

ZASB – Research Network Africa

Annual Report 2022

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Editing and layout: Pascal Schmid

Copy editing and proofreading: Niamh Christine O'Neill

Printing: Druckkollektiv Phönix

Cover: Students discussing at the Second European Conference on African Studies (Photo: Ivana Kočišová)

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Politics and Governance

Saba Kassa

This key area addresses the challenge of understanding the interplay between how society wants to live (politics) and the coordinated action (governance) undertaken to make this possible. The members wish to focus less on the state and more on the actions and practices constituting contexts of politics and governance. In addition, the KAA acknowledges the importance of knowledge that addresses practical problems, especially since these problems and policy issues are an essential source of inspiration for identifying theoretical, conceptual, and methodological challenges.

Addressing bribery and corruption

The research team at the Basel Institute on Governance finalized the joint research project on "Addressing Bribery and Favouritism in the Tanzanian Health Sector: A Behavioural Approach." The mixed-methods evaluation aimed to understand the feasibility and potential impact of a multi-component behavioral intervention on rates of gift exchange between users and staff of a public regional referral hospital in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Moreover, the Basel Institute on Governance led various anti-corruption technical assistance projects in Eastern and Southern Africa and shared findings from ongoing research on anti-corruption, the role of social norms and networks, and its intersectionality with health and environmental governance in Africa in various practitioner-orientated events.

The Basel Institute on Governance research team will prepare spin-off publications of its recently completed research project on addressing corruption through a social norms approach in Tanzania. In addition, the team will seek to secure follow-up funding to explore how to scale up the successful pilot interventions and how such an approach might be adapted to address corruption problems in other sectors. Moreover, they will continue their anti-corruption prevention work with national anti-corruption bodies in Africa.

African Megachurches in Hong Kong and Switzerland

Andreas Heuser at the Faculty of Theology of the University of Basel continued the implementation of a Bridging Grant project on "Political Theology in African Megachurches in Hong Kong and Switzerland" (Leading House Asia/ETH ZH). The project runs from September 2021 to February 2023.

Peace Agreements in the African Peace & Security Architecture

In 2022, Michael Aeby, a graduate of the MA African Studies at the University of Basel, joined the ZASB with an SNF postdoc return grant. His research project is designed to make a crucial empirical contribution to the Area Studies literature on peace-making in the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and prepare a collaborative multiyear project. The study generates policy-relevant comparative insights on the ways the African Union (AU) and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) support the implementation of Comprehensive Peace Agreements (CPAs) in intrastate conflicts. In the framework of his fellowship, Michael Aeby co-convenes the online colloquium of the of the African Politics Research Group (APRG) in collaboration with the University of Edinburgh. The colloquium serves as a platform for PhD candidates, postdocs and established scholars with various disciplinary backgrounds who are based at universities in the North and South to discuss ongoing and recently completed research.

Collaboration with ABI and ACT in Freiburg

Activities by members of our key area contribute to the ZASB's exchange and collaboration with the Arnold-Bergstraesser-Institut (ABI) and the Africa Centre for Transregional Research (ACT) of the University of Freiburg (Germany). In 2022, the ACT became a full member of the African Studies network in Europe, AEGIS, of which the ZASB is a long-standing member. Julia Tischler, co-director of the ZASB, is the chairperson of the ACT advisory board.

The ACT organized the international biennial conference of the German African Studies association, VAD, in Freiburg in June 2022 on "Africa-Europe: Reciprocal Perspectives". The ZASB was actively involved in various ac-

tivities, including the roundtable "Concepts without Borders" and several panels, as well as a reception at the conference venue and a concert at the Jazzhaus on the first conference day. The ABI organized the adjacent Young Scholars' Day.

The ABI continued a provenance research project on returning human remains from Africa in the Freiburg University collection attributed to Alexander Ecker. Members of the ZASB and Basler Afrika Bibliographien will be involved in the final conference as the project will conclude in April 2023 with the handover of a policy paper to the authorities.

As of 1 January 2023, the ACT takes over the administrative role formerly attributed to the Freiburg Institute for Advanced Studies (FRIAS) with regards to the Maria Sibylla Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA) at the University of Ghana, a project funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research. The mid-term conference of MIASA will take place in September 2023. Elísio Macamo, who is a member of MIASA's academic advisory board, will convene a panel together with Andreas Mehler and Mamadou Diawara (University of Frankfurt).

Outlook

A primary objective of this key area in 2023 is to explore synergies in research collaboration. The ZASB workshop planned for March 2023 will kick-start this process.

Key publications

Baez-Camargo, Claudia, and Gayle Burgess. 2022. "Behavioural Drivers of Corruption Facilitating Illegal Wildlife Trade – Problem Analysis and State of the Field Review." Working Paper. Basel: Basel Institute on Governance.

Baez-Camargo, Claudia, Jacopo Costa, Cosimo Stahl, and Saba Kassa. 2022. "Informal Networks and Anti-Corruption". Quick Guide Series. Basel: Basel Institute on Governance.

Baez-Camargo, Claudia. 2022. "Developing Anti-Corruption Interventions Addressing Social Norms: Lessons from a Field Pilot in Tanzania." Working Paper 40. Basel: Basel Institute on Governance.

Baez-Camargo, Claudia, Jacopo Costa, and Lucy Koechlin. 2022. "Informal Networks as Investment: A Qualitative Analysis from Uganda and Tanzania". *Governance*, 1–20.

Costa, Jacopo. 2022. "Structures, Functions and Flows of IWT: Deconstructing a Criminal Network Between East Africa and Southeast Asia." Crime, Law and Social Change, 1–25.

Heuser, Andreas. 2022. "Afrikanische Unabhängige Kirchen (African Independent Churches)". In *Theologie(n) Afrika: Ausgewählte Schlüsselbegriffe in Einem Umstrittenen Diskursfeld*, edited by Klaus Hock and Claudia Jahnel, 55–76. Veröffentlichungen Der Wissenschaftlichen Gesellschaft für Theologie (VWGTh). Leipzig: EVA – Evangelische Verlagsanstalt.

Heuser, Andreas. 2022.
"'Rhizomatische' Rekonstruktion:
Afrikanische Unabhängige Kirchen
in Globalgeschichtlicher Perspektive".
Zeitschrift für Missionswissenschaft und
Religionswissenschaft ZMR 106: 372–80.

Kassa, Saba, Claudia Baez-Camargo, Jacopo Costa, and Robert Lugolobi. 2022. "Determinants and Drivers of Wildlife Trafficking: A Qualitative Analysis in Uganda". *Journal of International Wildlife Law and Policy*, 24 (3-4): 314-342.

Zanker, Franzisca, and Judith Altrogge. 2022. "Protective exclusion as a postcolonial strategy: Rethinking deportations and sovereignty in the Gambia". Security Dialogue, 53 (5): 475–93.



Police officers serving under the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) patrol a street in Mogadishu, Somalia.

Photo: AMISOM Photo/Mokhtar Mohamed, 2021

Selected projects

Political Theology in African Megachurches in Hong Kong and Switzerland

Lead (University of Basel): Andreas Heuser

01.09.2021–28.02.2023, Leading House Asia Bridging Grant

RELIEN: Unternehmen und Religion

Lead (University of Basel): Andreas Heuser

Consortium: Université de Strasbourg, Universität Koblenz-Landau, Université de Haute-Alsace, CNRS Délégation Alsace, Kanton Basel-Stadt, University of Basel

01.09.2020–30.06.2023, Interreg Upper Rhine

Supporting the Implementation of Peace Agreements in the African Peace & Security Architecture

Principal investigator: Michael Aeby 01.08.2022–31.07.2023, SNSF Postdoc. Mobility Return Grant

Selected events

Social norm and behaviour change approaches to address corruption and tackle illegal wildlife trade

Practitioner-focused webinar coorganized by the Basel Institute on Governance and TRAFFIC 27 Jun 2022 | Workshop

VAD conference: "Africa and Europe: Reciprocal Perspectives"

Conference of the Association for African Studies in Germany e.V. (VAD) in Freiburg i.Br.

07 Jun 2022 - 10 Jun 2022 | Conference

Partnerships/major collaborations

of Freiburg i.Br.
University of Ghana/Merian Institute for Advanced Studies in Africa (MIASA)
University of Dar es Salaam
Chinese University of Hongkong
Yonsei University, South Korea
Pacific Theological College, Suva/Fiji

Arnold Bergstraesser Institute/University

Members

| Michael Aeby (Projects ZASB)

Claudia Baez-Camargo (Basel Institute on Governance)

Jacopo Costa (Basel Institute on Governance)

Gregor Dobler (Universität Freiburg

Till Förster (Department of Social Sciences)

| Laurent Goetschel (swisspeace) | Andreas Heuser (Faculty of Theology) | Saba Kassa (Basel Institute on

Governance)

Elisio Macamo (Department of Social Sciences)

Mazembo Eddy Mavungu

Andreas Mehler (Arnold Bergstraesser Institut)

Mark Pieth (Basel Institute on Governance)

Jon Schubert (Department of Social Sciences)

Franzisca Zanker (Arnold Bergstraesser Institut)



Supporting the Implementation of Peace Agreements in the APSA

The African Union (AU) and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) have facilitated numerous peace agreements in intrastate conflicts since they initiated the joint African Peace & Security Architecture (APSA) in 2002. However, most agreements collapse instead of being implemented, for reasons that are often beyond the control of external sponsors. However, in order to render their peace-making efforts more sustainable, the AU and RECs must improve their ability to support the implementation of agreements that are facilitated by their mediators.

