GOVERNING AFRICAN CIVIL SOCIETY IN A CONTEXT OF SHRINKING CIVIC SPACES

PROGRAM

Director:

• Dr. Bhekinkosi Moyo
  Wits Business School and Centre on African Philanthropy and Social Investment

Resource Persons:

• Dr. Eric Ndeh Ngang
  University of Birmingham/Action Group on Governance and Environmental Management

• Prof. Mohsine El Ahmadi
  Cadi Ayyad University

• Prof. Awino Okech
  Reader in Gender Studies
  SOAS, University of London

• Prof. Adebayo Olukoshi
  Wits School of Governance
Day 1: 9 August 2021

Session 1
Chair: Godwin Murunga, Executive Secretary, CODESRIA
Rapporteur: Cecy Edijala Balogun

09:00-10:45 Opening Session
Opening Remarks
➢ Welcome Remarks, Executive Secretary, CODESRIA
➢ Overview of CODESRIA, its mandate and mission
➢ CODESRIA Intellectual Agenda and the place of its Governance Institute
   Introduction of the 2020/2021 Governance Institute Resource Persons and Laureates
   • Introduction of the Institute Director and Resource Persons
   • Introduction of laureates and their motivations: name, institution, motivations and expectations
➢ Organizational aspects of the Institute by the Head of CODESRIA’s Training Grants and Fellowships Programme and the ITC Officer

10:45-11:00 Break

Session 2
Chair: Eric Ndeh Ngang
Rapporteur: Célestin Tshimande Tukala

11:00-12:00 Contextualizing the Shrinking/Shifting Civic Space in Africa- Bhekinkosi Moyo
12:00-13:00 Discussions
13:00-14:00 Break

Session 3:
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Olusegun O Oladeinde

14:00-15:00 Framing Governance in Africa: The role of Civil Society- Adebayo Olukoshi
15:00-16:00 Discussions

Day 2: 10 August 2021

Session 4
Chair: Ibrahim Oanda Ogachi
Rapporteur: Hugues Heumen Tchana

09:00-10:00 Framing the Civic Space- Awino Okech
10:00-11:00 Discussions
11:00-11:30 Break
Session 5:
Chair: Mohsine El Ahmadi
Rapporteur: Deogratius Massagwe

11:30-12:00 Governing Civil Society in Africa- Adebayo Olukoshi
12:00-13:00 Discussions
13:00-14:00 Break

Session 6
Chair: Ibrahim Oanda Ogachi
Rapporteur: Michel Bakay Asuma

14:00-15:00 Defining the Civic Space- Bhekinkosi Moyo
15:00-16:00 Discussions

Day 3: 11 August 2021

Session 7
Chair: Khady Diop
Rapporteur: Mohamed Lamine Diakite

09:00-10:00 Thematic Focus: State-Civil Society Relations- Mohsine El Ahmadi
10:00-11:00 Discussions
11:00-11:30 Break

Session 8
Chair: Bekhinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Antoinette Danebaï Lama

11:30-12:00 State-Civil Society Relations- Mohsine El Ahmadi
12:00-13:00 Discussions
13:00-14:00 Break

Session 9: Work Group
Chair: Eric Ndeh Ngang
Rapporteur: Etanislas Ngodi

14:00-15:00 Work group
Group 1: What mechanisms would you propose for dialogue between the state and civil society on public service delivery in your countries?
Group 2: What are the concrete points for engaging in an honest and serious dialogue with the state on the subject of GB?
Group 3: What role should external actors (international and regional) play in promoting better interaction between the state and civil society in Africa?

15:00-16:00 Presentation and Discussions
Day 4: 12 August 2021

Session 10
Chair: Mohsine El Ahmadi
Rapporteur: Albert Chukwuma Okoli

09:00-10:00 Civil Society and Gender - Bhekinkosi Moyo and Magdalene Madibela
10:00-11:00 Discussions
11:00-11:30 Break

Session 11: Syndicate/Group Work
Chair: Leonide Azah Awah
Rapporteur: Justin Beya Mulumba

11:30-13:00 Syndicate/Group Work
Group 1: Gender and Politics (Discuss in your group the relation between gender and politics, paying particular attention to how women and girls are treated, regulated and conceptualized. What are the various frames used to determine participation of women and girls in politics? What recommendations would you give to your incoming government? Use examples from your countries.)

Group 2: Gender and Digital Spaces (What are the opportunities and limitations brought about by new technologies including the cyber space and different digital tools and platforms for women and girls? What are the policies and laws in your countries that govern the cyberspace and how do these laws, policies and practices affect women and girls? Using case studies, demonstrate both opportunities and obstacles for women and girls. What would you advise the women’s movement and the broader civil society to do in this current context?)

