Dr Matthew Nyashanu
	Institute of Health and Allied Professions, School of Social Sciences, Nottingham Trent University
	Discussion and Questions
	Prof Dr Amon Simba
	Nottingham Trent University
16.40pm	Closing Remarks
	a Miss Changeller Drofessor Edward Deck
	 Vice-Chancellor Professor Edward Peck Nottingham Trent University

Welcome to the



1st Annual NTU Eastern Africa Centre Symposium

We are delighted to welcome you to the launch of our 1st Annual NTU Eastern Africa Centre Symposium at Nottingham Trent University.

The Eastern Africa Centre (EAC) is a strategic University-wide research centre established to support the development of sustainable and equitable research collaborations with our partners.

The Centre, which builds on the strength of our existing links in the region, provides a platform for the development of networks and the delivery of an ongoing programme of research and public engagement activities.

Our Mission

We aim to conduct research that will foster equitable and sustainable partnerships through a transdisciplinary focus on on improving the SDGs through research on health, social, and ecological wellbeing, and innovation in the Africa region.

We will achieve this by:

- **Providing a platform** to develop networks, research, public engagement and dissemination from researchers, practitioners, students, and relevant stakeholders from a range of sectors and disciplines.
- **Co-creating applied research** which addresses regionally relevant issues with a community and participatory approach and intersectional focus.
- Supporting the next generation of research, policy, and practice leaders through educational and leadership opportunities between the UK and African countries.

UN75+3 at NTU

Sustainable Global Levelling Up:

The role of Technology Policy and Communities in Reducing Inequalities



The EAC Symposium is part of the <u>NTU UN75+3 Conference</u>. Four years ago, the UN initiated dialogues within and across borders, sectors, and generations as part of its 75th year. The collective vision was outlined in the resulting report: <u>UN75:</u> <u>The Future We Want, The UN We Need</u>.

NTU has been actively engaged with the UN75 Dialogue and UN Sustainable Development Goals since 2020, exploring themes such as 'Living Securely', 'The Challenge of Chage', and 'Living Together in the Future'. This year the dialogue will continue under the theme: Sustainable Global Levelling Up: The role of Technology Policy and Communities in Reducing Inequalities.

Launch of the AfrIE Research Hub



The overarching goal of the AfrIE Hub is to enhance the inclusivity and impact of research on innovation and entrepreneurship in Africa. In collaboration with <u>NTU's Eastern Africa Centre (EAC)</u> and <u>NTU's Eastern Africa PhD Hub</u>, the AfrIE Hub brings scholars, students, and higher education institutions (HEIs) from Africa, Europe, and the USA for collaborative discussions. The aim is to promote reverse learning and cross–fertilization of ideas among scholars, students, and commentators, advancing African innovation and entrepreneurship research.

Countries	Research Themes
 Egypt Ghana Morocco Nigeria South Africa Tanzania Uganda Zambia Zimbabwe 	 Entrepreneurship and Poverty Entrepreneurship and Wellbeing Women Entrepreneurship Informal Financing Immigrant Entrepreneurship Indigenous Entrepreneurship Frugal Innovation Family Business Technological Innovation Bricolage
 NTU Team Members Dr. Yan Wang Dr. Rasha Goumaa Dr. Ogundana Oyedele Dr. Juliana Siwale Dr. Emmanuel Amissah Dr. Diana Frost Mr. Bernard Dom Dr. Samuel Osei-Nimo Dr. Ugbede Umoru Dr. Damilola Omodara Dr. Mathew Nyashanu Dr. Chiamaka Kwazu Dr. Owuse Freeman Dr Victor Udeozor Dr Tammy Mudd Dr Dongmei Cao 	 External Collaborators Prof Michael H Morris - University of Notre Dame, USA Prof Paul Jones - Swansea University, UK Prof Dr Susan Müller - Bern University of Applied Sciences, Switzerland Prof Domingo Ribeiro-Soriano – Universitat de València, Spain Prof Mai Thanh Thai – HEC Montréal, Canada Dr Mahdi Tajeddin – Sobey School of Business, Sait Mary University, Canada Prof Peter Quartey - University of Ghana

Welcome to NTU Global Week

26 February – 1 March 2024



The EAC Symposium also coincides with <u>NTU Global Week</u>, an annual vibrant and inspiring festival that celebrates our multicultural community on campus. Through art, dancing, sport, and food, Global Week connects and showcases the rich and diverse cultural heritages of our students and staff and provides an opportunity for them to extend their global outlook.

