



EIMAS
EUROPEAN INTERDISCIPLINARY
MASTER AFRICAN STUDIES



**UNIVERSITÄT
BAYREUTH**

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Université
**BORDEAUX
MONTAIGNE**



EIMAS WINTER SCHOOL 2024

**“THE BATTLE FOR SUSTENANCE:
NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES OF
FOOD POLITICS IN AFRICA”**



UNIVERSITÉ BORDEAUX MONTAIGNE



18 - 21 November 2024



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Dear Guest Scholars, Students, Honorable Members of the AB, EC and Esteemed Guests:

We are very happy to welcome you to the EIMAS Winter School 2024: “The Battle for Sustenance” at the University of Bordeaux Montaigne. We are here to navigate the intricacies of food politics in Africa.

For over a year, we have been working to bring you four days full of fruitful exchanges and critical visions about food systems for the African continent and their implications globally. We are beyond thrilled that the day is finally here and that we get to share this experience with all of you.

We would like to extend a warm welcome and thank the presence of our brilliant Guest Speakers: Dr Bryan Umaru Kauma, Ms Maryanne Wamahiu, and Dr Mavuto Kambochola Banda. We would also like to thank Ms. Michaelin Sibanda, Mr. Famara Diédhiou and Ms. Comfort Onyaga, who will generously join us online to share their vast knowledge and experiences.

We also welcome the members of the EIMAS Executive Committee: Carla Augusto, Franz Kogelmann and Mirjam Straßer. We want to thank them all for coming all the way to Bordeaux.

We would like to make a special mention and show our deep gratitude to Amélia Polónia, Mirjam Straßer, and Anne-Marie Meyer for their tremendous support, guidance, and assistance in bringing this event to life. We also want to thank Mathilde Badets for her kind help and availability.

Last but not least, we warmly welcome the IMAS students who have graced us with their presence.

We hope you all find this Winter School a safe space to think, question, raise your questions, and voice your opinions.

Introduction to the Theme:

THE BATTLE FOR SUSTENANCE: NAVIGATING THE COMPLEXITIES OF FOOD POLITICS IN AFRICA

As the world seeks stability in the aftermath of COVID-19, amidst ongoing conflicts and in light of the climate crisis, food security has remained a crucial issue - particularly concerning countries and communities across the African continent.

African countries overall have experienced notable economic growth and made food security a priority within their shared Agenda 2063. However, complex challenges - such as turning demographic growth into perspectives for prosperity - impact food production, logistics, and consumption across the continent.

To address such challenges in the context of food security requires urgent, comprehensive attention from governments, multinational corporations, civil society and other local and global stakeholders alike.

In line with Africa's development agenda, ambitions for food security and sovereignty are central to achieving self-reliance and a stronger global standing in food politics. This necessitates a shift from conventional, import-dependent strategies towards a focus on food sovereignty.



Embracing this approach does not only reduce dependency. It also encourages African countries and communities to create food systems that are truly self-sufficient and sustainable. This involves empowering local communities - and building on women's mobilisation as well as youth agency.

To discuss how these ambitions can be realised in a way that recognises unique African needs and long-term goals, the EIMAS Winter School 2024 aims to navigate the complexities of food politics in Africa.

This winter school is grounded on the following objectives

1. To delve into the root causes of the food crisis experienced in many parts of Africa, specifically to dissect issues arising from climate change, resource-based competitions, conflicts, and land grabbing.
2. To question systemic issues underlying the lack of food sovereignty, including unequal and colonial power dynamics in global trade, investment and cooperation, the politicisation and commodification of the environment, and a lack of effective regulation of communities' rights to their ancestral lands.
3. To centre insights from feminist political ecology, including on gendered inequalities in the context of food security, as well as women's resistance to extractivist agriculture; to inform strategies that acknowledge and promote women as key agents of change in food production and sovereignty.
4. To discuss sustainable solutions that genuinely reduce food dependency, promote equal, inclusive development, resolve conflicts and thus contribute to long-term food accessibility and sovereignty.
5. To create a platform for a diverse group of stakeholders to discuss ideas on improving food system governance for future collaborative efforts within African and global development frameworks, including a focus on involving youth and young people more decisively in food systems at large.



AGENDA

Day 1 || 18 November 2024

An African History of Food: Gender, Agriculture, and Colonialism

All sessions will take place at “Salle Jean Borde” at the Maison des Sciences de l’Homme Bordeaux.