Peace Studies literature shows that third parties can support implementation through continued mediation, guarantees and monitoring. AU policies recognize the importance of implementation support, but the APSA building blocks' use of mediation, guarantees and monitoring to support implementation in practice has yet to be systematically researched in order to inform policy and peace-making practices.

This project, therefore, examines how the AU, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) support the implementation of comprehensive peace agreements and framework agreements for transitions through continued mediation, guarantees and monitoring. It reviews the four organizations' policies and structures, traces implementation support practices in selected peace processes, and compares commitments for third-party support in 30 agreements. The twelve-month-long postdoc project is financed by the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF).

www.zasb.unibas.ch/en/apsa

Health

Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund

Danelle van Zvl-Hermann The key area with the broad name "Health" brings together researchers from different disciplines and at different stages of their academic careers. A particular focus of the key area is on the exchange and critical conceptual and epistemological reflection of health-related themes explored from different disciplinary perspectives, including both the social and natural sciences. Our members represent various faculties and departments of the University of Basel as well as affiliated institutes, in particular the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute.

Restructuring of health-related key areas

In 2022, we revised the structure of the health-related key areas. At the Steering Committee meeting in June 2022, Sonja Merten, Martin Röösli and Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund put forward the proposal to merge the two previous health-related key areas "Public Health, Ecosystems and Wellbeing" (chaired by Martin Röösli) and "Control of Neglected Tropical Diseases and Diseases of Poverty" (chaired by Claudia Daubenberger) into a new broad key area, comprising various sub-themes reflecting the current and future work of the ZASB members in the field of health.

With this restructuring, we hope to facilitate interaction between different groups and disciplines. The formation of subgroups in the future will also allow for more flexibility in the inclusion of new projects and individuals, and encourage exchange between and within these subgroups. The new key area is co-chaired by Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund and Danelle van Zyl-Hermann.

The role of animals in people's livelihoods

ALIVEAfrica is a five-year multi-country study funded by the European Research Council (Starting Grant 2020, awarded to Hannah Brown, Durham University). The project is a collaboration between Durham University, the University of Nairobi, Njala University and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute and explores contemporary animal-based livelihood strategies in sub-Saharan Africa with ethnographic case studies in Kenya and Sierra Leone. At Swiss TPH, Jakob Zinsstag is involved in the project as an advisor, while Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund's postdoctoral project explores global assemblages of One Health by studying the production of knowledge, ideas and policies related to One Health using a multi-sited ethnographic approach.

Pesticides: Continuation of APSENT

The African Pesticide Intervention Study (APSENT) was initiated in 2020 with the overall goal to obtain a better understanding of ongoing research and public health activities related to pesticide interventions in Africa, and to provide a basis for suitable interventions targeting specific situations. In the framework of this project, Peter Ssessekkade joined the Swiss TPH as a PhD student for three years on an ESKAS fellowship. He is working on the APSENT-Uganda data to evaluate the impacts of a two-day training and SMS intervention on knowledge, attitudes and practice of pesticide handling in Uganda.

Consolidated key area of activity

The key area "Health" held its first meeting in November 2022 to discuss the future of the group together with additional interested ZASB members. Representatives of diverse disciplinary backgrounds such as molecular parasitology, molecular epidemiology, social anthropology, medical anthropology, nursing science, law, (African) history, medical history, social history, sociology, development policies and politics, epidemiology, exposure assessment, agriculture, theology, biomedicine, cardiovascular science, public health joined the group and are based at different faculties and departments at the University of Basel and the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute. At a workshop in January 2023 at Swiss TPH in Allschwil, the members presented their work and discussed ways of working together as a group and possible outcomes

www.zasb.unibas.ch/en/health

New SNSF grants: Agricultural health and artemisinin resistance

Samuel Fuhrimann won an SNSF Starting grant to start his research group around agricultural health in February 2023. A key focus will be on the establishment of comparative cohort studies with farmer families and the assessment of their health and well-being in Uganda, South Africa and Switzerland over the next five years. The SNSF starting grant will also provide a platform for interdisciplinary research on agricultural topics in Africa related to health as well as environmental and socio-economic aspects of farming. The underlying vision is to investigate the sustainability of conventional and organic farming systems along the global transition of agricultural systems.

From July 2023, a new SNSF SPIRIT project will be conducted in collaboration with Swiss TPH and the Rwanda Biomedical Centre (RBC). The main goal is to monitor the spread of antimalarial drug resistance in the country, by establishing an in vitro parasite culture laboratory to monitor parasite susceptibility to antimalarial drugs, and genomic tools to monitor molecular markers associated with antimalarial drug resistance and parasite genetic diversity. The project will be coordinated by Christian Nsanzabana at Swiss TPH and Aline Uwimana at RBC.

Outlook

At the key area's January workshop, members highlighted conceptual discussions as a shared agenda. A writing project is planned for 2023 with the aim of publishing a special issue with short contributions critically discussing key concepts from the field of public health from different analytical perspectives.

A student group led by Regina Molomo and Andrea Graf was established in order to bring together PhD and MA students from different faculties and disciplines in health.



Selected projects

Joint South Africa and Swiss Chair in Global Environmental Health

Project leaders: Aqiel Dalvie, Martin Röösli, Guéladio Cissé 2015–2024, State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI), National Research Foundation (NRF) South Africa

African Contributions to Global Health: Circulating Knowledge and Innovations

Principal investigators: Julia Tischler, Jürg Utzinger, Jerome Chenal (EPF Lausanne)

Project members, Basel: Danelle van Zyl-Hermann, Tanja Hammel, Doris Osei-Afriyie, Ipyn Eric Nebie, Günther Fink, Christian Burri, Jakob Zinsstag 2019–2023, SNSF (Sinergia)

Prospective Child Health Agricultural Pesticide Study in South Africa (CapSA)

Principal investigator: Aqiel Dalvie 2015–2023, National Research Foundation South Africa (NRF), SARChi Chair Programme, South African Medical Research Council, State Secretariat for Education, Research and Innovation (SERI)

ALIVEAfrica

Project leader: Hannah Brown (Durham University, UK)

Co-investigators, Basel: Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund

2021–2026, European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program

African Pesticide Intervention Project (APSENT)

Principal investigators: Martin Röösli, Samuel Fuhrimann, Guéladio Cissé PhD researcher: Peter Ssessekkade 2022–2025, ESKAS

Towards the elimination of cervical cancer: transdisciplinary science for smarter implementation strategies

Principal investigators: Sonja Merten (Switzerland), Sally Mtenga (Tanzania) 2022–2025, SNSF SPIRIT

PhD and MA projects

Out of Sight? Bilharzia in Madagascar as a Global History of 'Neglected Tropical Diseases', 1950s to the present

PhD thesis: Andrea Graf

Reproductive health effects of pesticides exposure on boys and girls in the rural Western Cape, South Africa

PhD thesis: Regina Molomo

Prospective Cohort Study on Early Life Household Air Pollution Exposure in Ghana and Cardiovascular Disease Risk in Childhood

PhD thesis: Seyram Kaali

The impact of interventions and farming practices on the health and well-being of smallholder farmer families in Uganda

PhD thesis: Peter Ssekkadde

The effect of climate change on cardiovascular diseases: What the future could look like for India and South Africa

PhD thesis: Shreya Shrikhande

Climate Change impacts on Malaria: from risk assessment to health adaptation in Rwanda

PhD thesis: Felix Rubuga

Antimicrobial resistance in humans, animals, and the environment in Somali region in Ethiopia

PhD thesis: Abdifatah Muktar Muhummad

Somali Pastoralists and Pain

PhD thesis: Eleonore Arrer

Impact of religion/spirituality on the outcome of HIV therapy in different health settings in rural and urban Zimbabwe with a special focus on adolescent and young patients and the current Covid-19 pandemic

PhD thesis: Ursula Wüthrich-Grossenbacher

Citation Justice for Tropical Medicine

MAThesis: Xiao Meng

Climate change and respiratory illnesses in the Limpopo province, South Africa: Assessing risks and vulnerabilities

MAThesis: Daniel Kipo

Key publications

Arowosegbe, O. O., M. Röösli, N. Künzli, A. Saucy, T. C. Adebayo-Ojo, J. Schwartz, M. Kebalepile, M. F. Jeebhay, M. A. Dalvie, and K. de Hoogh. 2022. "Ensemble Averaging Using Remote Sensing Data to Model Spatiotemporal PM10 Concentrations in Sparsely Monitored South Africa". Environmental Pollution 310: 119883.

Bühler, J. L., S. Shrikhande, T. Kapwata, G. Cissé, Y. Liang, H. Pedder, M. Kwiatkowski, Z. Kunene, A. Mathee, N. Peer, and C.Y. Wright. 2022. "The Association Between Apparent Temperature and Hospital Admissions for Cardiovascular Disease in Limpopo Province, South Africa". Int J Environ Res Public Health 20: 116.

Chetty-Mhlanga, S., P. Viglietti, M. Röösli, and M. A. Dalvie. 2022. "Maternal Drinking Behaviour and Co-Exposure from Smoking During and After Pregnancy in Relation to the Neurocognitive Function of School-Children in the Rural Western Cape". Neurotoxicology 88: 36–43.