Join us across the Clifton, Brackenhurst and City campuses and online for cultural fairs performances, workshops, information sessions and much more, delivered by our students, colleagues and community partners.

Global Week Schedule: <u>www.ntu.ac.uk/international/ntu-global/ntu-global-week</u>

1.30pm – 2.25pm (Panel 1)

Panellists

Developing an agenda for inclusive research by integrating African innovation and entrepreneurship:

Setting an agenda for incorporating African innovation & entrepreneurship into mainstream research



Professor Paul Jones is Professor of Entrepreneurship and Innovation and Head of the School of Management at Swansea University, UK. Previously, he held academic posts at Coventry University, Plymouth University and the University of South Wales. Professor Jones undertakes research in entrepreneurship behaviour, innovation, small business management and information technology. Prof Jones has written extensively on developing entrepreneurial activity in an African context and has undertaken several international projects with the British Council. Prof Jones is widely published with over 120 peer reviewed journal articles and 14 edited books published in his career to date. He is the **Chief Editor of the International Journal of Entrepreneurial Behaviour Research.**



Associate Prof Mumin Abubakre joined Loughborough Business School in March 2022. Prior to that, he was Senior Lecturer in Information Systems at Nottingham Trent University. Mumin obtained his PhD in Management Information Systems at Loughborough University. His research interests span the digital economy and the implications of digital innovation on individuals, businesses, and societies. Mumin regularly contributes to international conferences and has published articles in peer-reviewed scholarly journals such as Information Systems Journal, European Journal of Information systems, Information & Management Journal. Before pursuing an academic career, he had gained over three years of work experience as an IT professional within the banking and oil and gas sectors in Nigeria and the UK. Mumin is a member of the Association of Information Systems and the British Academy of Management. He is the Associate Editor of Information Technology & People.



Prof Michael H. Morris is Professor of Entrepreneurship & Social Innovation at the University of Notre Dame's Keough School of Global Development. He previously served as the George and Lisa Etheridge Professor of Entrepreneurship at the University of Florida. The entrepreneurship programs he has built at three universities have been ranked in the top ten nationally. Dr. Morris is a pioneer in curricular innovation and experiential learning, and annually coordinates the Experiential Classroom, the premier clinic on teaching entrepreneurship. He is the **Chief Editor of the Journal of Developmental Entrepreneurship**.



Prof. Dr. Amon Simba is an Associate Professor of entrepreneurship and innovation at Nottingham Business School (NBS) in the UK, and his expertise lies in entrepreneurship and innovation with a focus on Africa. Amon is the Director of the AfrIE Research Hub at NBS. He supervises PhD students whose studies focus on entrepreneurship & innovation. In addition to his roles at NBS, he is a Professor of Entrepreneurship at the Central University of Technology, Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa. Amon is also an Associate Editor for the International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business (IJESB) and the Journal of Small Business & Entrepreneurship (JSBE).

2.30pm – 3.25pm (Panel 2)

Panellists

Can implementation frameworks shape the distribution of knowledge and resources in humanitarian crises?

Short Summary

Implementation frameworks are used to anticipate how frontline actors and/or communities may implement research findings in their daily practice. Implementation frameworks allow one to conceive the implementation process in an abstract way and possibly ahead of time. They may therefore contribute to shape whose voices are taken into account, and how new knowledge and resources are expected to be distributed. In settings where power imbalances are known, implementing research recommendations is complex practically and ethically. In humanitarian crises, are implementation frameworks useful to account for, and anticipate practical complexities and power imbalances at stake? This question will be examined by a group of actors from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM); Médecins Sans Frontières Luxembourg Operational Research (MSF LuxOR), the International Committee of the Red Cross Centre for Operational Research and Experience (ICRC CORE) and Elrha (Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises programme).



Enrica Leresche, RN, MPH, DrPH completed her doctorate degree at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Enrica adapted an implementation science tool to study how new knowledge produced through operational research was implemented by humanitarian frontline practitioners in conflict- or crises- affected settings -- within the International Committee of the Red Cross (Lebanon and Myanmar) and within Médecins Sans Frontières (Pakistan and Guinea). Enrica worked in conflict-affected areas over the past 20 years in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, and South America.



Dr. Charles Tolnò, MD, MPH has over 15 years of clinical and managerial professional experience, in the public service and in the humanitarian sector. He worked with Médecins-Sans-Frontières, Terre des Hommes Lausanne (Tdh), and International Medical Corps (IMC) in Guinea. He is experienced in responding to epidemics such as Ebola and measles as well as dealing with more chronic diseases such as HIV/AIDS. Dr. Charles worked at the different levels of the health system and has strong skills in project management, coordination, management of multidisciplinary teams, operational research, and multi-actor interventions in medical-humanitarian projects.



