

Annual Report 2022



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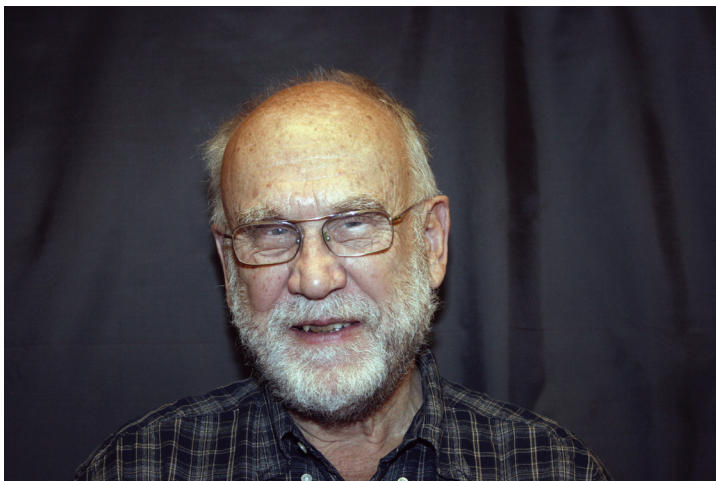
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In Memoriam

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In Memoriam – Jan Hoorweg (1939–2022)



In the summer of 2022, the ASCL learned that Jan Hoorweg had passed away in his home in Leiderdorp. Jan was an outstanding researcher at the African Studies Centre, who conducted studies on nutrition, food supply, project evaluation, rural development, coastal ecology, and issues of coastal development (particularly in Kenya) from 1967 until his retirement in 2014. For Jan, cooperation with Kenyan researchers and local government officials was always of great importance. Very often his study projects were carried out by Kenyan researchers, advised and supervised by ASC researchers. His work resulted in a list of publications totalling more than 80 books and articles. The ASCL will remember Jan as a very amiable and inspiring colleague with a deep interest in the Coastal Lowlands of Kenya.

In Memoriam – Marieke van Winden (1953–2022)



On 23 November, the ASCL was confronted with the news that Marieke van Winden, former communications officer at the ASCL, had passed away. In the summer of 2021, two years after her retirement, she was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and, despite her joie de vivre, positive attitude, and successful surgery in June, the disease turned out to be incurable. Marieke began working at the ASCL in 1997 and in the course of 22 years she became an indispensable force for many colleagues. She organised seminars, conferences, book launches, film screenings, and art exhibitions. She promoted ASCL publications and was responsible for editing the annual report. Marieke was a passionate ambassador for the institute and an ebullient colleague who was generous with compliments, could be counted on to provide next-level hospitality, and who had a genuine interest in others. She will be missed enormously.

Preface

In 2022 the ASCL celebrated its 75th anniversary. For this festive occasion we got together with our former staff and students, colleagues and selected societal partners to reflect on our history and showcase where we are now. The current context, including the academic and societal discussions regarding the space for African Studies in Europe, invites us to reflect on our position, and emphasises the need for independent, critical and reflective studies and documentation, to promote a better understanding of historical, current and future societal transformations and developments in Africa.

Although increasingly mindful about the impact of travel and acknowledging what can be achieved in a virtual setting, 2022 was also the year in which travel for fieldwork, conferences and fellowships resumed. This allowed us to reconnect with partners and colleagues elsewhere and engage in much needed discussions and exchanges. We were able to welcome visiting fellows to Leiden, including in the context of our collaboration with NIMAR in Morocco.

In this annual report we share with you our activities and results for 2022 with a number of highlights listed below:

- The ASCL welcomed new staff members: post-doctoral researcher John Kegel (history of colonial concessionary companies), project researcher Luca Bruls (Decoding Digital Media in African regions of Conflict), student assistant Amrita Mahadewsing and project researcher Victoria Many at the INCLUDE secretariat;
- We celebrated four PhD defences at Leiden University and other Dutch universities;
- Research and teaching awards: Annachiara Raia received an NWO-VENI grant for her project 'Forging Transoceanic Muslim Histories: Swahili Literary Networks on the 20th-Century Indian Ocean Coast'; Madi Ditmars received a Virtual International



Prof. Marleen Dekker.

