



## Africa Week 2023

### Open Africa, Open Science

Organised by the University of Pretoria in strategic partnership with the South African Department of Science and Innovation and the National Research Foundation

**22 – 26 May 2023**  
**Future Africa Campus | University of Pretoria | South Africa**

Africa Week is the University of Pretoria's biennial science leadership event. In May 2023, and in strategic partnership with South Africa's Department of Science and Innovation and National Research Foundation, we will convene the leadership of prominent African and global scientific networks and international, transdisciplinary initiatives, and will host a series of topical dialogues on the theme 'Open Africa, Open Science'. The programme will interrogate the idea of science as a global public good through the lenses of the global open science movement and its importance for the continent. We will interpret openness in its broadest sense and seek to move conversations towards concrete actions aimed at increasing the impact and influence of African research through effective and equitable global partnerships. Alongside leaders of Higher Education Institutions from Africa and across the world, Africa Week 2023 will convene key stakeholders from government, the private sector, civil society and the media, strategic side events, comprising of partnership meetings, workshops aimed at planning or progressing new international programmes of transdisciplinary work, and the launch of some exciting new collaborative initiatives.

## Programme Overview

<b>Parallel Events - Partnership Meetings and Workshops</b>
<b>Monday 22 – Thursday 25 May</b>
The series of parallel events of Africa Week 2023 encompasses strategic partnerships meetings and workshops with the objective of designing and advancing new international networks, transdisciplinary work programs, and other strategic initiatives within Africa and beyond. Joint networking dinners will be held on Monday and Tuesday evenings.

<b>Plenary Sessions</b>
<b>Wednesday 24 May: Plenary Session I: Networking the Networks</b>
The first plenary session will be a full-day synthesis event entitled “Networking the Networks”, which is co-organised by the National Research Foundation and Future Africa. During this plenary, representatives from the parallel sessions will present the outputs of their meetings and look for cross-cutting themes and potential collaborations. A partnership exhibition, dinner, and dinner address will be held in the evening.
<b>Thursday 25 May: Plenary Sessions II and III, Opening Ceremony and Future Africa Global Lecture</b>
The second and third plenary sessions, entitled “Opening science and education in and for Africa” and “Opening to the world: The value and voice of African science on a global stage”, respectively, will take place on Thursday. In addition, a showcase session for transformative African research will take place in the afternoon. A formal launch of the Knowledge Equity Network will take place over lunch, and the official opening ceremony and Future Africa Global Lecture are scheduled for the evening.
<b>Friday 26 May: Plenary Sessions IV and V and Closing Ceremony</b>
The final day begins with a second showcase session for transformative African research. This is followed by the fourth and fifth plenary sessions entitled: “Opening agendas: Priorities for Impactful African research universities” and “Opening pathways to action: Unlocking the science-policy-practice interface”, respectively. The closing ceremony takes place in the afternoon.

**Monday 22 May 2023**

<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Australia Africa Universities Network-AAUN)	
09:00 – 17:00	Event title: Collaboration and partnerships for impact ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – <i>VENUE: DOWNSTAIRS RESEARCH COMMONS</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Association of Commonwealth Universities-ACU)	
10:00 – 12:00	Event title: Association of Commonwealth Universities Equitable Research Partnerships Toolkit workshop ( <i>Open session</i> ) – <i>VENUE: CONFERENCE 1</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Department of Science and Innovation)	
10:00 – 12:00	Event title: The role of research and innovation in accelerating the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area ( <i>Open session</i> ) – <i>VENUE: AUDITORIUM</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: University of Carleton)	
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Department of Library Services, University of Pretoria)	
14:00 – 16:00	Event title: Open data in the humanities and social sciences ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – <i>VENUE: MERENSKY 2, LIBRARY AUDITORIUM/HYBRID</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Perivoli Africa Research Centre [PARC], University of Bristol)	
17:30 – 19:00	Event title: Towards a charter for transformative research collaborations with Africa: Open consultative meeting ( <i>open session</i> ) – <i>VENUE: AUDITORIUM</i>
<b>Joint networking reception</b>	
19:00 – 21:00	All Networks – <i>VENUE: THE HUB</i>

