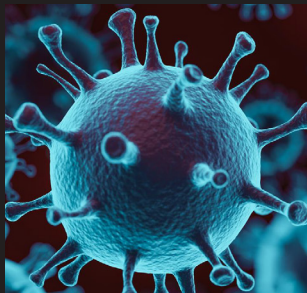


# Africa Research and Impact Network Seminar Series

The Africa Research and Impact Network (ARIN) 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; Cities and Resilience; Science Technology and Innovation; Climate Action and Sustainable Energy 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 chapter abstracts already submitted and being reviewed), panel discussions and expert opinions.



**SEMINAR SERIES 2** 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020

**Harnessing the applications of  
science technology and innovation  
in the fight against COVID-19:  
Lessons for science policy**

**TIME: 1400-1600 (EAT) VENUE: ZOOM**



## **Brief Background:**

The COVID-19 presents a greater global challenge with detrimental health and socioeconomic impacts. Throughout the fight against the COVID-19, the world has relied on Science Technology and Innovation (ST&I) as a frontline source of ideas and actions. The key facets of STI have been applied in different ways to combat COVID-19 including medical solutions, awareness creation and information dissemination towards behaviour change.

## Seminar Format

The seminar will present emerging contextual evidence on the role of technologies and innovations given that the pandemic has led to a proliferation of innovations and has accelerated applications of technologies including digitisation in ways that we never imagined. But some of these technologies are far from evenly distributed across the world and might leave African countries leapfrogging and catching up. Striking the right balance will be crucial when it comes to safeguarding the potential of promising – albeit immature – technologies to serve the public interest. This seminar will also explore through a panel session how ST&I can play a catalytic role in solving and managing the current COVID-19 pandemic as well as future pandemics and propose key areas for strengthening moving forward.

### Tentative topics to be presented and discussed by the panellists

- The role of science in addressing the COVID situation and the future of global science and its importance broadly to address challenges in the SDGs.
- Role of technology and policy processes and how they are shaping recovery efforts post COVID-19.
- The implications of the current pandemic on our overall ST&I systems in the quest for transformation.

## Panellists

- Dr. Roy Mugiira, Director, Scheduled Sciences at the National Commission for Science, Technology and Innovation of Kenya
- Ms. Ann Lawi-Country Director, Pangea Accelerator
- Mr. Peter Kuria –Director Incubation and Innovation Management and founder Start up Industrial Park

## Discussant

Prof. Joanna Chataway- Head of Department of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Public Policy (STePP) in the Faculty of Engineering Sciences at University College London (UCL).

## Moderator

Dr. JPR Ochieng'-Odero Project team lead - East Africa Research Fund

## Expected output

Expected outputs include harnessing the applications of ST&I, beyond the pandemic documented as a blog, which is linked to relevant book chapters under the ST&I theme.

## Venue & Registration details

<https://bit.ly/35I3j8y>



UK Research  
and Innovation

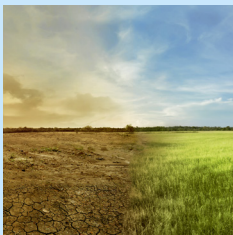
Tomorrow's Cities is the UKRI GCRF Urban Disaster Risk Hub



# Program

Friday, September 25th 2020: 1400-1600 (EAT)			
Time	Activity	Speakers	Moderators
14:00 -14:15 pm	Introductions	All Participants	Dr. Joanes Atela & Dr. JPR- Ochieng'-Odero
14:15 – 14:30 pm	Setting the stage: Emerging contextual evidence on the role of science technologies and innovations in the fight against COVID	Ms. Nora Ndege	
14:30 - 15:00 pm	Panel discussion	All panellists	
15.00-15.45 pm	Discussant views on presented evidence and views by the panellists followed by a Q&A from the participants facilitated by the moderator	Prof. Joanna Chataway	
15:45 - 16:00 pm	Wrap up and final remarks	Dr. Joanes Atela	

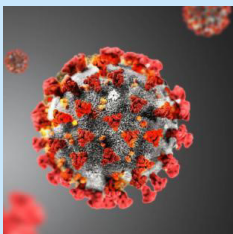
## Seminar Series Schedule & Upcoming Events



**SEMINAR** 30<sup>th</sup> October 2020

### CLIMATE ACTION AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY

COVID-19 and climate change: lessons and opportunities



**ANNUAL CONFERENCE** 18<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Africa in the Post-COVID-19 World: Lessons for Research and Policy