CODESRIA

GENDER INSTITUTE 2026

DRAFT PROGRAMME

GENDER AND INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE:

WOMEN AS KNOWLEDGE BEARERS

06TH – 11 TH JULY

DAKAR, SENEGAL

Director: **Prof. Ambreena Manji**
Professor of Law, Cardiff University

Resource Person: Dr Paul Awoniyi
Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Gender and Social Policy Studies, Obafemi Awolowo University

DAY 1 MONDAY 06TH JULY 2026 *Foundations: African Women as Knowledge Producers & Epistemic Justice*	
08:00 – 08:30	**REGISTRATION**
08:30 – 09:30	**OPENING SESSION**
	Chair: Ayemi Lawani, Deputy Executive Secretary, CODESRIA Rapporteurs for Day 1: Jane Flora Nguye Okuku, Sainabou Drammeh, Djibrine Bichara
	Welcome Remarks
	• **Godwin Murunga**, Executive Secretary, CODESRIA
	• **Ambreena Manji**, University Dean for Africa, Cardiff University
	• **Paul Awoniyi,** Senior Research Fellow, Obafemi Awolowo University
09:30 – 10:30	**LAUREATES' INTRODUCTIONS, EXPECTATIONS & INTELLECTUAL POSITIONING**
	Activity
	Epistemic Mapping Exercise
10:30 – 10:45	**TEA BREAK**
10:45 – 12:00	**AFRICAN WOMEN AS KNOWLEDGE PRODUCERS**
	Chair: **Ambreena Manji**
	Speaker: **Paul Awoniyi**
12:00 – 13:00	**GUIDED DISCUSSION & REFLECTIVE EXERCISE**
	Activity
	Reflective Mapping Exercise
13:00 – 14:00	**LUNCH BREAK**
14:00 – 15:15	**EPISTEMIC INJUSTICE AND THE GENDERED POLITICS OF KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION**
	Chair: **Lucy Mandillah**
	Speakers: **Ambreena Manji** **Paul Awoniyi**
15:15 – 16:00	**GUIDED DISCUSSION & CITATION AUDIT EXERCISE**
	Activity
	Citation Audit: *Whose scholarship do we cite? Who remains excluded from knowledge canons?*
16:00 – 19:00	**BREAK**
19:00	**WELCOME DINNER | END OF DAY 1**

DAY 2 TUESDAY 07TH JULY 2026 *Land, Environmental Futures & Recognition*		
8:30 – 09:45	**INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, LAND AND RECOGNITION POLITICS**	
	Chair: **Patricia Gomes**	Rapporteurs for Day 2: Naa Densua Tordzro Adebola F. Ajetomobi Aurèle F. Deutcha Nguelieu
	Speaker: **Ambreena Manji**	
09:45 – 10:30	**GUIDED DISCUSSION**	
10:30 – 10:45	**TEA BREAK**	
10:45 – 12:00	**INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE, GENDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL FUTURES**	
	Chair: **Patricia Gomes**	
	Speaker: **Paul Awoniyi**	
12:00 – 13:00	**GUIDED DISCUSSION & FEMINIST ECOLOGICAL MAPPING EXERCISE**	
	Activity	
	Feminist Ecological Mapping	
13:00 – 14:00	**LUNCH BREAK**	
14:00 – 15:15	**PRESENTATION: LIEUX ÉPISTÉMIQUES ET RECONNAISSANCE DES SAVOIRS. OÙ SONT LES FEMMES?**	
	Chair: **Ambreena Manji**	
	Speaker: **Fatoumata Hane** Professor of Sociology Université Alassane Seck de Ziguinchor	
15:15– 16:00	**GUIDED DISCUSSION**	
16:00	**TEA BREAK | END OF DAY 2**	

DAY 3 WEDNESDAY 08TH JULY 2026 *Ethics, Governance & Feminist/Decolonial Methodologies*		
8:30 – 09:45	**ETHICS, OWNERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE OF WOMEN'S KNOWLEDGE**	
	Chair: **Lucy Mandillah**	Rapporteurs for Day 3: Bineta Dia Tatenda T. Machingauta Charles Tweheyo
	Facilitators: **Ambreena Manji** **Paul Awoniyi**	
09:45– 10:30	**GUIDED DISCUSSION & CASE INTERROGATION**	
	Activity	
	Case Interrogation Exercise	
10:30 – 10:45	**TEA BREAK**	
10:45 – 12:00	**FEMINIST AND DECOLONIAL METHODOLOGIES FOR ENGAGING INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE**	
	Chair: **Lucy Mandillah**	
	Speaker: **Paul Awoniyi**	
12:00 – 13:00	**GUIDED DISCUSSION & RESEARCH REDESIGN CLINIC**	
	Activity:	
	Research Redesign Clinic	
13:00 – 14:00	**LUNCH BREAK**	
14:00 – 16:00	**LAUREATE PRESENTATIONS I**	
	Facilitator: **Ambreena Manji**	
	GUIDED DISCUSSION	
16:00	**TEA BREAK | END OF DAY 3**	