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**Tuesday 23 May 2023**

<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: National Research Foundation)	
08:00 – 14:00	Event title: Approaches for promoting university networks ( <i>open session</i> ) – <i>VENUE: AUDITORIUM</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Association of Commonwealth Universities)	
10:00 – 12:00	Event title: Africa regional meeting ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – <i>VENUE: FACC, BREAKAWAY ROOM 4</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Future Africa)	
10:00 – 12:00	Event title: International Science Council scoping project ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – <i>VENUE: FA BOARDROOM</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, Department of Consumer and Food Sciences, University of Pretoria)	
11:00 – 15:00	Event title: EU Project InnoFood Africa ( <i>open session</i> ) – <i>VENUE: UPSTAIRS RESEARCH COMMONS</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Springer Nature)	
13:00 – 17:00	Event title: Africa Research Advisory Council meeting ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – <i>VENUE: FA BOARDROOM</i>
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Feed, Protect, Care Global PhD Collaborative Platform, University of Montpellier)	
14:00 – 16:30	Event title: Steering Committee meeting ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – <i>VENUE: CONFERENCE 1</i>
<b>Joint Networking Reception</b>	
17:30 – 19:00	All Networks – <i>VENUE: THE HUB</i>

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**Wednesday 24 May 2023**

<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Department of Agricultural Economics, Extension, and Rural Development, University of Pretoria)	
09:00 – 13:00	Event title: Strategic partnerships development meeting on governance innovation ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – VENUE: FA BOARDROOM
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Transformative Innovation Africa Hub [TIAH])	
09:00 – 11:00	Event title: Transformative Innovation Policy: Theory, concepts, and practice ( <i>open session</i> ) – VENUE: CONFERENCE 1
<b>Parallel event</b> (Organiser: Transformative Innovation Africa Hub [TIAH])	
15:00 – 17:00	Event title: TIAH launch event ( <i>open session</i> ) – VENUE: CONFERENCE 1

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**Wednesday 24 May 2023**

<b>Plenary Session I: Networking the Networks</b> <b>Galvanising African leadership towards the implementation of open science</b> Organiser: National Research Foundation & Future Africa – <i>Venue: Auditorium</i>	
09:45 – 09:55	Event moderator: Prof. Cheryl de la Rey, Vice-Chancellor: University of Canterbury, New Zealand <b>Welcome and opening remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Welcome:</i> Dr Heide Hackmann, Director: Future Africa, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> <li><i>Opening remarks:</i> Dr Aldo Stroebel, Executive Director Strategic Partnerships: National Research Foundation, South Africa</li> </ul>
09:55 – 10:15	<b>Setting the scene and objectives</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Event moderator</li> </ul>
10:15 – 11:00	<b>Perspectives on network typologies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Higher education:</i> Prof. Ahmed Bawa, Former CEO: Universities South Africa; member of the International Science Council Open Science Working Group, South Africa</li> <li><i>Policy:</i> Prof. Julian May, Director: DSI-NRF Centre of Excellence in Food Security, University of the Western Cape; member of the National Planning Commission, South Africa</li> <li><i>Funding:</i> Dr Moses Osiru, Senior Education Specialist: World Bank, Uganda</li> <li><i>Multisectoral:</i> Dr Tembakazi Mali, Senior Vice-President: Sasol, South Africa</li> </ul>
11:00 – 11:35	<b>Moderated Q&amp;A</b>
11:35 – 12:00	<b>Tea   Coffee break</b>
12:00 – 13:00	<b>Strengthening the role of innovative networks to contribute to a future agenda for diversity and impact</b> ( <i>summaries from the 22 and 23 May parallel network meetings – 5min each, followed by 30min discussion</i> )  Event moderator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Australia-Africa Universities Network (Prof. John Hearn, Co-Chair: Australia Africa Universities Network, Australia)</li> <li>National Research Foundation (Dr Sepo Hachigonta, Director: National Research Foundation, South Africa)</li> <li>Association of Commonwealth Universities (Dr Tariro Masukume, Head of Membership: Association of Commonwealth Universities)</li> <li>Feed, Protect, Care Global Collaborative PhD Platform (Prof. Patrick Caron, Vice-Chair: Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research Board; Chair: Agropolis International, France)</li> <li>Networked Universities for the Public Good – Worldwide Universities Network cases:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ms Sabrina Zissler, Global Partnerships Manager: University of York, United Kingdom (5min)</li> <li>Prof. Steve Banwart, Dean: Global Development, University of Leeds, United Kingdom (5min)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
13:00-13:15	<b>Summary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Event moderator</li> </ul>
13:15 – 14:15	<b>Lunch break</b>