Cissé, G., R. McLeman, H. Adams, P. Aldunce, K. Bowen, D. Campbell-Lendrum, S. Clayton, K. L. Ebi, J. Hess, C. Huang, L. Qiyong, G. McGregor, J. Semenza, and M. C. Tirado. 2022. "2022: Health, Wellbeing, and the Changing Structure of Communities". In Climate Change 2022: Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability: Contribution of Working Group II to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, edited by H. O. Pörtner, D. C. Roberts, D. Tignor, E. S. Poloczanska, K. Mintenbeck, A. Alegría, M. Craig, S. Langsdorf, S. Löschke, V. Möller, A. Okem, and B. Rama, 1041-1170. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Degrendele, C., R. Proke, S. R. Jílková, J. Kohoutek, L. Melymuk, P. Pribylová, M. A. Dalvie, M. Röösli, J. Klánová, and S. Fuhrimann. 2022. "Human Exposure to Pesticides in Dust from Two Agricultural Sites in South Africa". *Toxics* 10 (10): 629.

Röösli, M., S. Fuhrimann, A. Atuhaire, H. A. Rother, J. Dabrowski, B. Eskenazi, E. Jørs, et al. 2022. "Interventions to Reduce Pesticide Exposure from the Agricultural Sector in Africa: A Workshop Report". Int J Environ Res Public Health 19 (15): 8973.

van Zyl-Hermann, D., T. Hammel, C. Burri, J. Chenal, G. Fink, A. A. Konou, E. Nébié, D. Osei Afriyie, V. Pessoa Colombo, J. Utzinger, and J. Tischler. 2022. "Examining African Contributions to Global Health: Reflections on Knowledge Circulation and Innovation". Glob Public Health, in press.

Veludo, A. F., D. Figueiredo, C. Degrendele, L. Masinyana, L. Curchod, J. Kohoutek, P. Kukucka, J. Martiník, P. Pribylová, J. Klánová, M. A. Dalvie, M. Röösli, and S. Fuhrimann. 2022. "Seasonal Variations in Air Concentrations of 27 Organochlorine Pesticides (OCPs) and 25 Current-Use Pesticides (CUPs) across Three Agricultural Areas of South Africa". Chemosphere 289: 133162.

Yéré, HM., Machirori, M. & De Vries, J. 2022. "Unpacking race and ethnicity in African genomics research" *Nat Rev Genet* 23, 455–6.

Zinsstag, J., K. Hediger, Y. M. Osman, S. Abukhattab, L. Crump, A. Kaiser-Grolimund, S. Mauti, A. Ahmed, J. Hattendorf, B. Bonfoh, K. Heitz-Tokpa, M. Berger Gonzalez, A. Bucher, M. Léchenne, R. Tschopp, B. Obrist, and K. Pelikan. 2022. "The Promotion and Development of One Health at Swiss TPH and Its Greater Potential". *Diseases* 10 (3): 65.

Selected events

Arts & Global Health: Learning from Malawi

Global Health Africa Discussion Series 04 Mar 2022 | Lecture series

Photographs as sources for writing histories of medicine, health and healing in colonial and postcolonial Africa

Workshop organized by Danelle van Zyl-Hermann (Basel) and Rosa Williams (St Lawrence, USA) 19–20 May 2022 | Workshop

Stakeholder and critical friends meeting (Nairobi, Kenya)

Organized within the framework of the ERC project ALIVEAfrica
19 October 2022 | Workshop

ZASB key area "Health"

KAA workshop 2 November 2022 | Workshop

Stakeholder and Dissemination Workshop (Nairobi, Kenya)

Organized within the framework of the SNSF Sinergia Project "African contributions to global health: circulating knowledge and innovations" 14–16 November 2022 | Workshop

Members

Guéladio Cissé (SwissTPH) Agiel Dalvie (University of CapeTown) Samuel Fuhrimann (SwissTPH) Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund (Department of Social Sciences/SwissTPH) Sonja Merten (SwissTPH) Christian Nsanzabana (SwissTPH) Martin Röösli (SwissTPH) Sandra Staudacher (Faculty of Medicine) Piet van Eeuwijk (Department of Social Sciences/SwissTPH) Danelle Van Zyl-Hermann (Department of History) Henri-Michel Yéré (Department of Social Sciences) Jakob Zinsstag (SwissTPH)

Partnerships/major collaborations

University of Cape Town, School of Public Health and Family Medicine University of Pretoria South Africa Medical Research Council Durham University

Knowledge Production, Forms, and Platforms

Julia Tischler

Scholars collaborating in this key area address the question of knowledge production on Africa. What are the conditions for producing knowledge on Africa, and how do these affect our research agendas as well as outcomes? For whom do we produce knowledge on Africa? How do we deal with the asymmetries that continue to characterize African Studies, in which Northern institutions and researchers play a dominant role? What does it mean to produce "postcolonial" knowledge on Africa? How can our research inform broader public debates?

Reversing the Gaze

The SNSF Sinergia project "Reversing the Gaze: Towards Post-Comparative Area Studies" brings together researchers at the Department of Social Sciences (Elísio Macamo) and the Institute for European Global Studies (Ralph Weber) at the University of Basel with colleagues at the University of Zurich (Department of Geography) and the University of Edinburgh (School of Law). The project "reverses the gaze" by testing the analytic purchase of concepts developed in the Global South on political crisis phenomena in Europe. In 2022, members of the various work groups conducted research in Austria, India, Italy and Switzerland.

In June 2022, the project held a research workshop with project fellows and invited experts from Germany, India, Italy, Mozambique, Sri Lanka, the UK and USA with a focus on Conceptual Vocabularies and Epistemic Stakeholders. The workshop was tagged to the biennial conference of the German African Studies association VAD in Freiburg i.Br., where the project organized a round table on "Concepts without borders - Reciprocating analytical perspectives" with project members and fellows. Over the course of the year, the project's work groups organized additional (hybrid) workshops on "The Philosophy and Global Politics of Concept Travel" (Basel, June 2022), "Researching the un/familiar" (Basel, October 2022), "Decoloniality and the Politics of the Urban" (Edinburgh, October 2022), and "The Cultural Life of Democracy" (Zurich, November 2022).

In addition, the project continued its bi-weekly online colloquium titled "Working with the State" (spring semester 2022) and "Concepts without Borders" (fall semester 2022) with presentations by both project members and guest lecturers (including Geeta Patel, University of Virginia; Harshana Rambukwella, Open University of Sri Lanka; Rose Marie Beck, Universität Leipzig).

African Contributions to Global Health

The Sinergia-Project "African Contributions to Global Health", a collaboration between the Department of History (Julia Tischler), Swiss TPH (Jürg Utzinger), and EPFL (Jérôme Chenal), examines the (non-)circulation of knowledge in the field of health between the Global South and North. In 2022, researchers were conducting and mostly finalizing their research in Togo, Burkina Faso, Kenya, Côte d'Ivoire, Tanzania, and Zambia, among others.

In November 2022, team members organized a first "Stakeholder and Dissemination Workshop" in Nairobi, Kenya. The workshop consisted of several meetings in two informal settlements in the city, in order to share and discuss research results on topics such as access to water, sanitation, and healthcare. In addition, one larger session facilitated a dialogue between the Swiss and Kenyan research teams as well as local decision-makers, including the Nairobi City Council. These efforts form part of Vitor Pessoa Colombo's PhD thesis on urban health in Nairobi and Abidjan (supervised by Jérôme Chenal, EPFL, and Jürg Utzinger, Swiss TPH).

Moreover, the team launched the interdisciplinary MOOC "Examining African Contributions to Global Health" under the aegis of Tanja Hammel, who also offered blended-learning course based on the MOOC.

Equatoguinean Spanish

Members of the SNSF-funded project "Improving the visibility of Equatorial Guinea as a Spanish-speaking country", directed by Sandra Schlumpf, have conducted fieldwork and further advanced their research in 2022. The project aims to describe the situation of Span-

ish in Equatorial Guinea from a sociolinguistic and dialectological perspective. It highlights the importance of Equatorial Guinea within Spanish language studies and thus helps to increase its visibility as a Spanish-speaking country. A critical, postcolonial approach to analysis aims to revise classical, Eurocentric patterns of description and to grasp and appreciate this African variety of the Spanish language in its specific context. The project thus contributes to the reorientation of Hispanic studies towards a globally-oriented perception of the Spanish-speaking world.

Outreach activities

From January to May 2022, Isabelle Chariatte (French Studies) organized a course at the high school (Gymnasium) in Liestal on "Fiction(s) et réalité(s) de l'Afrique". The course included sessions with the Chadian writer Noël Ndjékéry and with Jean Nordmann, former ICRC delegate, as well as a guided tour in the Basler Afrika Bibliographien. Funding could be secured from Movetia to teach a course on high school level with 'e-tandems' between students in Liestal and in Bowounda (Togo) in 2023.

Isabelle Chariatte also presented the Prix Ahmadou Kourouma to Osvalde Lewat (Cameroon/Switzerland) at the Salon du Livre Genève and moderated two readings at the Literaturhaus Basel with Leïla Slimani (Morocco/France) and Osvalde Lewat respectively.

In the framework of their "BAB Interviews and Conversations" podcast, the Basler Afrika Bibliographien published a podcast series (in German) on solidarity and anti-Apartheid movements in Switzerland. The four episodes feature extracts from interviews by Dag Henrichsen with key activists.

An interdisciplinary course at the Department of History taught by Tanja Hammel based on the research project "African Contributions to Global Health" resulted in articles by students that were published in the *Afrika-Bulletin* in November 2022.