Cordelia Lonsdale is Senior Research Impact Advisor for Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises (R2HC) within Elrha, a UK charity. She supports R2HC's grantees to plan and deliver strategic engagement and communication of their research to policy, practice, and community stakeholders. She also works with the RH2C team to engage with and strengthen communities of humanitarian policy and practice, to promote collaboration and increase uptake of evidence. Cordelia came to Elrha after 7 years in the international development sector She has an MSc in International Relations and is a Manager of Successful Programmes (MSP) practitioner.

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Rodolfo Rossi, MPH, MSc, is the Research and Methodology adviser at the Center of Operational Research and Experience of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Rodolfo graduated as an Epidemiologist and Public Health specialist at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. He has over 20 years of experience in humanitarian settings in Africa and the Middle East with the ICRC. He worked as epidemiologist and scientific advisor for the ICRC during the COVID19 pandemic. Rodolfo is experienced in health programme coordination, vaccination programmes, outbreak investigation and response, and operational research.



Prof Mazeda Hossain, MSc PhD is Professor of Global Health and Director of the NTU Eastern Africa Centre. She is a social epidemiologist who leads transdisciplinary research with a focus on gender, violence, and health especially in fragile and conflict-affected settings. She specialises in measurement and evaluation. As Director of the NTU Eastern Africa Centre, she leads a new strategic research centre that focuses on improving the SDGs through research on health, social, and ecological wellbeing, and innovation in the Africa region. She is also a co-Director of the UKRI GCRF Gender, Justice and Security Hub, a £15 million global research consortium focused on conflict-affected settings. She is currently leading the development of a new quantitative multi-dimensional index on societal wellbeing which accounts for factors relevant to fragile and conflict-affected settings.

3.30pm – 4.40pm (Panel 3)

Panellists

Launch of the African Innovation & Entrepreneurship Research (AfrIE) Hub: Developing inclusive innovation and entrepreneurship research

Short Summary

This session will launch the AfrIE Hub. Panellists will discuss ways to develop an inclusive environment involving innovation and entrepreneurship scholars, students, practitioners and the community.



Prof. Dr. Amon Simba is an Associate Professor of entrepreneurship and innovation at Nottingham Business School (NBS) in the UK, and his expertise lies in entrepreneurship and innovation with a focus on Africa. Amon is the Director of the AfrIE Research Hub at NBS. He supervises PhD students whose studies focus on entrepreneurship & innovation. In addition to his roles at NBS, he is a Professor of Entrepreneurship at the Central University of Technology, Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa. Amon is also an Associate Editor for the International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Small Business (IJESB) and the Journal of Small Business & Entrepreneurship (JSBE).



Susan Müller is a Professor of Entrepreneurship at Bern University of Applied Sciences. In her research she aims to understand design principles of effective social innovations, how we can teach entrepreneurship responsibly and effectively, and how entrepreneurs navigate the early stages of their businesses. Currently, Susan is involved in several research projects in these areas. In the area of social innovation, she is conducting an exploratory study to identify the design principles of effective, low-cost private schools in informal urban settlements in Nairobi.



Peter Quartey is a Professor in Development Economics and the immediate past Head, Department of Economics and Director (Economic Management Programme), University of Ghana. He served as the Deputy Director, Centre for Migration Studies (University of Ghana). Prof. Peter Quartey served as the Head, Economics Division, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, University of Ghana and currently the Director, Institute of Statistical, Social and Economic Research, University of Ghana.



Michael H. Morris is Professor of Entrepreneurship & Social Innovation at the University of Notre Dame's Keough School of Global Development. He previously served as the George and Lisa Etheridge Professor of Entrepreneurship at the University of Florida. The entrepreneurship programs he has built at three universities have been ranked in the top ten nationally.



Dr Mathew Nyashanu is a Senior Lecturer within the School of Social Sciences at Nottingham Trent University (NTU). Dr Nyashanu contributes to a number of modules both for undergraduate and postgraduate. Some of the modules that he contributes to include Global Health and Development, Health Promotion, Research and Professional Practice among others. Mathew also engages in research on different health issues. He supervises students on their dissertations for both undergraduate and postgraduate health and social care courses. Mathew also collaborates with community groups working in health and development.