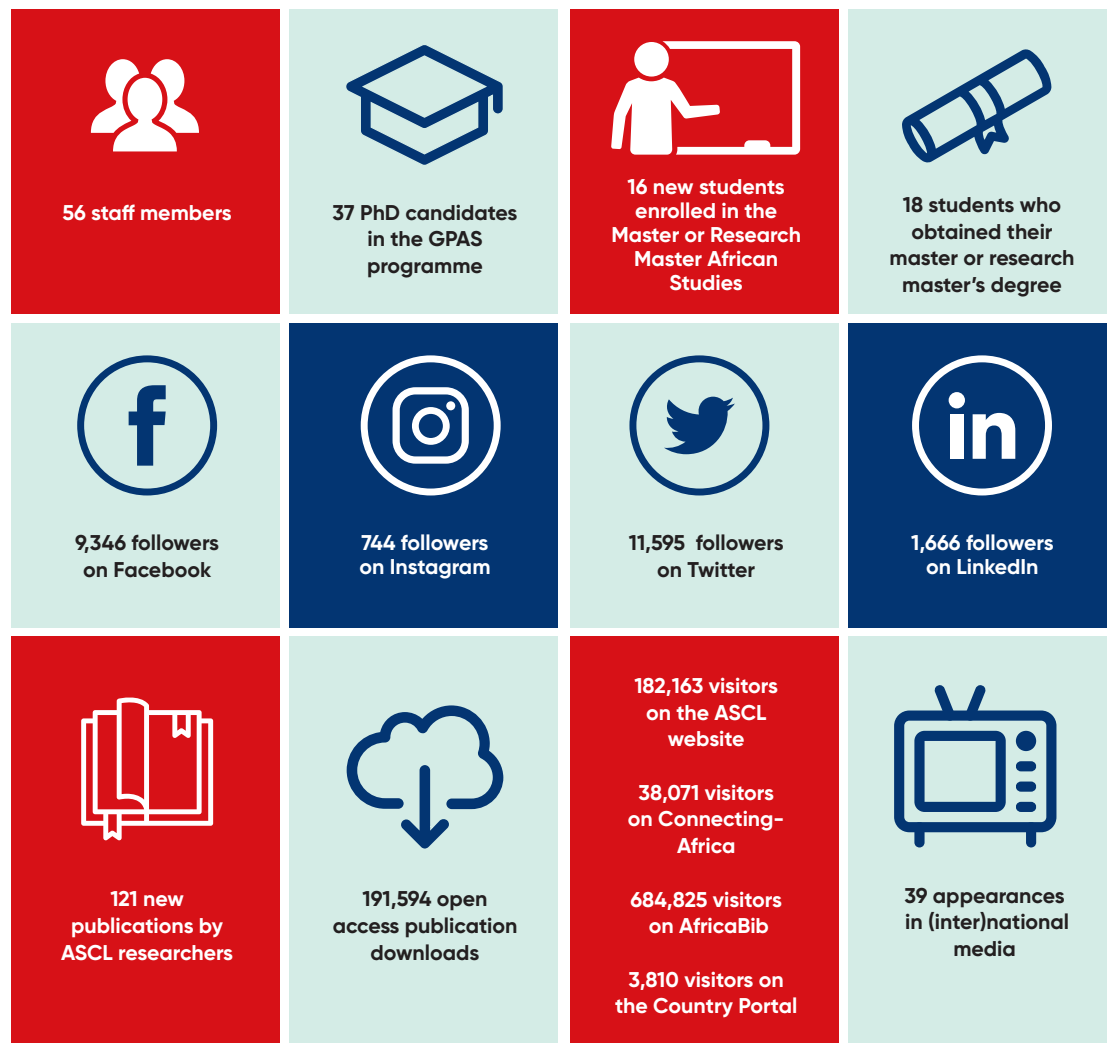
Collaboration Award from the Ministry of Education to expand and diversify the Small Private Online Collaboration (SPOC) platform in the LDE minor African Dynamics; Madi and I jointly started an international virtual classroom on Global Wellbeing in the context of EUniWell; and the ASCL received a four-year subsidy to continue to host the secretariat of the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform, together with our consortium partners The Broker and AERC;