14:15 – 15:00	<p><b>Case studies: Exemplars of Networking the Networks</b> (analysed through the dimensions of: 1. experience of additionality, 2. identifying and analysing gaps, 3. effectiveness of networking, and 4. resource mobilisation/economy of scale)</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. Robert Jones, Chancellor: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Vice-President: University of Illinois System, United States</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OR Tambo Africa Research Chairs Initiative (Science Granting Councils Initiative, International Development Research Centre, National Research Foundation, African Research Universities Alliance, Tambo Foundation) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Dr Dorothy Ngila, Director: National Research Foundation, South Africa</li> </ul> </li> <li>• African Climate and Development Initiative (ACDI) and African Research Universities Alliance (ARUA) Centre of Excellence for Climate and Development (Multiple universities, development partners, Future Earth, industry chair) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Professor Mark New, Director: ACDI and Director: ARUA Centre of Excellence for Climate and Development, University of Cape Town, South Africa</li> </ul> </li> <li>• African Research Universities Alliance Centre of Excellence in Sustainable Food Systems (ARUA-SFS) (Multiple Universities, UKRI, GCRF, development partners, and philanthropy) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prof. Frans Swanepoel, Interim Director: ARUA-SFS, and Dr Melody Mentz-Coetzee, ARUA-SFS, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Moderated Q&amp;A</b>
15:30 – 15:45	<b>Tea   Coffee break</b>
15:45 – 16:45	<p><b>Closing panel: Lessons/best practice for the future</b></p> <p>Event moderator</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prof. Thoko Mayekiso, Vice-Chancellor: University of Mpumalanga; Chairperson: Research and Innovation Strategy Group, Universities South Africa, South Africa</li> <li>• Prof. Masafumi Nagao, Research Advisor, International Development Center of Japan, Japan</li> <li>• Prof. Richard Mkandawire, Director: Michigan State University Alliance for African Partners, Malawi</li> <li>• Prof. Teboho Moja, Panel of Advisers: Science Granting Councils Initiative; Professor in Higher Education: New York University, United States</li> <li>• Prof. Harlene Hayne, Vice-Chancellor: Curtin University, Australia</li> <li>• Dr Heide Hackmann, Director: Future Africa; Africa Global Secretariat Hub: Future Earth, South Africa</li> </ul> <p><b>Summary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Event moderator</li> </ul>

**New partnerships exhibition and celebration dinner – Venue: The HUB**

17:00 – 20:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by Prof. Loretta Feris, Vice-Principal Academic: University of Pretoria, South Africa, and NRF</li> <li>• Dinner address: “Beyond equitable partnerships: Towards a charter framework on transformative research collaborations with Africa” by Prof. Isabella Aboderin, Director: Perivoli Africa Research Centre, University of Bristol, United Kingdom</li> </ul>
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## Thursday 25 May 2023

Parallel event (Organiser: Sustainable Development Solutions Network, South Africa)	
15:30 – 17:00	Event: Local leadership Council meeting ( <i>by invitation only</i> ) – VENUE: FA BOARDROOM

