

Preparatory Seminar Series

Towards

**THE ARIN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
'AFRICA IN THE POST-COVID-19 WORLD: LESSONS FOR
RESEARCH AND POLICY'**



**Tomorrow's
CITIES**
Urban Risk in Transition

UK Research
and Innovation



Tomorrow's Cities is the UKRI GCRF Urban Disaster Risk Hub

Africa Research and Impact Network Seminar Series

The Africa Research and Impact Network hereby invites participants across Africa and abroad to a series of monthly research seminars scheduled from August 2020 – October 2020 focusing on building Africa's resilience in the post COVID-19 world. These monthly preparatory seminars are aimed at stimulating discussions and debate to inform the upcoming ARIN International Conference titled 'Africa in the Post-COVID-19 World: Lessons for Research and Policy' scheduled for 18th – 20th November 2020. The preparatory seminars are organised around three main themes of the conference: Climate Action and Sustainable Energy; Cities and Resilience; Science Technology and Innovation which are critical areas for Africa's transition to sustainable developed economies in line with the Sustainable Development Goals. The overall output of the preparatory seminars and the main conference is a book volume titled 'Africa in the Post-COVID-19 World: Lessons for Research and Policy' edited by Prof. Mark Pelling & Dr. Joanes Atela. The seminars will involve presentations on cutting edge research taking place in various parts of Africa (there are more than 50 book chapters abstract already submitted and being reviewed), panel discussions and expert opinions.



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Seminar Series Schedule & Upcoming Events

Date	Theme	Title	Event Type
3rd September 2020	Cities and Resilience	Resilient African city' beyond COVID-19.	Seminar
25th September 2020	Science Technology and Innovation	Harnessing the applications of science technology and innovation in the fight against COVID-19, lessons for science policy.	Seminar
30th October 2020	Climate Action and Sustainable Energy	COVID-19 and climate change: lessons and opportunities	Seminar
18th – 20th November 2020		Africa in the Post-COVID-19 World: Lessons for Research and Policy.	Annual Conference

Seminar Series 1: Cities and Resilience Theme

Seminar Title: ■■■Cities of the future: Pathways to a resilient African city beyond COVID-19

Date: ■■■September 3rd 2020

Time: ■■■14:00-16:00

Venue: ■■■(EAT) Virtual

Background

COVID-19 has presented unprecedented challenges, and opportune moments for city development. The pandemic has had implications on the social setting, the economic status, the ecological environment, and the policy and regulations scapes of urban societies.

The nature of what might emerge in terms of city resilience particularly in the African context is speculative at best, but one which requires an understanding of what has been (based on current evidence), what is desired (resilient city imaginaries), and the necessary (disruptive) socio-technical, economic and policy actions for the future African Cities.



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Seminar Structure

The seminar will open with the presentation of evidence on Understanding Resilience in African cities: current status and future outlook. The presentation will be followed by a panel discussion led by Prof. Alfred Omenya to allow participants' express their perspectives of a resilient African city based on empirical experiences, the lessons from COVID-19 and what these mean for the future. The discussion closes by exploring the (innovative and disruptive) necessary social, economic, ecological, and policy transformations towards building resilient African cities in the post-COVID-19 era.

Expected outputs

Pathways towards a resilient African city of the future, beyond the pandemic documented as a blog, which is linked to relevant book chapters under the Cities and Resilience theme.

Venue & Registration details: Virtual Via Zoom <https://bit.ly/2YGjH4W>



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Thursday, September 3rd 2020: 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Time	Activity	Participants	Moderators
14:00-14:15 pm	Introductions	All Participants	Dr. Keziah Mwang'a
14:15 – 14:30 pm	Setting the Stage: Evidence on the current resilience status of the African Cities	Presentation from: Winnie Khaemba /Charles Tonui/ Dr. Joel Onyango	
14:30 - 15:00 pm	Discussant/s views on presented evidence and the status of the African city resilience and possible pathways towards resilient cities	Panellists: Dr. Emmanuel Midheme, Dr. Dorcas Nthoki & Patrick Adolwa, Peninah Ndegwa, Nicodemus Mbwika	Prof. Alfred Omenya – Eco-Build Africa
15:00 - 15:45 pm	Plenary discussions and imaginaries of a resilient city	All Participants	
15:45 - 16:00 pm	Wrap up and Final Remarks	Dr. Joanes Atela	Dr. Joanes Atela

Upcoming Seminars

25th September 2020:

Harnessing the applications of science technology and innovation in the fight against COVID-19, lessons for science policy.

30th October 2020:

COVID-19 and climate change: lessons and opportunities

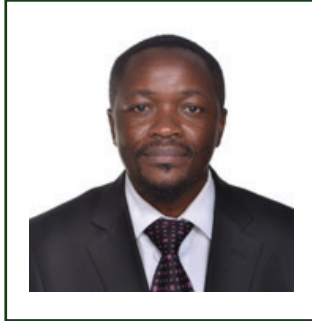
18th – 20th November 2020:

ARIN Conference themed: Africa in the Post-COVID-19 World: Lessons for Research and Policy.



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Discussant Bio:



Prof. Alfred Omenya

Prof. Alfred Omenya is an expert in architectural design, sustainable urbanism and development. He is the CEO of Eco-Build Africa. Previously, he has served as the Dean, School of the Built Environment at the Technical University of Kenya as well as taught at the University of Witwatersrand, Johannesburg and University of Nairobi, Kenya, as Associate Professor of Architecture. Prof. Omenya has published over 70 academic papers in his research areas. He is currently involved in several state and non-state led initiatives meant to address the impacts of COVID-19 in Kenya.