- ASCL researchers received fellowships: Jan-Bart Gewald spent six months at the Stellenbosch Institute for Advanced Study in South Africa, Lidewyde Berckmoes was awarded an Embassy Fellowship at the Netherlands Embassy in Jakarta, and Rahmane Idrissa received the Ali A. Mazrui Senior Fellowship in Global African Studies at The Africa Institute in Sharjah (United Arab Emirates);
- The ASCL Library was fully open again and welcomed students, staff, visiting scholars, and guests to enjoy the wealth of resources available;
- The ASCL received ambassadors from various diplomatic missions, including from Ghana, Nigeria, Tanzania, South Africa and the UNDP Africa office in New York;
- Various ASCL colleagues delivered tailor-made training to new staff at the Africa Department of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- The 2022 Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture 'Africa in the time of Coronavirus - Biology, history and politics' was delivered by Meghan Vaughan.

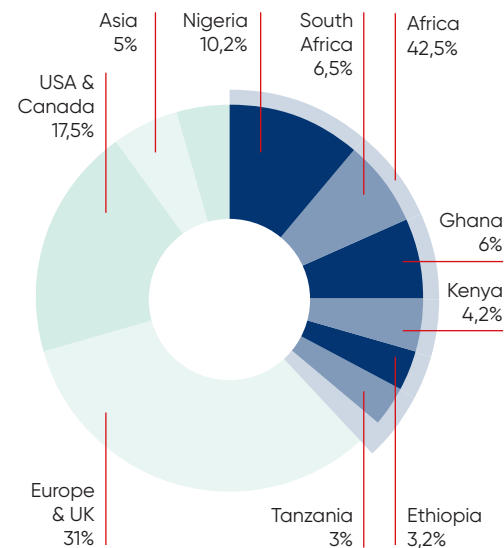
Enjoy reading and I wish you all good health!

Facts and Figures

In 2022, the ASCL had:



Among the best visited web pages were the web dossier on African leaders of independence, the web dossier on the Asante kingdom, and the web dossier on Islam in Nigeria.



Research

The African Studies Centre Leiden (ASCL) is an interfaculty institute of Leiden University, with a special focus on research, education, information, and documentation services about Africa. It is the sole multidisciplinary knowledge centre in the Netherlands that is expressly devoted to the study of African affairs. Under its key educational mandate, the ASCL chairs the following academic programmes: a one-year Master in African Studies; a two-year Research Master in African Studies; and two Leiden–Delft–Erasmus (LDE) minors in African Studies. The latter are the LDE Minor Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development and the LDE Minor African Dynamics (both are multidisciplinary courses for third-year bachelor students from the LDE universities). These programmes have built-in opportunities for students to gain field research and/or internship experience in Africa.

Furthermore, the ASCL plays a prominent role among European (and global) African Studies institutions (AEGIS), and it is a global hub of expertise and advice on matters relating to Africa for a variety of actors in governance, policymaking, diplomacy, art,

news media, business, and NGOs. The library and documentation centre of the ASCL has been central with its extensive collections, research-oriented services, and ever-expanding (digital) information services and web-based platforms.

'Strident Africa' is the overarching research programme of the African Studies Centre Leiden for the period 2019–2024. This is in recognition of the increasing centrality of the continent in world affairs. Though the sudden COVID-19 pandemic impacted ASCL research activities for about two years, the institution is emerging stronger, as field research projects have resumed to near pre-pandemic levels and remote working has mostly ended. Some restrictions are still being steadfastly observed as lessons learnt from the COVID-19 era, and the usage of secondary sources of research information remains.

Other measures that have been adapted include the continued use of online platforms for hosting seminars and conferences, which is encouraging worldwide participation by scholars.



Hybridity is facilitating education, conferencing, and valorisation not only for the ASCL mandate but also for [LeidenASA](#). LeidenASA (the Leiden African Studies Assembly) is the network of Leiden-based Africanists, which by its design serves as an institutional network for integrating African Studies and the study of Africa throughout Leiden University. The network has evolved into an effective exchange forum for Leiden University-based and visiting scholars of African Studies.