Selected projects

African Contributions to Global Health: Circulating Knowledge and Innovations

Principal investigators: Julia Tischler, Jürg Utzinger, Jerome Chenal (EPF Lausanne)

Project members, Basel: Danelle van Zyl-Hermann, Tanja Hammel, Doris Osei-Afriyie, Ipyn Eric Nebie, Günther Fink, Christian Burri, Jakob Zinsstag 01.06.2019–31.05.2023, SNSF (Sinergia)

Reversing the Gaze: Towards Post-Comparative Area Studies

Principal investigators: Elísio Macamo, Ralph Weber, Deval Desai (University of Edinburgh), Benedikt Korf (University of Zurich)

Project members, Basel: Tebuho Winnie Kanyimba, Matthias Claudio Maurer Rueda, Lerato Posholi, Pascal Schmid 01.09.2020–31.08.2024, SNSF (Sinergia)

Improving the visibility of Equatorial Guinea as a Spanish-speaking country

Principal investigator: Sandra Schlumpf-Thurnherr

Project member: Sara Carreira 01.02.2021–31.01.2025, SNSF (project funding)

Key publications

Borst, Julia, Sandra Schlumpf-Thurnherr, Max Doppelbauer, and Elisa Rizo. 2022. "Guinea Ecuatorial: La Pluralidad De Sus Culturas, Lenguas Y Literaturas. Introducción". *Quo Vadis Romania? Zeitschrift für Eine Aktuelle Romanistik* 59/60. 5–11.

Henrichsen, Dag. 2022. "Multicultural Lives, Defiance and Liberation Politics in Namibia: The Getzen-Kerina Family History". Oxford Research Encyclopedia of African History, 1–24.

Houssouba, Mohomodou. 2022. "Developing Online Resources for African Languages." In *African multilingualism and the Agenda 2030 / Multilinguisme africain et l'Agenda 2030*, edited by Djouroukoro Diallo and Thomas Bearth, 301–20. Wien, Zürich: LIT Verlag.

Macamo, Elísio. 2022. "The Paradox of Disturbance: Africa and COVID-19." In Social Movements and Politics During COVID-19: Crisis, Solidarity and Change in a Global Pandemic, edited by Geoffrey Pleyers and Breno Bringel, 246–54. Bristol: Bristol University Press.

Schlumpf-Thurnherr, Sandra. 2022. "¿África Forma Parte (o No) De La hispanofonía? Reflexiones glotopolíticas E ideológicas EnTorno a Guinea Ecuatorial". In *La Mirada glotopolítica, La Continuidad Y La renovación De La romanística*, edited by Lidia Becker, José Del Valle, and Gabriele Knauer, 261–82. Berlin: Peter Lang.

Schlumpf-Thurnherr, Sandra. 2022. Voces *De Una Comunidad Africana Poco Visible. Los Guineoecuatorianos En Madrid*. Madrid: Diwan-Mayrit.

van Zyl-Hermann, D., T. Hammel, C. Burri, J. Chenal, G. Fink, A. A. Konou, E. Nébié, D. Osei Afriyie, V. Pessoa Colombo, J. Utzinger, and J. Tischler. 2022. "Examining African Contributions to Global Health: Reflections on Knowledge Circulation and Innovation." *Glob Public Health*, 1–16.



Photo: James Merron

"Concepts without Borders – Reciprocating Analytical Perspectives" (Roundtable discussion at the VAD conference, June 2022)

The SNSF Sinergia project "Reversing the Gaze. Towards Post-Comparative Area Studies" hosted a roundtable session at the biennial conference of the German African Studies association VAD in Freiburg i.Br. Chaired by Elísio Macamo and Ralph Weber, the roundtable posed the question whether concepts – the most important resource available to social scientists – are hopelessly tied to context, bearer and normative assumptions. The standard assumption that concepts, when properly used, are independent of context has come under massive critique, especially in postcolonial and decolonial critiques. With Rose Marie Beck (University of Leipzig), Claudia Derichs (HU Berlin), Peter Ronald DeSouza (Goa University) and Patrício Langa (Eduardo Mondlane University), the roundtable brought together scholars from different disciplinary backgrounds and research contexts to explore the epistemological and methodological implications of deploying concepts in different regional and historical contexts.

In addition, members of the project convened two panel sessions on "The Politics and Epistemic Value of Positionality" (Lerato Posholi and Ralph Weber) and "Translating Concepts from Africa to Europe" (Tebuho Winnie Kanyimba and Matthias Maurer Rueda). Video recordings of all sessions are available online.

www.reversingthegaze.net/vad2022

Selected events

Arts & Global Health: Learning from Malawi

Global Health Africa Discussion Series 4 March 2022 | Workshop

Geeta Patel: "A Colonial History of Pensions: The East India Company and One Genesis for the Welfare State"

Lecture in the research colloquium "Reversing the Gaze" 25 April 2022 | Colloquium

Workshop: "Photographs as sources for writing histories of medicine, health and healing in colonial and postcolonial Africa"

Research workshop organised by Danelle van Zyl-Hermann (Basel) and Rosa Williams (St Lawrence, USA) 19–20 May 2022 | Workshop

Presentation of the Prix Ahmadou Kourouma to Osvalde Lewat ("Les Aquatiques")

Presentation and reading at the Salon du Livre Genève moderated by Isabelle Chariatte

20 May 2022 | Public event

Reading with Osvalde Lewat: "Les Aquatiques"

Reading at Literaturhaus Basel moderated by Isabelle Chariatte 23 May 2022 | Public event

Tarde guineana: Impresiones de una estancia de investigación en Guinea Ecuatorial

Presentation in the framework of the SNSF project "Improving the visibility of Equatorial Guinea as a Spanishspeaking country" 25 May 2022 | Public event

Workshop: "The Philosophy and Global Politics of Concept Travel"

International workshop with Peter Ronald deSouza, Katrin Meyer, Veli Mitova and Manuel Gustavo Isaacs in the framework of the research project "Reversing the Gaze" 17 June 2022 | Workshop

Book presentation: "Voces de una comunidad africana poco visible: los guineoecuatorianos en Madrid"

Book presentation by Sandra Schlumpf at Diwan Mayrit, Madrid

23 September 2022 | Public event

Harshana Rambukwella: "Traveling Theory: The Potentials and Limitations of Ideas as They 'Travel'"

Lecture in the research colloquium "Reversing the Gaze" 10 October 2022 | Colloquium

Workshop: "Researching the (un) familiar"

Research workshop with Peter Geschiere and Rose Marie Beck in the framework of the research project "Reversing the Gaze"

17 October 2022 | Workshop

Reading with Leïla Slimani: "Regardeznous danser"

Reading at Literaturhaus Basel moderated by Isabelle Chariatte 19 October 2022 | Public event

Stakeholder and Dissemination Workshop, Nairobi, Kenya

Organized within the framework of the SNSF Sinergia Project "African contributions to global health: circulating knowledge and innovations", led by Julia Tischler (Basel). 14–16 November 2022 | Workshop

Rose Marie Beck: "Towards nonrepresentational concept-making"

Lecture in the research colloquium "Reversing the Gaze" 21 November 2022 | Colloquium

Members

| Isabelle Chariatte (Department of Languages and Literatures) | Laurent Goetschel (swisspeace) | Tanja Hammel (Department of History) | Dag Henrichsen (Basler Afrika | Bibliographien)

Andreas Heuser (Faculty of Theology)
Alexandra Hofmänner (Department of Social Sciences)

| Mohomodou Houssouba (songhay.org) | Elísio Macamo (Department of Social | Sciences)

Mazembo Eddy Mavungu
George Paul Meiu (Department of Social
Sciences)

Christoph Pimmer (Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW)

Lerato Posholi (Institute for European Global Studies)

Sandra Schlumpf-Thurnherr (Department of Languages and Literatures)

NatalieTarr (SwissTPH)

Julia Tischler (Department of History)

Danelle Van Zyl-Hermann (Department of History)

Ralph Weber (Institute for European Global Studies)

Franzisca Zanker (Arnold Bergstraesser Institut)

Jakob Zinsstag (Swiss TPH)

Land, Landscapes, and Ecology

Giorgio Miescher

Nikolaus Kuhn

Aims and approaches

The key area "Land, Landscapes, and Ecology" focuses on the combination of three interconnected key themes in Africa-related research and debates in the humanities, social and natural sciences:

Land is a core topic in political struggles across Africa and beyond, and the question of who owns and can make use of land and natural resources more generally is fundamental to any socio-political analysis. Land-use practices are never isolated but always related to complex ecological, social, and cultural processes, which, in turn, are embedded in broader spatial and temporal frameworks.

The term "landscape", on the other hand, offers a theoretical perspective for discussing material and imagined (or practical and metaphysical) conceptions, through which land is shaped, perceived, experienced and understood. Landscape, therefore, is a concept that is reflected on in both the social and the natural sciences, and it opens up productive pathways towards interdisciplinary research.

Finally, the term "ecology" refers to the study of interactions between components within ecosystems and highlights the commitment to include biological, environmental and conservation science in our understanding of land and landscapes in Africa.

In sum, the key area "Land, Landscapes, and Ecology" offers a platform for thinking about the past, present and future of land and land use across the disciplines, based on a sustained interdisciplinary dialogue that seeks to synthesize theoretical and methodological approaches from natural science, social science and the humanities.

Land use and landscape narratives

Since 2017, researchers from the fields of the social sciences, humanities and natural sciences based in South Africa, Namibia and Switzerland have worked together in the tri-national research project "Space in Time: Landscape narratives and land management changes in a Southern African cross-border region". The project aims to understand the changing landscape along the Lower Orange River/!Garib from various disciplinary angles. The project brings together key area members from different disciplines. Our common research questions seek, firstly, to identify changing land use and claims, secondly, to ask how these changes in land use and land claims affected the landscape, and, thirdly, how the landscape has reflected these changes.