9:00 – 9:30

Arrival and Registration

Opening Conversation

Opening Speech: Etienne Damome, Faculty Director, Université Bordeaux Montaigne

Presentation of EIMAS Deans Amélia Polónia & Anne Marie Meyer

9:30 – 10:00

Presentation of Guest Scholars Maryanne Wamahiu, Bryan Kauma, Mavuto Banda

Moderators: Joseph Wanjiku Thukia, Lilian Joy Ehret, Omolewa Shobogun & Aliya Kuantayeva.

Session 1

Topic: Food, Race, and Power: Colonialism and the making of the African plate

Delivery Mode: Lecture and Q&A

10:00 – 11:00

Speaker: Bryan Kauma

Moderator: Leander Heblich

Description: *This lecture explores the impacts of colonialism on African food and agrarian landscapes in southern Africa.*

11:00 – 11:30

COFFEE BREAK

11:30 -11:45

Meet your neighbour! (interactive exercise to getting to know one another/network)

Moderator: Atta Kwarkye

Session 2

Topic: Case Study | The Protein Fiasco: No one may starve in the British Empire

Delivery Mode: Lecture and Q&A

11:45 – 12:45

Speaker: Maryanne Wamahiu

Moderator: Joseph Wanjiku Thukia

Description: *This lecture examines the continuities of nutritional discourses in the colonial and post-independence periods, illustrated by the case study of the “protein fiasco”.*

12:45-14:45

LUNCH BREAK AT RESTAURANT LA PASERELLE

AGENDA

Day 1 || 18 November 2024

An African History of Food: Gender, Agriculture, and Colonialism

Session 3

Topic: Case Study | Bitter Harvest: Colonial Legacies in Malawi's Tea Plantation Labour and Food Security Challenges

Delivery Mode: Lecture and Q&A

Speakers: Mavuto Banda

Moderator: Piet Claessens

14:45- 15:45

Description: *This case study delves into the historical impact of colonial labour programmes on food security in communities surrounding tea plantations in southern Malawi.*

15:45 -16:00

COFFEE BREAK

Session 4

Topic: Colonial Structures and Contemporary Food Systems

Delivery Mode: Panel Discussion

Speakers: Maryanne Wamahiu, Bryan Kauma, Mavuto Banda

Moderator: Omolewa Shobogun

16:00 - 17:00

Description: *This discussion will explore how colonial legacies impact how we understand, produce, and eat food.*

END OF DAY ONE



AGENDA

Day 2 || 19 November 2023

Challenges to Food Security: Capitalism, Conflicts, and Climate Crisis

All sessions will take place at "Salle Jean Borde" at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Bordeaux.

09:15 - 9:45

Arrival, Register Marking and Networking

Session 1

Topic: Challenges to Food Security

Delivery mode: Panel (15 min per speaker) with Q&A

Speaker: Maryanne Wamahiu & Bryan Kauma & Mavuto Banda

Moderator: Dalitso Tembo

9:45 - 10:45

Description: *These panels explore the existing conversations on food security: What have been the major challenges and prospects?*

10:45 - 11:15

COFFEE BREAK

Session 2

Topic: "African Women Farmers": A critical reflection

Delivery mode: Presentation

Guest speaker: Maryanne Wamahiu

Moderator: Lilian Ehret

11:15 - 11:45

Description: *This presentation explores the role of African women within food production systems from a critical historical point of view.*

Session 3

Topic: Women's Resistance and Mobilization

Delivery mode: Online lecture and Q&A

Guest speaker: Michaelin Sibanda

Moderator: Lilian Ehret

11:45 - 12:45

Description: *This lecture will focus on "Women's Resistance and Mobilisation" within the broader context of food security challenges. It will explore themes of gender, resistance, and collective action in response to food system inequities and challenges.*

12:45 - 14:45

LUNCH BREAK AT RESTAURANT LA PASSERELLE

AGENDA

Day 2 || 19 November 2024

Challenges to Food Security: Capitalism, Conflicts and Climate Crisis

Session 4

Topic: Contested Landscapes in a Changing Climate: The Battle for Resources and Resilience in Malawi and Southern Africa

Delivery mode: Lecture and Q&A

14:45 - 15:45

Speaker: Mavuto Banda

Moderator: Atta Kwarkye

Description: *This lecture explores the intersection of climate change, resource scarcity, and land conflict*

15:45 - 16:00

COFFEE BREAK

Session 5

Topic: Power and Hunger: Political Hunger and the weaponization of food in southern Africa.

