



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

**Africa
Research
Cluster**

CONTACT

Dr David Mickler

Coordinator, UWA Africa Research Cluster

W: <http://www.arts.uwa.edu.au/research/clusters/Africa> Research

ABOUT

The UWA Africa Research Cluster was launched on 25 May 2015, the annual anniversary of "Africa Day", as a new initiative to develop, coordinate and promote high-quality, relevant and ethical Africa-related research at UWA, including early career academic and postgraduate research.

It provides a mechanism for developing and deepening UWA research collaborations and other engagements with relevant local, national and international partners from academia, government, industry, community and not-for-profit sectors, including from the African continent and the African Diaspora in Australia.

The Cluster's membership of approximately 50 UWA staff and postgraduate students spans a range of fields including Political Science & International Relations; Law; Agriculture and Environment; Biological Science; Molecular Science; Engineering; Earth Sciences; Archaeology & Heritage Studies; Medicine; Population Health; History; Development Studies; Sociology; the Institute of Agriculture and the Oceans Institute.

COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Cluster is working with academic, government, industry and community partners to develop a range of collaborative research projects:

- Africa and the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs) (WUN partners)
- Contemporary Australia-Africa Engagement (industry, government and Diaspora)
- The Impacts of Mining on Women in Africa (MEfDA/industry)
- Political Violence and Insecurity in Africa (ASPI/government/industry)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH TRAINING

- HIST3010 Introduction to African History
- HIST3005 African American History
- POLS3334 The International Politics of Africa
- POLS5671 Peace and Security in Africa
- SOCS5105 International Collaborative Study Experience
- MING5503 Ore Deposit Field Excursion (South Africa)
- Geology Open On-line Courses – West Africa (GEOLOOC-WA)
- A number of current HDR students across various disciplines

EXTERNAL ENGAGEMENT

- Public launch of UWA Africa Research Cluster with networking reception, and keynote address by Professor Petra Tschakert, UWA, on 'Understanding structural vulnerabilities to climate change in Africa', Africa Day, 25 May 2015.
- Co-convened Foreign Policy Forum, "Australia's Evolving Engagement with Africa", Australia Africa Research Forum, Perth, 1 September 2016.
- Seminar, 'Why do universities distrust field researchers? Indigenous knowledge and research encounters' by Professor Keyan Tomaselli, University of Johannesburg, 5 November 2015.
- Public lecture, 'Nigeria in the 21st Century', Professor Patrick Utomi, Lagos Business School, Nigeria, 1 March 2016
- Seminar, 'The creation of Native Colonialism in Ethiopia' by Dr Yirga Woldeyes, Curtin University, 26 April 2016.
- Public lecture, 'The Origins and Future of African Unity' by Prof. Samuel M. Makinda, Murdoch University, with networking session, Africa Day, 25 May 2016.
- Public lecture, 'Security and Governance Challenges for the African Union' by Dr David Mickler, UWA, Australian Institute for International Affairs WA, 28 June 2016.
- Public lecture, 'Cooperative peacekeeping in Africa' by Malte Brosig, University of Witwatersrand, South Africa, August 2016.
- Hosted Australia Africa Universities Network (AAUN) Annual Forum, UWA, Perth, 5 September 2016.
- Convened 39th Annual Conference of the African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP), UWA, Perth, 5-7 December 2016.
- Public lecture, 'Countering violent extremism in Africa' by Prof. Julius Bitok, Kenya's High Commissioner to Pakistan, 9 May 2017.
- Convened Roundtable on Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) project, 'Private Sector Engagement on Countering Violent Extremism: A Study of the Australian Mineral and Energy Sector in Africa', 10 May 2017.
- Public event, "African Women and Leadership", Africa Day 2017, UWA, 26 May 2017.
- Co-convened Worldwide University Network Global Africa Group inaugural strategic research workshop at the University of Ghana, Accra, 8-9 June 2017.
- Hosted private roundtable discussion with President of the Crown Council of Ethiopia, Prince Ermias Sahle-Selassie Haile-Selassie, UWA, 28 June 2017.
- Hosting Australia Africa Universities Network (AAUN) Annual Forum, UWA, Perth, 4 September 2017.
- Quarterly African Studies Reading Group, UWA

PARTNERS AND NETWORKS

- Worldwide Universities Network Global Africa Group (WUN GAG) [Co-Chair]
- Australia Africa Universities Network (AAUN) [Member]
- Africa Forum, Department of State Development, WA Government [Member]
- African Studies Association of Australasia and the Pacific (AFSAAP) [Member]
- African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA)
- World Economic Forum
- Australia Africa Minerals and Energy Group (AAMEG) [Member]
- Minerals and Energy for Development Alliance (MEfDA)
- UWA Centre for Muslim States and Societies (CMSS)
- UWA Migration, Mobilities and Belongings Research Cluster (MMoB)
- UWA African Students' Union (ASU)
- Africa Branch, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia
- Africa Australia Association (AAA)
- African Professionals Australia (APA)
- Organisation of African Communities in Western Australia (OAC)
- African Geopolitics