Group 3: Gender and Development (What are the different spaces for women in development, to develop and be empowered? What are the limiting factors and the obstacles both systemic and structural? What role should the academy play in further theorizing gender and development?)

Group 4: Gender and Good Governance (The history of governance and good governance in the continent is contested as we heard in one of the lectures by Prof Olukoshi. What has been the role of women in governance? Discuss examples or cases from your countries and demonstrate whether the space for women in governance has been shrinking, changing or shifting. What are the main recommendations you can give to international actors such as donors that work in most of our countries on governance.)

13:00-14:00 Break

Session 12: Plenary Discussions
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Abosede Omowumi Babatunde

14:00-16:00 Presentations and Discussions
Day 5: 13 August 2021

Session 13
Chair: Coumba Ndoffene Diouf
Rapporteur: Pierre Bupia Kapanga

09:00-10:00
Thematic Area-Civil Society and Digital Space- Eric Ndeh Ngang

10:00-11:00
Discussions

11:00-11:30
Break

Session 14
Chair: Khady Diop
Rapporteur: Moise Achille Honoré Noah Ekene

11:30-12:00
Civil Society and Digital Space- Eric Ndeh Ngang

12:00-13:00.
Discussions

13:00-14:30
Break

Session 15: Group Sessions
Chair: Mohsine ElAhmadi
Rapporteur: Nhlanhla Landa

14:30-15:30
Group work

Group 1: Is the growth of and use of digital spaces a unique kind of historical phenomenon and how has it shaped or is shaping the democratic governance process across the continent? Are digital spaces replacing public spaces? What are the implications of this for the democratic governance practice?

Group 2: What are the Implications of the historical shifts innovations of the 4th industrial revolution and the digital spaces it creates to the traditional ways in which the civil society is governed?

Group 3: What are the justifications given for shutdowns of digital spaces in the countries represented by the laureates? What are the impacts on civic spaces and how have or can civil society organization across the continent respond when states take such harmful actions?

Group 4: What are the shortcomings and strengths of civil society studies such as the one Cameroon to estimate impacts of shutdowns? Beyond direct or physical and economic harm resulting from cutting off people’s access to digital spaces, what other forms of harm including indirect harms and emotional harms, as well as ‘cultural safety’ (think about harms to autonomy, intellectual growth, (lack of) access to cultural, intellectual and generational resources)?

15:30-16:30
Presentation and Discussions
SECOND WEEK: 16-20 AUGUST 2021

Day 6: 17 August 2021

Session 16
Chair: Leonide Azah Awah
Rapporteur: Gabriel Bantamba Bonyenga

09:00-10:00  Thematic Area: Civil Society and Organisation Development (A focus on Resource Mobilisation for Civil Society in Africa- Bhekinkosi Moyo

10:00-11:00  Discussions

11:00-11:30  Break

Session 17
Chair: Coumba Ndoffene Diouf
Rapporteur: Stanislas Bigirimana

11:30-12:00  Civil Society and Organisational Development (A focus on Capacity Development)- Bhekinkosi Moyo

12:00-13:00  Discussions

13:00-14:00  Break

Session 18
Chair: Coumba Ndoffene Diouf
Rapporteur: Sunday Adekunle Alaye

14:00-15:00  Civil Society and Organisational Development (A focus on Covid 19 and its impact on Civil Society)- Bhekinkosi Moyo

15:00-16:00  Discussions

Day 7: 18 August 2021

Session 19
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Mohamed Lamine Diakite

09:00-10:00  Thematic Area-Civil Society and Socio-Economic Development- Mohsine El Ahmadi

10:00-11:00  Discussions

11:00-11:30  Break

Session 20
Chair: Khady Diop
Rapporteur: Dominic Degraft Arthur

11:30-12:00  Civil Society and Socio-Economic Development- Mohsine El Ahmadi

12:00-13:00  Discussions
13:00-14:00  Break

**Session 21**
Chair: Leonide Azah Awah  
Rapporteur: Martin Milolo Nsenda

14:00-15:00  Civil Society and Socio-Economic Development- Mohsine El Ahmadi
15:00-16:00  Discussions

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**Day 8: 20 August 2021**

**Session 22**
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo  
Rapporteur: Olawale Olufemi Akinrinde

09:00-10:00  Thematic Area-Civil Society and Electoral Processes- Eric Ndeh Ngang
10:00-11:00  Discussions
11:00-11:30  Break