After a one-year extension granted by the SNSF due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the project came to its official end in June 2022. We aim to conclude the project with an edited volume published open access gold standard by the Transcript Publishing House in Bielefeld in 2023. The University of Namibia Press has agreed to co-publish the edited volume as a printed version for Namibia and South Africa. Furthermore, we have produced a mobile exhibition which will tour the Lower Orange River region together with the UNAM publication in mid-2023.

Land use and environmental impact

Heleen Vos started a pilot study on physical and chemical characteristics of anthropogenic and natural regions of the Kimberley Tri-Biome funded by a Leading House Africa Seed Grant. This is a follow-up of the SNSF/SSAJRP project (2017-2021) on South African cropland dust emission risks with a focus on physical thresholds, environmental and socio-economic impacts led in Basel by Nikolaus Kuhn of the Physical Geography and Environmental Change Research Group. The Kimberley Tri-Biome region has been selected by the South African Government as one of the research areas of the EFTON program, of which the Physical Geography and Environmental Change Research Group is a partner. Nikolaus Kuhn's research group also continued to contribute to the DEZA-funded Jijiga One Health Initiative under the lead of the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute.

Silva Lieberherr continued her work on supporting the fight against land-grabbing and workers' abuse in Liberia by highlighting and publicizing the role of corporate capital.

Teaching and exchange

On the level of teaching we have launched a series of winter/summer schools in the framework of the "Learning for (Ex)Change" project, jointly organized with the University of Namibia. After several postponements due to Covid-19, two consecutive winter/summer schools were held in 2022. The first winter/ summer school focused on "Food Systems and the Environment - Transformations in Rural Namibia and Switzerland", and we conducted joint comparative fieldwork in Graubünden, Switzerland, and the Karas Region, Southern Namibia in February and May 2022. During the second one, a group of twenty students from both universities examined the "History and Legacy of Migrant Labor in Namibia and Switzerland" through joint projects in Namibia, Italy and Switzerland in June and July 2022.

The weekly Namibian and Southern African Studies research colloquium continues to be an important platform for the interdisciplinary work of our key area. The colloquium allows international scholars from various disciplines to come to Basel and offers students and faculty an opportunity for regular interdisciplinary exchange and debate. Since the fall semester 2020, the colloquium has been jointly organized with the University of Namibia as a hybrid online/on-site event and has since then become a pillar of regular academic exchange at student and faculty level.

Outlook and planned activities

We look forward to various activities in research and teaching in 2023:

- The edited volume *The Lower !Garib Orange River. Pasts and Presents of a Southern African Border Region* will be launched, and an accompanying mobile exhibition is scheduled to be on tour in the Orange River border region from mid-2023.
- As a follow-up project of the successful "Learning for (Ex)Change" program, the Stiftung Mercator Schweiz has granted funds to produce an edited volume on the topic "History and Legacy of Migrant Labor in Namibia and Switzerland". The grant also enables former student participants of the

exchange progam to conduct independent field work and research for their contributions to the volume, which is scheduled to be published in 2024.

In addition, several individual research stays and scientific exchange visits are scheduled for 2023.

Main Projects

Space in Time: Landscape Narratives and Land Management Changes in a Southern African Cross-border Region (the Lower Orange River)

Principal investigators: Giorgio
Miescher, Maano Ramutsindela (UCT)
Coordinator: Luregn Lenggenhager
Co-investigators/partners: Nikolaus
Kuhn, Lena Bloemertz, Dag Henrichsen,
Juliane Krenz, Martha Akawa (UNAM)
01.06.2017–31.05.2022, SNSF/SSAJRP

Learning for (Ex)Change: Yearly Joint Summer/Winter Schools in Namibia and Switzerland

Basel: Luregn Lenggenhager, Lena Bloemertz, Giorgio Miescher, Silva Lieberherr

Windhoek: Martha Akawa, Martin Hipondoka, Romie Nghitevelekwa, Goodman Gwasira, Nahas Angula 01.02.2019–31.12.2024, Stiftung Mercator Schweiz

Land Degradation in the Karoo, South Africa

Principal investigator: Nikolaus Kuhn PhD researcher: Lu Li Since 01.01.2015, university funds

Application of Remotely Sensed Data to Support Pastoralists' Land Use and Management Decisions (Jijiga One Health Initiative)

Principal investigator: Nikolaus Kuhn PhD researcher: Seid Ali 01.01.2021–31.12.2025, SDC

GOBABAS – Longterm measurement of the Surface Energy Balance in the Namib Desert (Gobabeb)

Lead (University of Basel): Roland Vogt Ongoing, university funds

BSRN GOB Baseline Surface Radiation Network: Station Gobabeb.

Principal investigators: Roland Vogt (University of Basel), Gillian Maggs-Kölling (Gobabeb), Jan Cermak (KIT) Ongoing, university funds

Key publications

Nyathi, Nesisa Analisa, Walter Musakwa, Ruth Delzeit, and Nikolaus Kuhn. 2022. "Ecosystem Services in Southern Africa: Current and Emerging Trends–A Bibliometric Review". *Diversity* 14 (5): 359.

Prudat, Brice, Wolfgang Fister, Lena Bloemertz, Juliane Krenz, and Niklaus J. Kuhn. 2022. "The Potential of Fragipans in Sustaining Pearl Millet During Drought Periods in North-Central Namibia". *Geographica Helvetica* 77: 39-51.

Vos, Heleen C., Isabel G. Karst, Frank D. Eckardt, Wolfgang Fister, and Nikolaus J. Kuhn. 2022. "Influence of Crop and Land Management On Wind Erosion from Sandy Soils in Dryland Agriculture." *Agronomy* 12 (2): 457.

Logan, J. Robert, Kathe E. Todd-Brown, Kathryn M. Jacobson, Peter J. Jacobson, Roland Vogt, and Sarah E. Evans. 2022. "Accounting for Non-Rainfall Moisture and Temperature Improves Litter Decay Model Performance in a Fog-Dominated Dryland System". *Biogeosciences* 19 (17): 4129–46.

Vogt, Roland, Eugene Marais, Gillian Maggs-Kölling, Frank-M. Göttsche, Jan Cermak, and Mary K. Seely. 2022. "A Decade of Solar and Terrestrial Radiation Monitoring at Gobabeb for BSRN". *Journal Namibia Scientific Society* 69: 141–57.

Hilland, Rainer V. J., Christian Bernhofer, May Bohmann, Andreas Christen, Marwan Katurji, Gillian Maggs-Kölling, Matthias Krauß, Jarl A. Larsen, Eugene Marais, Andrea Pitacco, Benjamin Schumacher, Robert Spirig, Nadia Vendrame, and Roland Vogt. 2022. "The Namib Turbulence Experiment: Investigating Surface-Atmosphere Heat Transfer in Three Dimensions". Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society 103 (3): E741–E760.

Food systems and migrant labor: Two joint winter/summer schools in Switzerland and Namibia

In the framework of the project "Learning for (Ex)Change", two winter/summer schools for MA students took place in 2022, jointly organized with the University of Namibia. The theme of the first exchange in January and April 2022 was "Food Systems and the Environment –Transformation in Rural Namibia and Switzerland", with field trips taking place in Southern Namibia and Graubünden.

In June and July 2022, a second set of students engaged with the topic "History and Legacy of Migrant Labor in Namibia and Switzerland". Finally without Covid-19 restrictions, the participants of the second winter/summer school traveled along the historic routes of migrant laborers, first from the far North of Namibia to Windhoek, and subsequently from Italy to Basel.

In total, in 2022, 16 students from Windhoek visited Switzerland and 18 from Basel went to Namibia in the framework of "Learning for (Ex)Change".

www.zasb.unibas.ch/en/l4e



Selected events

Arthur Kambambi (University of Namibia): "A sociological analysis of the politics of seed systems and local praxis in Namibia: a case study of Oshikoto region"

Namibian and Southern African Studies Research Colloquium

2 March 2022 | Colloquium

Ronald Kanguti (University of Namibia): "Developing a framework for research data management capabilities at the University of Namibia"

Namibian and Southern African Studies Research Colloquium 13 April 2022 | Colloquium

"Present and Future of Collaborations between the University of Basel, University of Namibia, Museums Association of Namibia"

Research Workshop 11–13 March 2022 | Workshop

John Heydinger (University of Minnesota, USA): "CBNRM and desertadapted Lions: human-centred methods towards conservation interventions in Kunene, Namibia"

Namibian and Southern African Studies Research Colloquium 20 April 2022 | Colloquium Visual History Lab: "Worlds Apart. Film and Migrant Labour in South Africa and Switzerland 1950s/1960s"

Werkschau (Work in Progress) of the Visual History Lab 2022 16 September 2022 | Public event

Denis Yaziki & Stephanie Zehnle (University of Kiel, Germany): "Livestock breeding in Namibia: historical transformations in cattle breeding, c. 1880-1930"

Namibian and Southern African Studies Research Colloquium

1 October 2022 | Colloquium

Basilius M. Kasera (University of Namibia): "Post-colonial / apartheid justice dialogues in a socio-historical context"

Namibian and Southern African Studies Research Colloquium 19 October 2022 | Colloquium

Sindi-Leigh McBride: "Climate Fiction and Climate Knowledge(s)"

Namibian and Southern African Studies Research Colloquium 30 November 2022 | Colloquium

Members

Lena Bloemertz (Environmental Sciences)
| Ruth Delzeit (Environmental Sciences)
| Samuel Fuhrimann (SwissTPH)
| Dag Henrichsen (Basler Afrika Bibliographien)
| Juliane Krenz (Environmental Sciences)
| Nikolaus Kuhn (Environmental Sciences)
| Luregn Lenggenhager (Projects ZASB)
| Silva Lieberherr (Brot für Alle)
| James Merron (Projects ZASB)
| Giorgio Miescher (Projects ZASB)
| Lorena Rizzo (Projects ZASB)
| Roland Vogt (Environmental Sciences)

Partnerships/major collaborations

| University of Namibia | Museums Association of Namibia | University of CapeTown | University of Johannesburg | University of Pretoria | Agricultural Research Council of South | Africa



Participants of the winter/summer school "History and Legacy of <mark>Migr</mark>ant Labor in Namibia and Switzerland" after a tou<mark>r through the former BBC factory in Birr (Kanton Aargau), where many migrant laborers worked.

