Regional Policy Forum (Hybrid)

Political Economy and Institutional Structure of Data Policy and Governance in Africa: Opportunity and Challenges

'Linking Evidence to Policy Action in Data Governance'

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Thursday, 31 October 2024

09:00-18.00HRS (GMT +3)

Venue: Trademark Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

Registration Link: [Data Governance Regional Policy Forum](#)

Programme

09.00 A.M -18.00 P.M (GMT+3)

08.00 -09.00	**Arrivals and Registration for In-person Participants Nairobi** **Registration of the Online Participants**
Master of Ceremony: Dr. Scholastica Odhiambo, Manager, Research, AERC	
Session I: Opening of the Policy Forum (09:00-09:30)	
Moderator:	Dr. Abbi Kedir, **Director of Research, AERC**
Welcome Remarks 09.00-09.15	**Professor Victor Murinde**, Executive Director, AERC
Keynote Speaker 09.15 -09.40	**Dr. Oliver Chinganya,** Director of African Centre for Statistics UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) (TBC)
Session II: Synthesis Paper Presentation (09.40 – 10:30)	
Chair of Session	**Dr Abbi Kedir**, Director of Research, AERC
09.40: 10:10	**'Political Economy and Institutional Structure of Data Policy and Governance in Africa: Opportunity and Challenges'** **Prof. Izak Atiyas**, Professor of Economic, Sabanci University, and **Dr. Miriam Omolo**, Executive Director, Africa Policy Research Institute.
10:10 -10:30	Floor Discussion
10:30 -10:45	**Health Break**
Session III: High-Level Data Governance Practitioners Panel (10:45 – 11:45)	
Chair of Session	**Benjamin Avusevwa,** Director Statistical Coordination and Method, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics
Distinguished Panelists	**Mandla Ngcobo**, Government Chief Information Officer, Department of Public Service and Administration, South Africa (Virtual) **Dr. Denis Ngae**, Director of Projects, Studies and Foresights, Ministry of Posts and Telecommunication, Cameroon **Dr. Walter Onyino,** Director of ICT, Central Bank of Kenya, Kenya (TBC) **Oyedeji Adeyemi Daniel**, Chief Planning Officer, Lagos State, Ministry of Wealth Creation and Employment **Dr. Zeenat Ishmail**, Chief Director, Strategic Management Information, Western Cape Government, South Africa **John Walubengo**, Deputy Data Commissioner, Officer of the Data Protection Commissioner, Kenya
	Floor Discussion

	Group I	Group II
Session IV: Parallel Session Paper Presentations11:45 -13:00		
	Group I	**Group II**
Chair of the Session:	**Dr. Scholastica Odhiambo**, Manager, Research AERC	**Dr. Mark Korir,** Manager, Training, AERC
11:45 -12:05 12:05 – 12:15	*Interrogating Africa's digital transformation through technological innovation: how endogenous, how inclusive? By* **Professor Geci Karuri Sebina & Professor Ogundiran Soumonni**, University of Witwatersrand. Floor Discussion	*The Case for an African e-marketplace under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement* **Dr. Miriam Omolo,** Africa Policy Research Institute. Floor Discussion
12:15 – 12:35 12:35 -12:45	*Exploring interoperability platforms in Africa: An examination of the adoption and implementation of interoperability standards for data exchange in Africa: Opportunities, risks, and policy considerations.* **Hanani Hlomani and Professor Caroline Ncube**, University of Capetown. Floor Discussion	*Data governance framework for improved sustainable finance in Africa* **Dr. Afolabi E. Olowookere**, Analysts' Data Services and Resources (ADSR) Ltd. Floor Discussion
12:45 -14:00	**Lunch Break**	
Parallel Session Paper Presentation Cont.		
	Group I	Group II
14:00 – 14:20 14:20 - 14:30	*Strengthening data-driven policy and data governance in Africa* **Christine Kwanele Dube & Nnemeka Ohamadike**, Good Governance Africa. Floor Discussion	*Africa's statistical tragedy: causal relationship between statistical capacity and government Effectiveness* **Professor Ousmanou Njikam**, University of Yaoundé II Floor Discussion
14:30 – 14:50 14:50 - 15:00	*Cross-border data transfers in Africa: An overview of the regulatory policies implemented in the continent* **Professor Martina Ferracane and Simón González**, European University Institute, Floor Discussion	*Digital data and technology in Africa: political economy of their governance and role in economic development* **Dr. Abbi Kedir,** AERC Floor Discussion
15:00 -15:15	Health Break	
Session V: High-Level Policy Panel I (15:00 – 16:00) **Chair of Session**		
Chair of Session	**Amb- Prof. Bitange Ndemo ,** Kenyan Ambassador to Belgium and the European Union	
Distinguished Panelists	**Malarvizhi Veerappan**, Senior Data Scientist and Program Manager for the Data Management & Services, World Bank	

	John Olela, Director, Central Planning and Project Monitoring, Statement Department of the National Treasury, Government of Kenya
	Prof. Robert Mudida, Director of Research, Central Bank of Kenya, Kenya
	Aretha Mare, Unit Manager - Data & Security Infrastructure Governance, Smart Africa
	Catherine Muya, Data Policy Advisor, AU-GIZ
	Stanley Kamanguya, CEO, ICT Authority of Kenya (TBC)
16:00 -16:30	Q&A
Wrap-Up 16:30 -16:45	**Abbi Kedir,** Director of Research, AERC
16:45 -18:00	**Reception and Cocktail**