Delivery mode: Lecture and Q&A

16:00 - 17:00

Guest speaker: Bryan Kauma

Moderator: Piet Claessens

Description: *The lecture explores how different facets of power have weaponized hunger for economic gain and political expediency*

END OF DAY TWO



AGENDA

Day 3 || 20 November 2024

Food Security vs. Food Sovereignty - From Approaches Towards Solutions

All sessions will take place at "Salle Jean Borde" at the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Bordeaux.

9:45 - 10:15

Arrival and register marking

Session 1

Topic: Sustainable Solutions and Youth Involvement in Food Systems

Delivery mode: Online lecture and Q&A

Guest speaker: Comfort Onyaga

Moderator: Wasilat Azeez

10:15 - 11:00

Description: *This session will focus on a new paradigm for co-creating resilient food systems and achieving food sovereignty through youth and indigenous collaboration. We will explore how integrating indigenous knowledge with youth innovation can transform African food systems and approaches that empower communities to address food sovereignty challenges.*

11:00 - 11:15

COFFEE BREAK

Session 2

Topic: Group Discussions | Winter School Policy Recommendations Solution-focused discussions

Delivery mode: Interactive Group Work & Short Presentations

Guest speakers: Mavuto Banda, Maryanne Wamahiu & Bryan Kauma

Moderator: Leander Heblich

11:15 - 12:45

Description: *Each in-person guest speaker will be working with one discussion group on specific topic.*

12:45 - 14:45

LUNCH BREAK AT RESTAURANT LA PASSERELLE

Session 3

Topic: Documentary Screening | "The Last Seed"

Delivery Mode: Screening

Moderator: Dalitso Tembo

14:45 - 16:15

16:15 - 16:30

COFFEE BREAK

AGENDA

Day 3 || 20 November 2024

Food Security vs. Food Sovereignty - From Approaches Towards Solutions

Session 4

Topic: Addressing Systemic Issues: Towards Seed and Food Sovereignty

Delivery mode: Q&A on the Documentary & Short Presentation

16:30 - 18:00

Guest speakers: Famara Diédhiou (Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa)

Moderator: Lillian Ehret

Description: *Why is the green revolution not a sustainable solution for Africa's food sovereignty? This session approaches Africa as a continent where cultural diversity is in harmony with the diversity of agroecosystems.*

19:30 - 22:00

DINNER AT AKIBA



AGENDA

Day 4 || 21 November 2024

Policy Recommendations

10:00 - 10:30

Arrival and Register Marking

Session 1

Topic: Workshop | Winter School Policy Recommendations

Delivery Mode: Group Workshop

Speaker(s): Maryanne Wamahiu & Bryan Kauma & Mavuto Banda

Moderator: Lilian Ehret / Atta Kwarkye

10:30 - 11:30

Description: *Based on our discussions on Wednesday, we will bring our ideas and perspectives together and draft policy recommendations that focus on questions of food sovereignty.*

Room: Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Bordeaux. "Room 2"

11:30 - 11:45

COFFEE BREAK

Session 2

Topic: Feedback session and closing ceremony

Speaker(s): Everyone

11:45 - 12:45

Moderator: Joseph Wanjiku Thukia

Description: *We will have the opportunity to discuss feedback about the event overall & have the closing ceremony*

Room: Maison des Sciences de l'Homme Bordeaux. "Jeans Bordes"

12:45 - 14:30

LUNCH BREAK AT RESTAURANT LA PASSERELLE

Session 3

Topic: Advisory Board Meeting with EIMAS Class

Moderator: Joseph Wanjiku Thukia

14:30-16:00

Description: *An exchange between the EIMAS class and the EIMAS advisory board.*

Room: Cité des Langues Étrangères, du Français et des Francophonies. "Room 209"

EC & Advisory Board meeting

16:00 - 17:30

Room: Cité des Langues Étrangères, du Français et des Francophonies. "Room 205"

GUEST SPEAKERS



Ms Maryanne Wamahiu

Maryanne is a food and nutrition specialist by training with a Bachelor of Science in Food, Nutrition, and Dietetics from Kenyatta University and a Master of Science in Nutrition from Stockholm University. She is a Research Associate and PhD candidate in Global Nutrition and Health Policy at the University of Bayreuth in Germany. Her teaching portfolio includes Food Policy in Africa, Food Security in Africa, and International Nutrition Politics. She has prior work experience as a food security/nutrition consultant in East Africa.