DAY 4 THURSDAY 09TH JULY 2026 *Laureate Presentations: Knowledge, Theory & Research Development*		
8:30 – 09:30	**VIRTUAL PRESENTATION: AFRICAN FEMINIST AND DECOLONIAL METHODOLOGIES FOR ENGAGING INDIGENOUS RESEARCH.**	
	Chair: **Ambreena Manji**	Rapporteurs for Day 4: Khalifa Mbow Mona Ikirezi Elisabeth D. Dikizeko
	Speaker: **Nthabiseng Motsemme**	
09:30 - 10:15	**GUIDED DISCUSSION**	
10:15 – 10:30	**TEA BREAK**	
10:30– 12:15	**LAUREATE PRESENTATIONS II**	
	Facilitator: **Ambreena Manji**	
	GUIDED DISCUSSION	
12:15– 13:15	**LUNCH**	
13:15 – 15:00	**LAUREATE PRESENTATIONS III**	
	Facilitator: **Paul Awoniyi**	
	GUIDED DISCUSSION	
15:00– 16:00	**COLLECTIVE REFLECTION SESSION**	
	Facilitators: **Ambreena Manji** **Paul Awoniyi**	
	Discussion Focus	
	Emerging Themes in Laureate Research	
	Guiding Questions	
16:00	**TEA BREAK | END OF DAY 4**	

DAY 5 FRIDAY 10TH JULY 2026 *Laureate Presentations: Canon Formation & Scholarly Development*		
8:30 – 10:15	**LAUREATE PRESENTATIONS IV**	
	Facilitator: **Paul Awoniyi**	Rapporteurs for Day 5: Isabelle TOKANNOU Jaël G. ZAWADI Ongezwa N. MBELE
	GUIDED DISCUSSION	
10:15 – 10:30	**TEA BREAK**	
10:30– 12:15	**LAUREATE PRESENTATIONS V**	
	Facilitator: **Paul Awoniyi**	
	GUIDED DISCUSSION	
12:15 – 13:15	**LUNCH BREAK**	
13:15 – 14:30	**CANON FORMATION AND THE RECOGNITION OF WOMEN KNOWLEDGE HOLDERS**	
	Facilitators: **Ambreena Manji** **Paul Awoniyi**	
14:30– 15:30	**COLLECTIVE REFLECTION ROUNDTABLE**	
	Activity:	
	Canon Mapping Exercise	
15:30– 16:00	**DAY REFLECTION & MENTORING NOTES**	
	Facilitators: **Ambreena Manji** **Paul Awoniyi**	
16:00	**TEA BREAK | END OF DAY 5**	

DAY 6 SATURDAY 11TH JULY 2026 *Research Clinics, Institute Synthesis & Closing*		
08:30 – 09:45	**LAUREATE RESEARCH CLINICS**	
	Facilitators: **Ambreena Manji** **Paul Awoniyi**	Rapporteurs for Day 6: Kaila Tsalha Olivia Kamphale
	Focus: Small-group mentoring	
09:45– 10:45	**INSTITUTE SYNTHESIS AND REFLECTIONS**	
	Facilitator: **Ambreena Manji** **Paul Awoniyi**	
	Discussion Focus	
	Guiding Questions	
	Output	
	Collective Knowledge Agenda	
10:45 – 11:00	**TEA BREAK**	
11:00 – 11:30	**FINAL EVALUATION**	
	Chair: **Godwin Murunga**	
11:30 – 12:00	**CLOSING SESSION**	
	Chair: **Ayemi Lawani**, Deputy Executive Secretary, CODESRIA	
	Remarks by:	
	• **Paul Awoniyi**, Obafemi Awolowo University	
	• **Ambreena Manji**, University Dean for Africa, Cardiff University	
	• **Godwin Murunga**, Executive Secretary, CODESRIA	
12:00	**LUNCH | END OF THE INSTITUTE**	