**Session 23**
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo  
Rapporteur: Eric Sourna Loumtouang

11:30-12:00  Civil Society and Electoral Processes- Eric Ndeh Ngang
12:00-13:00  Discussions
13:00-14:30  Break

**Session 24**
Chair: Mohsine El Ahmadi  
Rapporteur: Eric Abanati Gbadi

14:30-15:30  Civil Society and Electoral Processes- Eric Ndeh Ngang
15:30-16:00  Discussions
Third Week: 23-27 August 2021

Day 9: 23 August 2021

Session 25 & 26
Chair: Mohsine El Ahmadi
Rapporteur: Robin Beya Keshi

12:00-13:00 Research Methodology- Bhekinkosi Moyo
13:00-13:40 Discussions
13:40-14:00 Break

Session 27
Chair:Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Odair Bartelomeu Barros Lopes Varela

14:00-15:00 Laureates Presentations (20 minutes each)
1. Lilian Anyango Olick- The Political Economy of Civil Engagements: 'The Digital Era' Background Information and Problem Statement
2. Cecy Edijala Balogun- Gender-Based Civil Society Organizations and Civic Space in Nigeria

15:00-16:00 Discussions

Day 10: 24 August 2021

Session 28
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Harrison Adewale Idowu

09:00-10:00 Laureates Presentations (20 mins each)
2. Martin Milolo Nsenda- The Lockdown of the Citizen Movement in the DRC: A Puzzle for the DR Congo Government
3. Arthur Dominic Degraft- Towards the Understanding of Civil Society Organisations Shrinking Civic Spaces and their Future in Ghana

10:00-11:00. Discussions
11:00-11:30 Break

Session 29
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Robin Beya Keshi

11:30-12:30 Laureates Presentations
2. Mohamed Lamine Diakite- The Interaction between Civil Society and Politics in West Africa. The Cases of Mali, Senegal and Burkina Faso
3. Célestin Tshimande Tukala- Civil society associations in the Democratic Republic of Congo: Between Contestation and Negotiation

12:30-13:15 Discussions
13:15-1400 Break

Session 30
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Sindiso Zhou & Mohamed Lamine Diakhite

14:00-15:00 Laureates Presentations
1. Michel Bakay Asuma- Pre-electoral Civic Spaces in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The Case of the La lutte pour le Changement Citizen Movement
2. Sindiso Zhou- Civic Engagement and Online Discourse: Expanding Civic Spaces through Migration to New Digital Spaces in South Africa
3. 

15:00-16:00 Discussions

Day 11: 25 August 2021

Session 31
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Cecy Edijala Balogun

09:00-10:00 Laureates Presentations
2. Landa Nhlanhla- Civic Activism in Expanding Socio-technical Spaces and the Down of Cyber Laws in Zimbabwe

10:00-11:00 Discussion
11:00-11:30 Break

Session 32
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Célestin Tshimande Tukala

11:30-12:30 Laureates Presentation
1. Chukwuma Albert Okoli- Political Parties and Challenges of Women’s Political Representation in Nigeria
2. Abosede Omowumi Babatunde- Gender Sensitivity in Local NGOs Peace-Building Initiatives in Nigeria’s Niger Delta Region

12:30-13:15 Discussion
13:15-14:00 Break
Session 33
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Martin Milo Nsenda
14:00-15:00 Laureates Presentations
2. Antoinette Danebai Lamana- Violence Against Girls and Women in Civic Spaces in Africa
3. Stanislas Bigirimana- Civil Society in Burundi: Innovation or A Mirror of The Wider Society?
15:00-16:00 Discussion

Day 12: 26 August 2021

Session 34
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Michel Bakay Asuma & Albert Chukwuma Okoli
09:00-10:15 Laureates Presentations
1. Odair Bartolomeu Barros-Varela- Rabidantes Women and the Informal Economy in Cape Verde. Academic Activism for an Inclusive Economic Governance in Cape Verde
3. Robin Beya Keshi- Presidential Mandate and Citizen Movements in Francophone Africa: Attempt to Look for Foreign Involvement in Recent Struggles for Good Governance
4. Hugues Heumen Tchana- Business Management, Cultural Organizations through the Prism of Social Engagement and Sloppy Funding Management
10:15-11:15 Discussions
11:15-11:30 Break

Session 35
Chair: Bhekinkosi Moyo
Rapporteur: Abosede Omowumi Babatunde
11:30-13:00 Closing Remarks by CODESRIA Executive Secretary
Logistical Announcements and next steps by CODESRIA Secretariat
Evaluation of the Institute
END OF PROGRAMME