Photo: Giorgio Miescher</mark>

Executive Office

| Veit Arlt

Pascal Schmid

The year 2022 was a lively and eventful year, packed with activities across the different fields of activity of the ZASB. Looking back, 2022 seems to have made up for at least some of the shortcomings of the previous years, which were dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Accordingly, a first highlight of the year was the distinguished Carl Schlettwein Lecture presented by the eminent historian Toyin Falola (University of Texas, Austin), which, after a break of two years, could once again take place in a fully packed lecture hall, followed by a reception.

Conferences

Two major events marked the summer of 2022. The first was the conference of the German African Studies association, VAD, which took place from 8 to 10 June in Freiburg i.Br., Germany. It was organized by the Africa Centre for Transregional Research (ACT) at the University of Freiburg. The ZASB was involved as a partner and hosted both a reception at the conference venue and a concert at the Jazzhaus Freiburg on the evening of the first full conference day. Furthermore, many members of our network were active as panel conveners, presenters, and discussants. The conference was also a meeting point for current and former scholars and students from our network.

The second major event of the summer was the Second European Students' Conference on African Studies, held from 31 August to 2 September in Basel. The conference was organized by students of our MA program, with support from ZASB administrative staff and guidance from members of our research network. 72 participants from all over Europe - from Romania to Portugal and from Stockholm to Sardinia - but also from Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo presented 24 papers grouped in eight thematic panels. The conference, which also featured workshops and exhibitions, was a great success. Beyond academic exchange it offered opportunities for networking and socializing, laying the basis for lasting friendships. The plenary was adamant that the event become a regular fixture.

Graduate Network

In August 2022, the fifth edition of our joint CODESRIA-ZASB Summer School took place in Dakar. 27 participants from 14 African countries presented and discussed their research. The focus was on the relationship between knowledge and politics, and participants critically discussed notions of normativity and objectivity in the social sciences.

A number of graduate workshops were held in Basel in the course of the year. One highlight was a workshop on photography, medicine, and health in the history of Africa at the end of May, which was organized by Danelle van Zyl in the framework of the SNSF Sinergia project "African Contributions to Global Health".

MA program

The Second European Students' Conference on African Studies mentioned above was not the only highlight for our MA students. The two final joint winter/summer schools, organized in partnership with the University of Namibia with support from the Mercator Foundation, brought together students from Basel and Windhoek to explore the transformation of food systems and the history of migrant labor in both countries. The results of the second winter/summer school were subsequently presented to the wider public in the framework of the Visual History Lab.

Research Network Africa

We organized a second "Critical Reflection, Practices, and Ethics Day" as a one-day hybrid event for the members of our network and their international partners. The first Reflection Day in 2021 provided a long-sought platform to discuss and reflect on ethical issues in research practice and international collaboration, and a continuation of the event was sought by many. At the 2022 Reflection Day, discussions proved more practice-oriented than in the previous year, with one concrete outcome being the introduction of a first working group for Master's students embarking on their thesis in the framework of the MA African Studies in the summer semester of 2023.

In March 2022, the ZASB's first Regional Day on the Horn of Africa, organized by Natalie Tarr and Sonja Merten, brought together young and established researchers. In October, the ninth Namibia Research Day, co-organized with the Basler Afrika Bibliographien and the School of Humanities, Society and Development of the University of Namibia, offered students and researchers four thematic sessions ranging from Decolonial Museum Developments to Queer Activisim.

of an SNSF project on "Cultural Relations between Switzerland and South Africa." Finally, the conference "Conjunctions of Archives and Public Spheres" will be organized in partnership with the Swiss Society for African Studies, which will also hold its General Assembly in Basel on the occasion of this conference.

Afrika-Bulletin

In collaboration with the Afrika-Komitee we published four issues of our quarterly *Afrika-Bulletin* on political icons, Ethiopia, the right to the city, and global health respectively. The latter featured contributions based on essays written by MA students in a course on African Contributions to Global Health.

Outlook

We are looking forward to organizing a major conference in 2023: Together with the Department of Social Sciences, the ZASB will host the biennial conference of the Swiss Association for the Studies of Science, Technology & Society. Our engagement is aimed at promoting exchange between African Studies in Basel and Switzerland with another interdisciplinary research area, namely Science and Technology Studies. On the one hand, we hope for new impulses in timely debates about the historical and social conditions of knowledge production, a key issue in African Studies; on the other hand, we are convinced that African Studies will bring new perspectives and approaches to Science and Technology Studies.

Our sixth Summer School in African Studies will take place in the run-up to the conference on the theme of "Making knowledge policy-relevant: The SSH's role in global sustainable development." The participants will have the opportunity to present their reflections on this topic to a national and international audience at the conference.

Additional smaller conferences in 2023 will mark the centenary of African Studies pioneer Hans W Debrunner and the conclusion

Network

Members

Basel Institute on Governance

Claudia Baez-Camargo Jacopo Costa

Saba Kassa Mark Pieth

Department Arts, Media, Philosophy

Ute Holl

Department of Environmental Sciences

Ruth Delzeit Markus Kalberer Juliane Krenz Nikolaus Kuhn Walter Salzburger Roland Vogt

Department of History

Tanja Hammel Ernest Sewordor Julia Tischler

Danelle Van Zyl-Hermann

Department of Languages and

Literatures
Isabelle Chariatte
Christiane Schlote

Sandra Schlumpf-Thurnherr

Department of Social Sciences

Manfred Max Bergman Lesley Braun

Julia Büchele Kenny Cupers Michelle Engeler Till Förster

Alexandra Hofmänner Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund

Elísio Macamo George Paul Meiu Brigit Obrist Silke Oldenburg Jon Schubert Henri-Michel Yéré Piet van Eeuwijk

| Faculty of Business and Economics

Aleksander Berentsen

| Faculty of Medicine

Manuel Battegay Thomas Klimkait Sandra Staudacher

| Faculty of Theology Andreas Heuser Institute for European Global Studies

Lerato Posholi Ralph Weber

Projects ZASB

Michael Aeby Kadiatou Nénéin Diallo Luregn Lenggenhager James Merron

Giorgio Miescher Lorena Rizzo

| Swiss TPH

Guéladio Cissé Claudia Daubenberger Samuel Fuhrimann Sebastien Gagneux

Jennifer Keiser Nino Künzli Sonja Merten Daniel Paris Christoph Pimmer Martin Röösli Jasmina Saric

Natalie Tarr Jürg Utzinger Mirko Severin Winkler

Jakob Zinsstag

swisspeace

Dominik Balthasar Laurent Goetschel

Partner institutions

Lena Bloemertz (FHNW)

Aqiel Dalvie (University of Cape Town)

Serena Dankwa (FHNW)

Gregor Dobler (Universität Freiburg

i.Br.)

Marcel Dreier (Fepa)

Dag Henrichsen (BAB)

Mohomodou Houssouba (songhay.org)

Susanne Hubler (BAB)
Silva Lieberherr (Brot für Alle)
Mazembo Eddy Mavungu

Andreas Mehler (Arnold Bergstraesser

Institut)

Barbara Müller (KEESA, Afrika-Komitee) Jasmin Rindlisbacher (Basler Afrika

Bibliographien)

Jürg Schneider (African Photography

Initiative)

Christian Vandersee (BAB)

Franzisca Zanker (Arnold Bergstraesser

Institut)

President's Office

Erich Thaler

Executive Office

Veit Arlt Pascal Schmid

Steering Committee (31.12.2022)

Lena Bloemertz (Fachhochschule

Nordwestschweiz FHNW)

Kenny Cupers (Department of Social

Sciences)

Dag Henrichsen (Basler Afrika

Bibliographien)

Andreas Heuser (Faculty of Theology)
Andrea Kaiser-Grolimund (Department

of Social Sciences)

Saba Kassa (Basel Institute on

Governance)

| Elisio Macamo (Department of Social

Sciences)

George Paul Meiu (Department of Social

Sciences)

| Sonja Merten (SwissTPH) | Giorgio Miescher (Projects ZASB) | Lorena Rizzo (Projects ZASB)

| Lorena Rizzo (Projects ZASE | Martin Röösli (SwissTPH)

Jon Schubert (Department of Social

Sciences)

Ernest Sewordor (Department of

History)

Julia Tischler (Department of History)

Meetings 2021

General Assembly

21 Feb 2022

Steering Committee Meeting

22 Mar 2022

Steering Committee Meeting

01 Jun 2022

General Assembly/ZASB Critical

Reflection Day 06 Sep 2022

00 Sep 2022

Steering Committee Meeting

19 Sep 2022

Steering Committee Meeting

01 Dec 2022

MA African Studies

Graduates 2022

| Basil Marius Bucher

Aspekte der kolonialen Verstrickungen Basels anhand der Sammlungsgeschichte der Ausstellung von 1957 im Museum für Völkerkunde Basel

Mathias Conti

Boko Haram Women and the Question of Female Agency in Newspaper Articles from the United Kingdom