SUGGESTED READINGS FOR REFERENCE:

1. Mezzadri, A., Stevano, S., Ossome, L., & Bargawi, H. (2024). The social reproduction of agrarian change: Feminist political economy and rural transformations in the global south. An introduction. Journal of Agrarian Change, 24(3), e12595. https://doi.org/10.1111/joac.12595 (The Introduction, pp. 1–15 (or the first 15 pages of the article), which sets out how social reproduction theory helps "de-invisibilise processes of life-making behind agrarian transformations"…)

2. Applied case on indigenous women's knowledge and ecological resilience (2025/2026). https://www.thuram.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/La-parole-aux-négresses.pdf
3. Thiam, A. (1978). La Parole aux négresses. Paris: Denoël-Gonthier.
4. Thiam, A. (1986). *Speak out, Black sisters: Feminism and oppression in Black Africa* (D. K. Wilson, Trans.). London: Pluto Press. (The Introduction (pp. 7–18 in the French PDF) where Thiam discusses how "their word had nothing of a woman's word then.)
5. Diallo, R. (2021). *Femmes, savoirs autochtones et résistance au Sahel*. Dakar: CODESRIA. Chapter 2: "Les femmes comme dépositaires de savoirs écologiques," pp. 35–58.
6. Makoloo, M. O. (2005). Kenya: Minorities, indigenous peoples and ethnic diversity. London: Minority Rights Group International. http://citizenshiprightsinafrica.org/docs/MRGKenyaReport-Makoloo.pdf (Introduction (pp. 1–6) and sections on "Exclusion and marginalisation" (pp. 10–18).
7. Grace Musila (short intervention on epistemic disarticulations and African knowledge politics).
8. Sing'Oei, K. (2011). From non-beneficiaries to active stakeholders: The Endorois' quest for justice at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. In *Suing for justice: How strategic litigation advances economic, social and cultural rights in Africa*. Geneva: Centre for Human Rights and Legal Aid.
9. Gilbert, J. (2011). Indigenous peoples' land rights under the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights: The Endorois case. *Human Rights Law Review*, 11(3), 547–572.
10. Manji, A. (2014). *The Politics of Land Reform in Kenya 2012*.
11. *Datta, R., & Kibria, A. (2025). Indigenous women-led climate crisis solutions: A decolonial perspective from the Garo Indigenous community in Bangladesh. Political Geography, 117, 103258. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2024.103258*
12. Tantoh, H. B., & Sama, D. J. (2025). Women in climate change adaptation: Insights from an indigenous pastoralist community in the North West region, Cameroon. *Global Africa*, (9), 78–96. https://www.globalafricasciences.org/issues/issue-9/women-in-climate-change-adaptation-insights-from-an-indigenous-pastoralist-community-in-the-north-west-region-cameroon/
13. African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights. (2017). *African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights v. Republic of Kenya*, Application No. 006/2012 (Merits).
14. Takácsová, D. (2022). *Sweet are the waters: Ogiek rights to land and development and the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights court ruling* (Master's dissertation). University of Porto. https://hdl.handle.net/10216/147765 (PDF available via the repository)
15. Lyn Ossome (selected excerpt on women, land, and social reproduction).
16. UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA). (2021). *Indigenous knowledge and the COVID-19 pandemic: Lessons learned and policy implications*. New York: United Nations. https://www.un.org/development/desa/indigenouspeoples/wp-

content/uploads/sites/19/2021/05/Indigenous-Knowledge-and-the-COVID-19-pandemic.pdf

17. Smith, L. T. (2012). *Decolonizing methodologies: Research and indigenous peoples* (2nd ed.). London: Zed Books. (Chapter 1, “Imperialism, History, Writing and Theory” (pp. 19–41), and Chapter 9, “Twenty-five Indigenous Projects” (pp. 143–164).
18. Chilisa, B. (2023). Relationality, indigenous research and the question of method: An African perspective. In S. Hesse-Biber (Ed.), *The Oxford handbook of feminist research methods* (2nd ed., pp. 435–456). Oxford: Oxford University Press.
19. Ndlovu-Gatsheni, S. J. (2024). Decolonial feminist methodologies in African research: From epistemic extraction to epistemic justice. *Third World Thematics*, 9(1), 45–64. https://doi.org/10.1080/23802014.2024.2312455
20. Awa Thiam ..... *La Parole aux négresses* (selected excerpt Francophone option)