In addition, the Researchers' Assembly (RA) of the ASCL meets periodically to discuss ongoing individual and collaborative research work and gauge new directions in African Studies as well as studies of Africa. While COVID-19 may have receded, the significance of the pandemic politically, socially, economically, and in terms of public health on Africa remained an important theme of research and seminar focus in the ASCL. To wit, the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture of 2022 was entitled 'Africa in the time of Coronavirus – Biology, History and Politics'. How COVID-19 is engendering changes in the nature of research partnerships, ethics, and methodology of field research in/on Africa in post-pandemic times, and related questions, continues to be examined on an ongoing basis.

Research and publishing on Africa remained at the core of ASCL's mission, predominantly in the social sciences and the humanities. Four general domains of the ASCL's research programme 'Strident Africa' can be identified:

- Politics and Security
- Society and Culture
- Economy
- Historical Context.

In 2022, most ASCL research was conducted within the four above-mentioned domains in an interdisciplinary manner by individual researchers and in the seven Collaborative Research Groups (CRGs).

Six ASCL professorial Chairs (two of which are based in the Leiden University History Department) continued as focal points of the Centre's research activities. These six Chairs include: Politics and Governance in Africa; Citizenship and Identities in Africa; Inclusive Development in Africa; Religion in Contemporary Africa and its Diaspora; African History; and the Stephen Ellis Chair on the Governance of Finance and Integrity in Africa. Furthermore, the ASCL's strategic research and teaching linkages with TU Delft and Erasmus University remained anchored in co-management of the International Centre for Frugal Innovation (ICFI). Several new research applications were submitted by staff, and, in the midst of strong international competition, successes were achieved in



the following areas: Veni (Annachiara Raia), Aspasia (Lidewyde Berckmoes), RVO – Role of Youth in Entrepreneurship (Anika Altaf and Marleen Dekker), as well as the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform 2023–2026, to mention just a few. The Centre also contributed advisory research and related activities to the work of Dutch government ministries such as the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The strain of the COVID-19 pandemic on the physical conduct of field research projects significantly abated. As more places opened up, staff and students (PhD candidates and across all master's programmes) were no longer encumbered with governmental restrictions on travel, except for a very few locations. International partnerships received renewed attention such that guest lecturers and visiting fellows from different locations across Africa were able once again to be hosted by CRGs. Scientific exchanges were reinjected with new support mechanisms, and, compared to 2021, the number of visiting scholars doubled in 2022.

At the Researchers' Assembly (RA), Akinyinka Akinyoade succeeded Jan Abbink as the new chair of the RA in January 2022. The RA met quarterly to discuss new research ideas, the pace of ongoing research activities, and connections between research and teaching. Two other issues that received in-depth attention included: (a) adaptation of the Data Management Protocol of Leiden University and (b) development of the annual institutional calendar for the ASCL. Moreover, doctoral candidates utilised the Graduate Programme African Studies (GPAS) platform for reviewing the theoretical and methodological progress of their individual work. There were new intakes of external PhD researchers into the ASCL's GPAS.

In the reporting year, ASCL researchers published a variety of journal articles, book chapters, news articles, and blogs for public



consumption. Added to these collections are policy reports and briefing papers for various organisations and ministries (see the list of publications by ASCL staff towards the end of this annual report).

Highlights of the research conducted under the four general headings of the research programme are presented below and contextualised with reference to key developments on the continent. Each section also cites the main representative publications.

1. Politics and Security

In August, seven member states of the East African Community (EAC) agreed to deploy a joint regional force composed of regional troops to stem the violence in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). This came about within the backdrop of the April round of Kenyan-mediated talks with some Congolese armed group leaders that took place in Nairobi. The joint force was established with a six-month renewable mandate, which is subject

to a strategic review by the parties every two months. Troops from Burundi, Kenya, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda fight jointly with Congolese forces. The multilateral force structure – which includes the DRC itself – may help blunt perceptions among Congolese that outsiders are intervening in the country to secure particular foreign interests.