Dr Mavuto Kambochola Banda

Mavuto is a Training Specialist at WildTeam United Kingdom. He has recently completed a PhD in Human Geography at the Wilberforce Institute and School of Environmental Sciences, University of Hull, UK. His PhD thesis was “Evaluating the Impact of Child labour bans for Malawi’s Southern Region Tea and Tobacco Communities”. Mavuto has over 12 years of experience in rural development, emphasizing climate resilience, financial inclusion, and education access. He holds an MA in Global Development and Social Justice from St. John’s University, New York, USA.



Dr Bryan Kauma

Bryan is a food and social historian of southern Africa with a Ph.D. from Stellenbosch University. He is currently an Assistant Professor of African History at Southwestern University, USA. His work focuses on the food and social history of African small grains in Zimbabwe, exploring their impact on society, culture, and politics. His research interests include race, gender, colonialism, climate change, and culture. He employs engaging teaching methods, including social media and multimedia, to make his Modern African History classes accessible and interactive.

GUEST SPEAKERS



Ms Michaelin Sibanda

Michaelin is a PhD candidate at Lundu University, Centre for Sustainability Studies in Sweden. Her research project focuses on Mobilizing farmer organisations for sustainable agriculture in sub-Saharan Africa, and she explores approaches that responds to the gendered needs of the farmer organizations, and foster dialogue about sustainable agriculture and gender. She has a Master's in Geography of environmental risks and human security from United Nations University and the University of Bonn in Germany and BSc in Geography and environmental studies from Midlands State University in Zimbabwe. Have prior work experience in agroecology and social movements within La Via Campesina and agroecology organisations in Southern Africa.



Mr Famara Diédhiou

Famara Diédhiou holds an MBA from the African Center for Higher Studies in Management and a Master's degree in Regional Planning, Environment and Urban Management. During 20 years of professional experience, he has developed a particular interest in natural agriculture and farmers' seeds. With a strong connection to rural and farming communities, Famara is involved in the establishment of many community seed banks and in organizing women's groups for urban-rural partnership. As part of his advocacy work, he is currently active in various African networks pertaining to seed sovereignty, agroecology and African-driven solutions.



Ms Comfort Onyaga

Comfort Onyaga is dedicated to transforming Agrifood systems to address the challenges of food, nutrition, and livelihood security across diverse global contexts. She combines cutting-edge expertise in Market Systems Development (MSD), Design Thinking, and inclusive innovation. Comfort serves as a Young Professional Board member on several organizations, including Policy Shapers and the International Food and Agribusiness Management Association (IFAMA) Regional Young Board Oceania. She is also the founder of Izanu Africa, an Agri-Insurtech company recognized for its innovative climate risk insurance solutions tailored to smallholder farmers.

EIMAS COMMUNITY

EIMAS DEANS AND COORDINATOR



Dr. Franz Kogelmann

EIMAS Dean at the University of Bayreuth.

Franz is the Managing Director of the Multiple Cluster of Excellence, University of Bayreuth, and Principal Investigator of Bayreuth International Graduate School of African Studies (BIGSAS). His interests are Islamic law in Africa, Islamic Foundations, and Islamism/ Political Islam. He is also the Academic Coordinator of the Institute of African Studies at University of Bayreuth.



Prof. Dr. Amélia Polónia

EIMAS Dean at the University of Porto.

Amélia is a Professor at the Department of History, Political and International Studies of the Faculty of Arts of the University of Porto, and a researcher of CITCEM (Centro Transdisciplinar Cultura, Espaço e Memória). Her scientific interests include agent-based analysis applied to historical dynamics, social and economic networks, maritime communities and self-organizing networks in the Early Modern Age.



Dr. Anne Marie Meyer

EIMAS Dean at the Bordeaux Montaigne University.