Kaue Felipe Nogarotto Crima Bellini

Embodied Inequalities: Narratives on Queer Migration

Isabelle Hänni

Wirtschaft vor Moral? Die Beziehungen zwischen der Schweiz und Südafrika

Zoe Lehmann

Skateboarding Southern Urban Space

Yeabio Melake

Impact of the Memorandum of Understanding on Refugees and Migrants in Libya

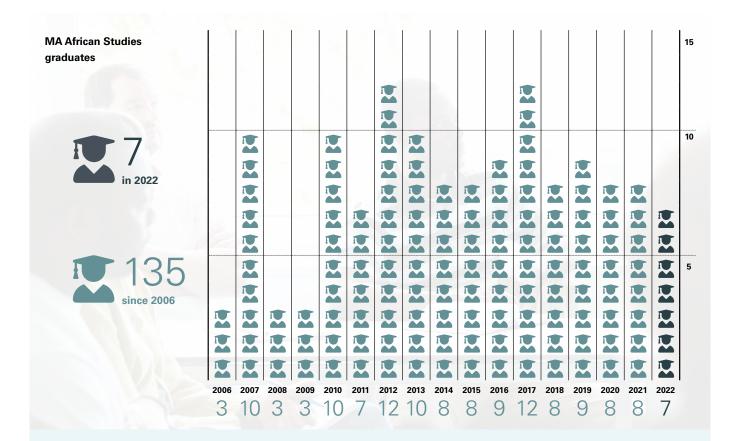
Nicole Thurnhofer

Gender-based Violence in Zimbabwe: A closer look within the Coronavirus pandemic



Kaue Nogarotto Crima Bellini and Nicole Thumhofer with their MA African Studies diplomas at the graduation ceremony of the Faculty in September 2022.

Photo: Veit Arlt



In 2002, the University of Basel introduced the interdisciplinary MA program African Studies. Drawing on the social sciences, humanities, and natural sciences, the program equips students with the necessary in-depth knowledge and skills to allow them to engage with Africa in an interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary way. By the end of 2022, 135 students had graduated from the African Studies program.

www.zasb.unibas.ch/en/ma









In my opinion, the most significant aspect of the process of organizing a conference is the importance of generosity and humanity towards the participants. In this regard, support from our funders and the University allowed us to make a difference by supporting participants who lacked sufficient funds for accommodation and travel, assisting African participants to get their visas, and levying modest registration fees. Before SESCAS, I was not aware such support might be available and was thus discouraged from joining international conferences. How could I possibly afford the air ticket? How would I get a visa? How could I afford the living expenses in a high-income country? It is the conference organizer who, ideally, connects various resource providers, makes the impossible possible, and ultimately connects minds.

However, the year-long process also presented some challenges. From a very ambitious plan to a smaller but executable project, there were many rounds of discussion marked by anger, tears, and frustration but also by laughter. Teamwork is never simply a slogan. All of us were working part-time on the project and had to deal with heavy workloads from our studies. In order for such a project to succeed, mutual understanding is of greatest importance—a big thank you to all my teammates!

Xiao Meng, MA African Studies student





Being part of the SESCAS organizing team was definitely both challenging and beneficial on various levels. Nothing would have been possible without a strong set of core values. One of our key principles was to engage with students around the globe, trying to break the barriers imposed by studying in Europe, which can sometimes imply the bias of researching from a European point of view.

Another important aspect was to find balance. We wanted to provide access to valuable academic knowledge and to create a lasting network of students (i.e. future scholars) interested in African Studies, while at the same time facilitating a suitable dynamic environment where students would feel safe, heard, appreciated, and, ultimately, encouraged to continue their research. We achieved this balance not least thanks to direct and indirect input from our former colleagues, facilitators and moderators.

Raluca-Maria Marcu, MA African Studies student









Impressions from the Second European Students' Conference on African Studies (Basel, 31 August to 2 September 2022)

All Photos: Ivana Kočišová

Graduate Network African Studies

PhDs awarded in 2022

Mamane Tassiou Amadou (Anthropology; Till Förster):

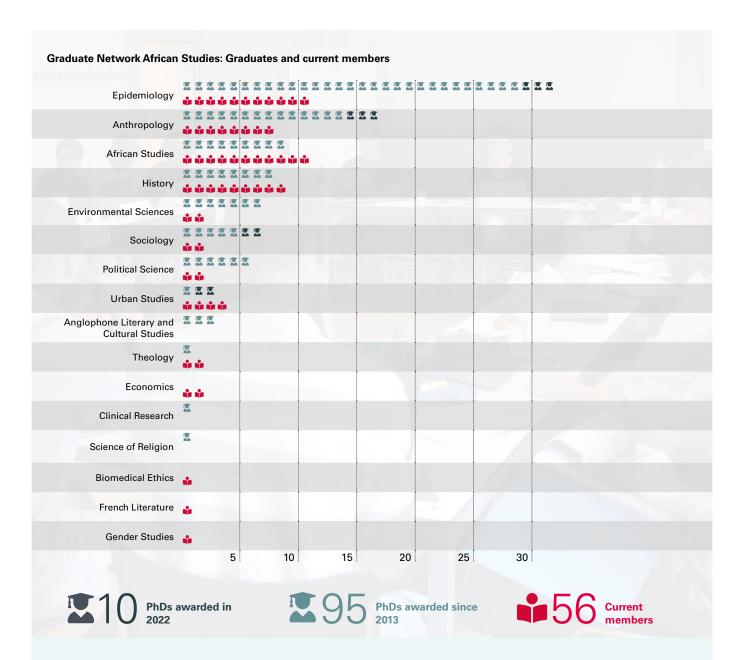
Sur la dynamique des fada des jeunes dans la ville de Zinder, Niger

Olalekan Oluwaseyi Arowosegbe (Epidemiology; Martin Röösli):

Air pollution exposure assessment in sparsely monitored settings; applying machine-learning methods with remote sensing data in South Africa

| Silvia Balzan (Anthropology; Till Förster):

"Don't Understand MeToo Soon." Pancho Guedes and the Protestant Misson's Socio-spatial Alternatives in Late Colonial and Postcolonial Mozambique



In 2013, the ZASB, together with the Research Priority Program Asia and Europe at the University of Zürich, was awarded SUK (to-day swissuniversities) funding for the joint Graduate Module "Challenges in Interdisciplinary Area Studies." In Basel, the graduate module developed into a lively community, supporting training for and individual research activities by PhD students within the African Studies network. This formed the basis for the implementation of the swissuniversities-funded Basel Graduate Network African Studies in 2017. Between 2013 and 2022, a total of 95 young researchers affiliated with the Graduate Module or the Graduate Network completed their PhDs at different faculties of the University of Basel.

www.zasb.unibas.ch/en/phd

Sharmarke Jama Dugsiye (Sociology; Elisio Macamo):

Pastoral Conflict Management and the Role of Indigenous Knowledge and Customary Institutions in Conflict Resolution, Somali Region, Ethiopia

Herry Mapesi (Epidemiology; Daniel Paris):

Non-communicable diseases in people living with HIV in rural Africa: tackling the double burden

Bédjou Prisca N'Dri (Epidemiology; Jürg Utzinger):

Malaria in Elibou region, south of Côte d'Ivoire: transmission and insecticide resistance

Marta Rudnicka (Anthropology; Till Förster):

Tastescapes in Ghana. Eating, cooking and culinary praxis in Northern Ghana

Giulia Scotto (Urban Studies; Kenny Cupers):

ENI's "Grande Disegno Africano": Oil Infrastructure between Decolonization and Neo-Imperialism

Ernest Sewordor (Urban Studies; Kenny Cupers):

Race, Infrastructure, and the Evolution of Gold-mining Hinterlands in Southwestern Gold Coast (Ghana), c. 1900–1957

Helene Widmer (Sociology; Elísio Macamo):

Interdependenz von Individuum und Gesellschaft in Bezug auf Religion und Glaube. Am Beispiel der methodistischen Kirche und der Akan in Ghana. Does religion enhance or undermine work ethic?

New members

Ambre Alfredo (Urban Studies; Jon Schubert)

David Azilagbetor (Biomedical Ethics; Bernice Simone Elger):

3R-Strategies and harm-benefit analysis: understanding decision-making and improving consistency and accountability in animal experiment evaluations in Switzerland [THINK-3R]

Kaue Nogarotto Crima Bellini (Anthropology; George Meiu):

Transatlantic Cruising: racialized spaces, mobility, intimacy, and Queer worlding

Semhar Haile (Urban Studies; Jon Schubert)

Fabian Krautwald (History; Julia Tischler):

Gone but Still Here: remembering German colonialism in Namibia and Tanzania, 1914–1969

Simone Markoff (Environmental Sciences; Ruth Delzeit):

Analyzing possible pathways to align biodiversity conservation with agricultural development in Tanzania

Abdelradi Mohammed (Economics; Frank Krysiak)

Regina Molomo (Epidemiology; Martin Röösli):

Reproductive health effects of pesticide exposure on children in the rural Western Cape, South Africa

Raffaele Perniola (History; Lorena Rizzo):

Shellac and Shacks – Early Namibian Musical Records and Modern Sound Media in the Context of Migrant Labour, 1950s–1970s

Claudine Rakotomanana (Anthropology; George Meiu):

Transnational union between Malagasy women and non-Malagasy men: compelling attraction on sex, affect, money and power

Nathalie Claire Schöbitz (Urban Studies; Jon Schubert):

When it rains, it pours: changing climate patterns, infrastructure and the African city (Kampala)

Peter Ssekkadde (Epidemiology; Samuel Furihmann):

The impact of interventions and farming practices on the health and well-being of smallholder farmer families in Uganda

Graduate events

| Regional Research Day: Horn of Africa Interdisciplinary research workshop 18 March 2022 | Workshop

Workshop: Ways of Writing: Creative Knowledge Production in African Studies

Hybrid workshop in collaboration with the University of Cape Town, South Africa

26 April 2022 | Workshop

5th CODESRIA/ZASB Summer School in African Studies and Area Studies in Africa: "How political is knowledge?"