Despite this kickstarting of interventions for curtailing the conflicts that have ravaged the DRC and environs, some parts of West Africa were not calm. In Burkina Faso, the military government that came into power in January was overthrown in September in what was described as a ‘coup within a coup’. A military coup was thwarted in Mali and attempted coups were not successful in Guinea Bissau and The Gambia. However, the rebel group in Casamance reached a peace deal with the Senegalese government, a pathway for effectively ending one of Africa’s longest-running conflicts, with origins back in 1982. Furthermore, some of Chad’s numerous rebel groups held discussions facilitated by Doha (Qatar) after decades of unrest and wrangling for power. This resulted in a deal for the return of key rebel leaders who were in exile. While in the UN, in October, Russia’s influence in Africa also became more apparent as half of the 35 countries that abstained from voting for the United Nations’ condemnation of the country’s annexation of parts of Ukraine were African.

In terms of research, the focus of ASCL researchers and PhD candidates in 2022 revolved around examining the enduring challenges of instability as well as political changes in Africa and the economic repercussions of war in the Horn. The Sahelian conflicts, Russia’s presence in the Sahel, and a new view of the Sahara were additional points of attention.

Topical publications included Jan Abbink’s discourse on the Ethiopian war and the economic repercussions of the country’s removal from AGOA. For a wider audience, Mirjam de Bruijn’s collaborative piece (with Bruce Mutsvairo and Kristin Skare Orgeret), ‘**While the focus is on Ukraine, Russia’s presence in the Sahel is steadily growing**’ was published in *The Guardian*. In eastern sections of West Africa’s Sahel region, a Nigerian newspaper editorial referred to and lauded Klaas van Walraven’s *Le Désir de calme: L’histoire du mouvement Sawaba au Niger* as ‘a gold mine of information’ on the country’s first republic.

Key publications

Abbink, J. (2022). **Introduction: authoritarianism, innovative regimes, and forms of resistance**. In J.N. Bach, et al. (Eds.), *The Routledge Handbook of the Horn of Africa* (pp. 251-254). Routledge.

Klaas van Walraven (2022). ‘**Niger**’. In *Africa Yearbook: Politics, Economy and Society South of the Sahara in 2021* (140-148), 18.

Van Dijk, H., & De Bruijn, M. (2022) **Religious movements in the drylands, Ethnicity, jihadism, and violent extremism** (chapter 9, 19 pages). In A.K. Garcia, T. Haller, H. van Dijk, C. Samimi, & J. Warner, J. (Eds.), *Drylands Facing Change: Interventions, Investments and Identities* (1st ed.). Routledge.

2. Society and Culture

In the arts, the US, Germany, and the UK in 2022 began returning artefacts, looted by former colonial powers, to West African nations. For example, in Benin, artefacts returned by France in 2021 went on display for the first time, which marked the beginning of a positive arc for West African countries clamouring for the return of those cultural treasures (Adetayo, Ope (2022). **The good, bad, and the ugly: West Africa’s big issues in 2022**, Al-Jazeera).



At the ASCL, studies of societies were conducted on and in numerous African countries. The range of research in this area was broad and it included religious life, visual arts and media, literature, language, music, and some aspects of cultural representations of the African diasporas. In religion, Rijk van Dijk with other authors edited a book entitled 'Domestic Demons and the Intimate Uncanny' in the London/Routledge Studies in Religion series.

Migration received attention from ASCL researchers in various ways within the context of religion and human trafficking, in light of a sixty-year assessment of human trafficking in Nigeria. For the former, Noortje Luning in collaboration with Rijk van Dijk and Laurens ten Kate were invited to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs/DAF, The Hague, on 18 October 2022, for a panel discussion entitled 'Religion & Human Trafficking'. The background for their invitation was a joint CKM report entitled '[A Question of Faith: An Explorative Pilot Study on the Relationship between West African Religion, Migration, and Human Trafficking](#)', on the basis of which the Ministry sought their expertise. On the subject of Nigeria, Akinyoade, in partnership with Pauline Aweto and Francesco Carchedi, edited a volume that examined six decades of human trafficking in Nigeria. The publication is expected in the autumn of 2023.