Welcome and opening	
09:00 – 09:15	<b>National anthem and musical performance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The University of Pretoria Choir</li></ul>
09:15 – 09:30	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prof. Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor and Principal: University of Pretoria, South Africa</li></ul>
Plenary Session II: Opening science and education in and for Africa Moderator: Dr Heide Hackmann, Director: Future Africa, South Africa	
09:30 – 10:30	<b>Framing inputs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prof. Lidia Brito, Regional Director for Southern Africa: UNESCO, Mozambique – <i>UNESCO's Open Science Recommendation and its implementation across Africa</i></li><li>Prof. Ahmed Bawa, Former CEO: Universities South Africa; Member of the International Science Council Open Science Working Group, South Africa – <i>The role of universities in the open science movement</i></li><li>Prof. Simone Buitendijk, Vice-Chancellor: University of Leeds, United Kingdom – <i>The imperatives and implications of open education</i></li></ul>
10:30 – 11:00	Tea   Coffee break
11:00 – 11:15	<b>Overview of national open science policies (and policy making) in Africa</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dr Tshiamo Motshegwa, Director: African Open Science Platform, Botswana</li></ul>
11:15 – 12:15	<b>Challenge statements and open discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dr Kostas Glinos, former Head of Unit: Open Science; Directorate-General for Research and Innovation: European Commission, Greece</li><li>Prof. Loretta Feris, Vice-Principal Academic: University of Pretoria, South Africa</li><li>Mr Daan du Toit, Deputy Director-General of International Cooperation and Resources: Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa</li></ul>
12:15 – 12:30	<b>Conclusions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dr Aldo Stroebel, Executive Director Strategic Partnerships: National Research Foundation, South Africa</li></ul>
12:30 – 13:45	<b>Lunch and formal launch of the Knowledge Equity Network</b>



### Plenary Session III: Opening to the world: The value and voice of African science on a global stage

Moderator: Dr Neeraj Mistry, Deputy Director: Future Africa, South Africa

13:45 – 14:05	<b>Framing inputs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prof. Funmi Olonisakin, Vice-President International: Kings College London, United Kingdom</li></ul>
14:05 – 15:00	<b>Challenge statements and open discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prof. Svein Stølen, Rector: University of Oslo, Norway</li><li>Dr Phil Mjwara, Director-General: Department of Science and Innovation, South Africa</li><li>Professor Gerald Ouma, Director of Institutional Planning, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li></ul>
15:00 – 15:15	<b>Conclusions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Dr Thandi Mgwebi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research, Innovation and Internationalisation: Nelson Mandela University, South Africa</li></ul>
15:15 – 15:45	Tea   Coffee break
<b>Showcase I: Transformative African Research</b> Moderator: Dr Tolu Oni, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom and University of Pretoria, South Africa	
15:45 – 16:05	<b>Pandemic prevention, preparedness, and recovery</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prof. Wanda Markotter, Faculty of Health Sciences &amp; Future Africa, and Dr Sean Patrick, School of Public Health and Public Health Systems, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li></ul>
16:05 – 16:25	<b>Sustainable food systems</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prof. Lindiwe Majele Sibanda, ONE CGIAR Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, Montpellier, France</li></ul>
16:25 – 16:45	<b>Energy transitions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Prof. Roula Inglesi-Lotz, Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li><li>Dr Titus Mathe, Chief Executive Officer: South African National Energy Development Institute, South Africa</li></ul>
16:45 – 17:00	<b>Q&amp;A</b>
17:00 – 17:30	Break   Free time

Africa Week 2023 Formal Opening Ceremony	
17:30 – 17:35	<b>Welcome</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor and Principal: University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> </ul>
17:35 – 17:50	<b>Opening address: African science for the global public good</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Honourable Minister Blade Nzimande, South Africa Minister of Higher Education, Science, and Technology</li> </ul>
17:50 – 18:35	<b>Future Africa Global Lecture: Visions for the future of Africa</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Paul Tiyambe Zeleza, Associate Provost and North Star Distinguished Professor: Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio, United States</li> </ul>
18:35 – 19:00	<b>Conversation with Future Africa Global Lecturer</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor and Principal: University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> </ul>
19:00 – 20:30	<b>Africa Day cocktail reception – Venue: The HUB</b>