Anne-Marie is an Associate Professor of Geography at the University of Bordeaux Montaigne and member of the Centre d'Etudes des Mondes Modernes et Contemporains since 2014. Between 2011 and 2020, she was the Deputy Director of the UFR Sciences des Territoires et de la Communication at Bordeaux Montaigne University. Since 2022.



Mirjam Straßer, M.A.

EIMAS Programme Coordinator.

Mirjam has her academic background in African Studies and is the EIMAS Programme Coordinator, based at the University of Bayreuth. In this capacity, she serves as the contact person for all EIMAS members, cooperating institutions, interested individuals and the European Commission, and is responsible for the administrative and financial management of the programme.

WINTER SCHOOL ORGANISING TEAMS

PROJECT MANAGEMENT TEAM



**Joseph Thukia
Wanjiku**
Kenya



**Juliana Felix
Xavier**
Brazil



**Leander
Heblich**
Germany



**Atta
Kwarkye**
Ghana



**Pieter
Claessens**
The Netherlands



**Saba Abraha
Tsegaye**
Ethiopia



**Lillian Joy
Ehret**
Germany

WINTER SCHOOL ORGANISING TEAMS

LOGISTICS TEAM



**Alexander
Schwerdt**
Germany



**Kgomotso
Petrus**
Botswana



**Latifat Omolewa
Shobogun**
Nigeria



**Meliha Nihan
Çakır**
Turkey



**Mihret Waleign
Mengstu**
Ethiopia



**Natalia
Tsamalashvili**
Georgia



**Nino
Tandilashvili**
Georgia

WINTER SCHOOL ORGANISING TEAMS

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING TEAM



**Dalitso Bruno Tobias
Tembo**
Malawi



**Zuhura Abdallah
Mtenguzi**
Tanzania



**Aliya
Kuantayeva**
Kazakhstan



**Wasilat
Adepeju Azeez**
Nigeria



**Ibrahim
Jalloh**
Sierra Leone



**Angelina Nakama
David Bako**
South Sudan

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

In case of an emergency or in need of assistance, please feel free to reach out to our emergency contact:

Leander Heblich
+49 176 274 620 32

Saba Abraha
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Additional national emergency numbers:



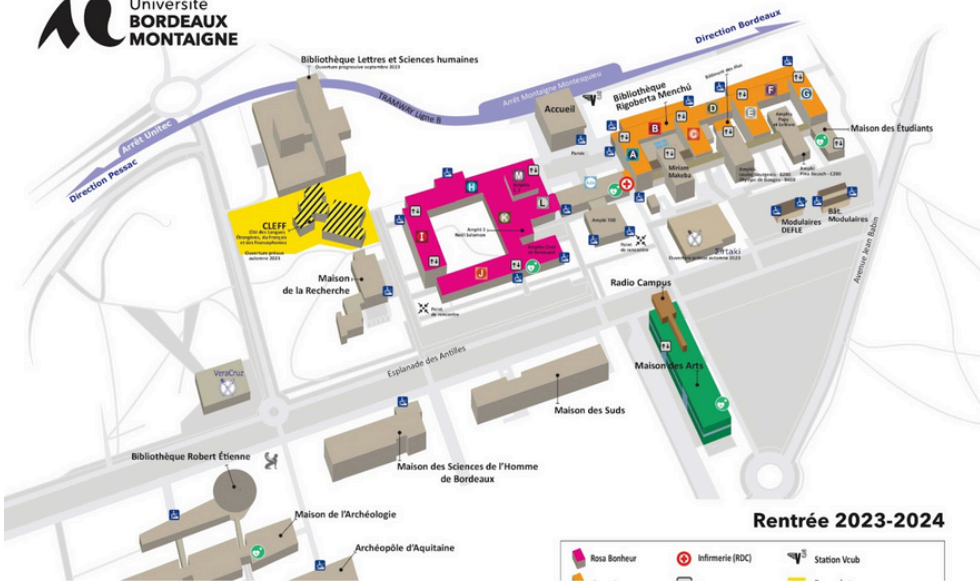
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URGENCE Qui appeler ?

SAMU	POLICE SECOURS	POMPIERS	URGENCE SMS	EN MER	EUROPE
					
15	17	18	114	196	112
Urgence médicale	Signaler une infraction	Situation de péril ou accident	Accessible par application ou SMS	Sauvetage en mer	→ Urgence médicale → Infraction → Péril

LOCATIONS & MAPS

Map





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