On the occasion of the Ethiopian New Year on 9 September 2022, Azeb Amha gave a public lecture on 'Time-reckoning and Ethiopian Calendar' in the Amsterdam Public Library for a wide and varied audience of old and young Dutch people, Dutch of Ethiopian origin, and a number of participants with African heritage. Annachiara Raia made a research visit to the University of Bayreuth for the 18th-century Swahili Mss Poetry Workshop in May. In another series, Ton Dietz, David Ehrhardt, and Lidewyde Berckmoes co-authored Infosheets on '[Rwanda at 60](#)', '[Burundi at](#)

[60](#)', and '[Algeria at 60](#)'. Aspects of language use, literature, and linguistic variety were examined in the work of Annachiara Raia on Swahili literature and culture.

Key publications

- Ameka, F.K., & Amha, A. (2022). [Research on language and culture in Africa](#). In S. Völkel & N. Nassenstein (Eds.), *Approaches to Language and Culture (book series Anthropological Linguistics, volume 1)* (pp. 339–383). Walter de Gruyter GmbH.
- De Bruijn, M. (2022). [Slam Poetry in Chad: A Space of Belonging in an Environment of Violence and Repression, Conflict and Society](#). *Advances in Research*, 8(1), 242–257, doi: 10.3167/arcs.2022.080115.
- Dietz, T., Ehrhardt, D., Berckmoes, L. (2022). Infosheet 53: [Rwanda at 60](#). African Studies Centre Leiden.
- Kaag, M., (2022). [Faithful Journeys: Unpacking the Religious Luggage of Senegalese Murid Migrants in Europe](#). *Islamic Africa*.
- Kirsch, T.G., Mahlke, K., & Van Dijk, R.A. (Eds.) (2022). *Domestic demons and the intimate uncanny* (Routledge Studies in Religion). Routledge.
- Oudenhuijsen, L. (2022). [Desiring researchers: Reflecting on sexuality and fieldwork in Senegal](#). *LOVA Journal*, 42, 21–38.
- Van Beek, W.E.A., Ongoiba, O., & Saye, A. (2022). [Singing with the Dogon prophet](#). Lexington University Press.

3. Economy

The *Economic Development in Africa Report* of 2022 indicates that 'soaring food and energy prices are hitting African countries especially hard as they struggle with the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, climate change and the war in Ukraine. To cope with current crises and insulate itself against future shocks, Africa must diversify its economies' (UNCTAD, 2022). One of the areas where Africa has made impressive strides is in investment in the

Decoding Digital Media in African Regions of Conflict

The image on the right is not a typical cute-cat image. It is a meme that was circulating on Twitter in Mali in 2022. On the right-side there is a scared France and on the left the resilient Russian Wagner mercenaries, who are working with the Malian army. This visual object makes evident the increasingly hybrid quality of warfare in African regions of conflict, where memes have become an online alternative to newspaper satire. Memes mobilise, polarise, and show the everyday context. They help researchers make sense of war.



Luca Bruls

Late 2021, Bruce Mutsvauro, Mirjam de Bruijn, and Kristin Skare Orgeret received funding from the Norwegian Research Council for a research project entitled *Decoding Digital Media in African Regions of Conflict* (DDMAC). The project aims to unravel the role of media usage in the worsening as well as the reducing of conflict. The DDMAC team takes Mali and Ethiopia as examples in order to investigate the impact of disinformation in conflict-ridden Sub-Saharan Africa. As an interdisciplinary collective of scholars with expertise in anthropology, media studies, journalism studies, and computational sciences from universities in Norway, the Netherlands, Mali, and Ethiopia, we get to discuss what disinformation actually is and does by looking at content, platforms, and networks in the regional context. It turns out that real-or-fake dynamics raise discussions about conflict and online sociality in Mali and Ethiopia.

In February 2022, I joined DDMAC as a junior researcher. I found a home in the 'PhD cave', where I started surfing on Twitter in search of fact and fiction about the conflict in Mali. I familiarised myself with doing 'anthropology at a distance' during the pandemic



Popular Malian meme circulating on Twitter in 2022.

and was glad to pick up Twitter as a scholarly source of information. Social media platforms are central to DDMAC's analysis. Instead of thinking of platforms in terms of a pre-conceived idea of what people use it for, we try to make sense of platforms as places where people meet and converse. For example, Twitter is often assumed to be 'truly' a platform for politics, while TikTok is for entertainment. However, our findings on Twitter and TikTok are in sharp contrast with such generalisations. The conflict-related content, interactions, and users we follow and map on the platforms show that both are tensely political and unapologetically humorous at the same time.