Joint Summer School with the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA), Dakar, Senegal

08-12 August 2022 | Workshop

Workshop: "Researching the (un) familiar"

Research workshop in the framework of the project "Reversing the Gaze" 17 October 2022 | Workshop

Cooperation

Projects

Learning for (Ex)change

Exchange project for MA students with the University of Namibia (UNAM) Basel: Giorgio Miescher, Luregn Lenggenhager, Lena Bloemertz UNAM: Martha Akawa, Martin Hipondoka, Goodman Gwasira, Jona Heita, Hilma Nghiyalwa 01.02.2019–31.01.2023, Stiftung Mercator Schweiz

Pilot African Postgraduate Academy

Research training program for postdocs Coordinators: Mamadou Diavara (Goethe Universität Frankfurt am Main/ Point Sud, Bamako), Elísio Macamo 01.07.2019–31.12.2022; Gerda Henkel Stiftung

Reversing the Gaze: Towards Post-Comparative Area Studies

Research project in collaboration with the University of Zurich and the University of Edinburgh Principal investigators: Elísio Macamo, Ralph Weber, Deval Desai (Edinburgh), Benedikt Korf (Zurich) Project members, Basel: Tebuho Winnie Kanyimba, Matthias Claudio Maurer Rueda, Lerato Posholi, Pascal Schmid 01.09.2020–31.08.2024, SNSF (Sinergia)

The (In)Audible Past

Research project in collaboration with the University of Fort Hare and Rhodes University

Principal investigators: Ute Holl, Lorena Rizzo, Gary Andrew Minkley (University of Fort Hare), Helena Pohlandt-McCormick (Rhodes University)
Project members, Basel: Ulrike
Kiessling, Luregn Lenggenhager,
Raffaele Perniola, Emanuel Welinder
01.04.2022–31.03.2025, SNSF (Lead Agency)

CODESRIA/ZASB Summer School in African Studies and Area Studies in Africa

Joint biennial Summer School Ongoing since 2014, Oumou Dilly Foundation

Events

Regional Research Day: Horn of Africa

Interdisciplinary workshop for researchers and graduate students at the University of Basel and partner institutions

18 March 2022 | Workshop

"Ways of Writing: Creative Knowledge Production in African Studies"

Workshop in collaboration with the University of Cape Town (UCT) 26 April 2022 | Workshop

"Namibian Genocide Survivor Narratives"

Co-organized with the Basler Afrika Bibliographien, University of Namibia and Namibia University of Science and Technology

11 May 2022 | Workshop

Duane Jethro & Jade Nair: "Of Smoke and Ash: The Jagger Library Memorial Exhibition"

Lecture co-organized with the Forum eikones

3 June 2022 | Guest lecture

Second European Students' Conference on African Studies

Organized by students from the Universities of Basel and Geneva 31 August – 2 September 2022 | Conference/Symposium

9th Namibia Research Day

Co-organized with the Basler Afrika Bibliographien and the School of Humanities, Society and Development of the University of Namibia 1 October 2022 | Workshop

7th Swiss Researching Africa Days

Biennial get-together of the Swiss Society for African Studies 28–29 October 2022 | Conference/ Symposium

Workshop: "Researching the (un) familiar"

Research workshop in the framework of the project "Reversing the Gaze" 17 October 2022 | Workshop

CODESRIA/ZASB Summer School in African Studies and Area Studies in Africa

This biennial event is run as a partnership between the Council for the Development of Social Science Research in Africa (CODESRIA) and the ZASB. The Summer School aims to stimulate and consolidate interdisciplinary approaches to research on Africa, as well as on other regions of the world undertaken from within the African continent. At its core is an attempt to strengthen the links between the community of scholars organized in CODESRIA and the African Studies community in Switzerland.

The 5th CODESRIA/ZASB Summer School was held from 15 to 19 August 2022 in Dakar, Senegal. It convened 27 laureates from 14 African countries under the theme "How Political is Knowledge?". The faculty was led by Elísio Macamo (Basel) and supported by Ralph Weber (Basel), Ndeye Astou Ndiaye (Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar) and Nokuthula Lucinda Hlabangane (University of South Africa).

www.zasb.unibas.ch/en/summer-school



Outreach

Visiting scholars

Ana Sophia de Souza Andrade

Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil

Visiting PhD candidate (September 2021 – February 2022)

Paulo Sophia Branco de Lima

Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil/Universidad de Barcelona, Spain Visiting PhD candidate (September 2021 – February 2022)

Dominique Niemand

University of Pretoria, South Africa ESKAS visiting PhD candidate (September 2021 – August 2022)

Andrea Rosengarten

Northwestern University, United States ESKAS visiting PhD candidate (January – August 2022)

Attiyah Khan

Journalist and media activist, Cape Town, South Africa Pro Helvetia research fellowship (September 2022)

Makau Kitata

University of Nairobi, Kenya SNSF International Exchange (November 2022 – January 2023)

Events

Toyin Falola: "Decolonizing African History"

Carl Schlettwein Lecture 2022 3 June 2022 | Public event/Guest lecture

Video screening: "Quilombo – Sharing Perspectives with Artists from DRC, Brazil and Switzerland"

Video produced by students of the Visual History Lab 2021 2 April 2022 | Public event

Presentation: "Worlds Apart. Film and Migrant Labour in South Africa and Switzerland 1950s/1960s"

Werkschau (Work in Progress) of the Visual History Lab 2022 16 September 2022 | Public event

Afrika-Bulletin

Politische Ikonen und Wegbereiter der Unabhängigkeit

Afrika-Bulletin Nr 185 | Feb 22

| Was geschieht in Äthiopien?

Afrika-Bulletin Nr 186 | Jun 22

Das Recht auf Stadt

Afrika-Bulletin Nr 187 | Sep 22

| Globale Gesundheit: der Beitrag Afrikas Afrika-Bulletin Nr 188 | Nov 22

In the media

Putschversuch in Guinea-Bissau

Elísio Macamo in der Tagesschau von SRF (02.02.2022)

"Nicht alles, was blöd ist, ist auch rassistisch"

Elísio Macamo in der Basler Zeitung (25.03.2022)

Hunger, Aufstände, Flüchtlingswellen. Experten warnen vor indirekten Folgen des russischen Angriffs

Till Förster im Sonntagsblick (10.04.2022)

Das schwierige Erbe von Angolas Ex-Präsident

Jon Schubert im "Echo der Zeit" auf Radio SRF (11.07.2022)

Wenn Rastalocken und Reggae für einen Sturm der Empörung sorgen

Henri-Michel Yéré im "10 vor 10" auf SRF (27.07.2022)

Die schwere Suche nach kolonialen Spuren

Samuel Bachmann und Julia Tischler im "10 vor 10" auf SRF (25.08.2022)

"Nicht alle Menschen mit brauner oder schwarzer Haut werden ausgebeutet, nicht alle Weissen sind böse Unterdrücker"

Interview mit Henri-Michel Yéré in der NZZ (26.08.2022)



Training session at the 5th CODESRIA/ZASB Summer School in Dakar.
Photo: CODESRIA/Twitter

Budget and Expenditure 2022 (GK4901)

	Budget 2022	Expenditure
Office	800	819.75
PhD students	4000	4917.36
Cooperation	3500	3654.99
Membership Fees	1200	1134.00
MA course	13′000	10′497.06
Staff	500	672.00
Publications	4500	5382.72
Student exchange	4000	0.00
Events	9′500	11′292.26
Advertisement and Representation	3000	6653.19
Conference Participation	2000	1974.83
Total	46′000	46′998.16

Office: This is mostly cost of office supplies.

PhD students: Further support of PhD students was provided by the Graduate Network African Studies (CHF 4,421.40 in 2022).

Cooperation: This budget line includes costs for network events, but also expenses related to visiting researchers.

Membership fees: ZASB is a member of the Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies AEGIS, the Swiss Society for African Studies SSAS, and Friends of the Archives (supporting access of students to the archives of Mission 21).

MA course: 75 percent of the expenses are salary costs for tutors supporting hybrid teaching.

Staff: Mostly costs related to welcoming new staff members, send-off events, as well as training events.

Publications: These include the Afrika-Bulletin and contributions to publications from our network members.

Student exchange: In the past year, there were no applications of incoming or outgoing students.

Events: The main expenses were for the ZASB's presence at the conference of the German African Studies Association VAD in Freiburg i.Br. and for the Carl Schlettwein Lecture. Other events included the Regional Day on the Horn of Africa, PhD workshops, the events in connection with the "Ways of Reading after the Fire" project, and the ZASB Reflection Day.

Conference participation: Support of conference participation of staff and network members, especially in cases where the participants could not profit from the University's travel fund.

Advertisement and representation: This includes the production of the annual report of ZASB, welcome and farewell of visiting scholars and students, various meetings with partners and receptions.

NB: The overspending is balanced by reimbursements from the Swiss Society for African Studies to the amount of CHF 1,742.20, which means we are in fact slightly under budget.

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University of Basel Centre for African Studies Basel Rheinsprung 21 4051 Basel Switzerland

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