### Friday 26 May 2023

Parallel event (Organiser: Sustainable Development Solutions Network, South Africa)	
08:00 – 16:00	Key sessions ( <i>by invitation only</i> )

Showcase II: Transformative African Research Moderator: Dr Connie Nshemereirwe, Director: African Science Leadership Programme, Uganda	
09:00 – 09:20	<b>Youth: Education, employment, empowerment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Margaret Chitiga-Mabugu, Dean: Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences and Dr Olebogeng Selebi, Deputy Director: Centre for the Future of Work (CFoW), University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> </ul>
09:20 – 09:40	<b>Global equity in Africa</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Dire Tladi, Faculty of Law &amp; Future Africa, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> </ul>
09:40 – 10:00	<b>Climate and agricultural tipping points</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Barend Erasmus, Dean: Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> </ul>
10:00 – 10:20	<b>Digital futures</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Vukosi Marivate, ABSA Chair of Data Science and Mr Abiodun Modupe, Department of Computer Science, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> </ul>
10:20 – 10:40	<b>Questions and comments from the audience</b>

10:40 – 11:00	Tea   Coffee Break
<b>Plenary Session IV: Opening agendas: Priorities for impactful African research universities</b> Moderator: Professor Alice Pell, Emerita Professor, Cornell University and Visiting Fellow CAS, University of Pretoria	
11:00 – 11:20	<b>Framing inputs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Ernest Aryeetey, Secretary-General: African Research Universities Alliance, Ghana</li> </ul>
11:20 – 12:15	<b>Challenge statements and open discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Patrick Caron, Vice-Chair: Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research Board; Chair: Agropolis International, France</li> <li>Prof. Fulufhelo Nelwamondo, CEO: National Research Foundation, South Africa</li> <li>Prof. Teboho Moja, Professor of Higher Education: New York University, United States</li> </ul>
12:15 – 12:30	<b>Conclusions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Alexei Tcheuyap, Associate Vice-President and Vice-Provost, International Student Experience: University of Toronto, Canada</li> </ul>
12:30 – 14:00	Lunch break

<b>Plenary Session V: Opening pathways to action: Unlocking the science-policy-practice interface</b> Moderator: Ms Harsha Dayal, Director, Research and Knowledge Management: Department of Planning Monitoring and Evaluation, the Presidency of South Africa	
14:00 – 14:20	<b>Framing inputs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Dhesigen Naidoo, Senior Adviser and Climate Adaptation Lead to the South African Presidential Climate Commission: World Bank; Senior Research Associate: Institute for Security Studies</li> </ul>
14:20 – 15:15	<b>Challenge statements and open discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Prof. Dan Banik, Centre for Development and the Environment, University of Oslo; Director: Oslo SDG Initiative</li> <li>Prof. Belinda Reyers, Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, University of Pretoria, South Africa</li> <li>Prof Robert Jones, Chancellor: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Vice-President: University of Illinois System, United States</li> </ul>
15:15 – 15:30	<b>Conclusions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dr Chux Daniels, Director: Transformative Innovation Policy Consortium, Africa Hub, Science Policy Research Unit, University of Sussex, United Kingdom</li> </ul>
15:30 – 16:00	Tea   Coffee break
<b>Africa Week 2023 Formal Closing Ceremony</b> Moderator: Prof. Sunil Maharaj, Vice-Principal Research, Innovation, and Postgraduate Education: University of Pretoria	

16:00 – 17:00	<p><b>Reflections on the outcomes of Africa Week 2023</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dr Ed Gerstner, Director for Research Environment Alliances: Springer Nature, United Kingdom, and Dr Connie Nshemereirwe, Director: African Science Leadership Programme, Uganda</li></ul> <p><b>Closing remarks and ideas towards Africa Week 2025</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prof. Tawana Kupe, Vice-Chancellor and Principal: University of Pretoria, South Africa, and selected respondents</li></ul>
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