



Deutsche Afrika Stiftung e.V.
Fondation Allemande pour l'Afrique
German Africa Foundation

Programme

"Ansprenger Symposium 2023: African Science Meets Practice" under the patronage of former Federal President Horst Köhler

Monday, 18 September to Tuesday, 19 September 2023
Dietrich Bonhoeffer House, Ziegelstraße 30, 10117 Berlin

"Africa's youth are to be reckoned with in the coming decades. Do we see the largest youth population in human history as a threat to our security or do we recognise in it the potential inherent in young people?"

Despite all the current crises and conflicts, I remain confident and believe that Africa can become a continent of growth, jobs and life prospects. Europe would do well to stop looking at its neighbouring continent with a routinely worried expression, but to support Africa's development with energy and commitment and to help make the dreams of its youth come true. The German economy can and should also contribute to this by opening up qualified training opportunities and good career prospects locally."

Former Federal President Horst Köhler



Day 1: Monday, 18 September 2023, 18:00 - 19:45 (followed by a reception)

Opening, "The Further Development of the Federal Government's Africa Policy Guidelines - Redefining Priorities and Interests".

After the Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) had already presented its new Africa Strategy at the end of January, the Federal Foreign Office also announced a revision of the Federal Government's Africa Policy Guidelines - the superstructure of German Africa policy. Against this background, we would like to discuss the following questions together:

What constitutes good Africa policy guidelines? How do they need to change in view of global challenges and the changing geopolitical situation? Which policy fields and approaches need more attention? How can the guidelines of German Africa policy be successfully embedded in the EU's Africa strategy? And what expectations do African partners have of the German Africa policy guidelines?

Welcome&Opening Remarks

Introduction&

Conclusion: **Christoph Retzlaff**, Regional Commissioner for Sub-Saharan Africa and the Sahel, Federal Foreign Office

Discussion: **Jean Bertrand Azapmo**, Senior Advisor to the AU Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals

Susan Bergner, PhD student in the SCRIPTS cluster of excellence, FU Berlin

Dr Edward K. Brown, Director of Research, Policy and Programmes, African Centre for Economic Transformation, ACET

Prof. Dr. emeritus Robert Kappel, Professor emeritus at the Universities of Hamburg and Leipzig; Member of the Board of Trustees, German Africa Foundation, DAS

Lidet Tadesse Shiferaw, Deputy Director, Peaceful Societies and Good Governance, European Centre for Development Policy Management, ecdpm

Moderation: **Dr. Gerrit Kurtz**, Researcher in the Africa and Middle East Research Group, German Institute for International and Security Affairs, SWP



Day 2: Tuesday, 19 September 2023

10:30 - 12:00: Discussion " Lack of Perspectives as Conflict Potential - On the Nexus of Youth, Employment and Security in West Africa"

The new BMZ Africa Strategy identifies the creation of prospects for the 'greatest youth generation ever' as the challenge for developing the potential of African youth. Conversely, a lack of jobs and prospects for young people in Africa is seen as a major cause of political instability and violence, making job creation not only particularly important in conflict prevention, but also understood as a stabilising measure in peacebuilding and conflict resolution. Accordingly, employment promotion programmes for youth play a prominent role in cooperation with the African continent.

But what about the creation of jobs in critical security situations, such as in various countries in West Africa? To what extent are peacebuilding and employment promotion thought of together here, and to what extent does this correspond to the realities of young people on the ground? What needs and challenges do young people in West Africa have with regard to security, peace and employment and to what extent are these incorporated into programmes on the ground? Who is behind the term 'West Africa's youth', for whom and with whom policy is being shaped? And against this background, how can perspectives for youth be successfully created in order to really contribute to political stabilisation and peacebuilding?

Welcome: **Thomas Zhou**, Youth Ambassador, Global Campaign for Education Germany, GBK

Discussion: **Nadine Günther**, Global Project "Employment in Rural Areas with a Focus on Youth", Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GIZ

Peter Kwasi Kodjie, Secretary General, All-Africa Students Union, AASU

Dr. Samantha Ruppel, Head of the African-German Leadership Academy, German Institute of Development and Sustainability, IDOS

Bintu Zahara Sakor, PhD student, The Peace Research Institute Oslo, PRIO

Moderation: **Sabine Odhiambo**, Secretary General, German Africa Foundation, DAS



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12:15 - 13:15: Lunch

13:15 - 14:45: Discussion "Reform of the international financial architecture - making development financing sustainable and more effective"

In order to adapt development financing to current and future challenges and to make it more efficient, a reform of the international financial architecture is indispensable. This is especially true in view of climate change and the increasing indebtedness of countries in the Global South. Almost 80 years after the founding of the Bretton Woods system, the UN Secretary General has made a number of reform proposals in the run-up to the Future Summit planned for 2024, including the modernisation of existing institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Against this background, we would like to discuss where we currently stand in this process, what African partners in particular expect with regard to reform and what the recommendations from academic research look like in this regard.

Discussion: **Hafez Ghanem**, Senior Researcher, Policy Center for the New South

Michael Krake, German Executive Director, World Bank Group

I. E. Mrs. Balbina Malheiros Dias Da Silva (tbc), Ambassador of the Republic of Angola

Prof. Dr. Lukas Menkhoff, Head of the Department of World Economics, German Institute for Economic Research, DIW

Armand Zorn MdB, SPD parliamentary group and member of the Finance Committee

Moderation: **Tevin Tafese**, Research Associate and Doctoral Candidate, German Institute for Global and Area Studies, GIGA



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15:15 - 16:45: Discussion "Growing Partnership - Turkey-Africa Relations"

The IV Turkish-African Business and Economic Forum will be held in Istanbul on 12-13 October, providing a platform for high-level political dialogue between African countries and Turkey and an opportunity for interaction between their business sectors. Turkey's foreign policy towards Africa has evolved significantly since the first Turkish-African Cooperation Summit in 2008. Turkey focuses on political, economic, humanitarian and cultural cooperation at bilateral, regional, continental and international levels and seeks to distinguish itself as a partner without an imperial following. The trade partnership with African countries is based on an "equal partnership and a win-win strategy". Turkish companies have implemented more than 1,150 projects across the continent with a total value of over 70 billion USD. Total trade with the region increased from USD 5.4 billion in 2003 to USD 25.6 billion in 2021.

It is against this backdrop that we are hosting this discussion in collaboration with the Africa Policy Research Institute (APRI) to focus on the multidimensional relationship between African countries and Turkey by examining its various facets, including trade diplomacy, foreign policy expertise and educational efforts that promote mutual growth. What factors are responsible for Turkey's increased engagement with African countries and what are the common interests? How do African countries view their cooperation with Turkey and what do they expect from it?

Discussion: **H.E. Tom Amolo**, Ambassador of the Republic of Kenya

Dr. Samiratou Dipama, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law and Political Science,
Thomas Sankara University in Burkina Faso

Dr. Marcus Knupp, Deputy Division Manager for Africa/Middle East, Germany Trade
and Invest, GTAI

Elif Ülgen, Head of the Directorate General for East and Southern Africa, Ministry of
Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Turkey

Moderation: **Dr. Hürcan Aslı Aksoy**, Director of the Centre for Applied Turkish Studies (CATS), SWP

Closing remarks