In Mali, the sharing of memes exemplifies this double-edged dynamic. People mock certain actors involved in the conflict and thereby create social groups based on an ideology. The messages are tendentious and heroic, because they reflect support for the state run by Assimi Goïta, the army and their Wagner allies, and are lacking in facts about the conflict on the ground. Memes consequently make me and colleagues think beyond the information/disinformation dichotomy and question how such messages effectively connect people in a state of violence.

During a DDMAC visit to Ethiopia in May, respondents agreed that the word 'disinformation' was 'new'. They said many people simply classified what they read on social media as 'information'. Nor did they see the need to distinguish between misinformation and disinformation, suggesting only elites were trying to demarcate between the two. This has led DDMAC to critique common conceptions of this terminology and question how social mobility affects users' perceptions about online information.

African financial technology sector, which received USD 1.45 billion in funding for 2022, a 39.3% increase from the previous year (African Tech Startups Funding Report). Fintech (financial technology) in general attracted 43.4% of all startup investments on the continent, and Nigerian fintech startups made up almost 40% of startups and 46% of fintech funding. African unicorn Flutterwave led the pack by raising USD 250 million. Other sectors also received funding, with e-commerce and retail-tech pulling in over USD 556 million, and e-health startups raising over USD 189 million. Fintech is highly promising in Africa as it delivers better value than traditional financial services firms at lower costs. Blockchain and cryptocurrency technology, payments, and wallets are expected to be the fastest-growing segments of fintech in Africa, according to McKinsey. The recent growth of fintech firms in Africa is spurring more innovation and investment opportunities, and the sector has the potential to help African countries achieve financial and social inclusion. By 2025, African fintechs could earn revenue up to USD 30.3 billion. The most attractive fintech markets are Nigeria, Ghana, South Africa, and Egypt, owing to their relatively larger economies, better tech infrastructure, and concentration of talent. In March 2022, Togo became the first recipient of Google's under-water internet connectivity infrastructure to Europe. Expansion to other countries across Africa is in the works.

At the ASCL, the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform was awarded funding for the 2023–2026 period to continue its facilitation of several activities and projects focussed on economic development, (youth) employment, social protection and basic service delivery, entrepreneurship, and investment in Africa. In February 2022, Chibuike Uche participated in a roundtable discussion on the economic, trade, and development aspects of the future EU–Africa Partnership Agenda, organised by the standing committee

on Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation of the House of Representatives of the Netherlands.

André Leliveld, a senior researcher specialising in Development Economics expanded his work and teaching on frugal innovations and technologies in Africa. One of the Minor Programmes in African Studies was also successfully coordinated by André. In addition, key publications can be found in the works of ASCL research staff and associates including Marleen Dekker, Chibuike Uche, Akinyinka Akinyoade, Ton Dietz, Caspar Swinkels, and Agnieszka Kazimierczuk. In the Minor Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development 2021–2022 programme, a student's project succeeded in being exhibited at the prestigious Dutch Design Week in Eindhoven, November 2022.



Lost and Found: Africa in Indonesia

Starting in September 2022, I was invited for a three-month Embassy Science Fellowship at the Embassy of the Netherlands in Jakarta. Why invite an Africanist scholar to Indonesia, you may ask? Since its independence, Indonesia has had an ideology centred on South-South cooperation and solidarity. The 1955 Bandung Asia-Africa Conference is illustrative of this, as is the Non-Aligned Movement. Trilateral collaboration in a Netherlands-Indonesia-Africa triangle also aligns with Dutch policy to work more often in multi-lateral settings with Indonesia, potentially resulting in a win-win-win situation.



Lidewyde Berckmoes

As part of a new NWO programme funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, I was thus asked to contribute to structurally strengthening Indonesian knowledge of Africa and the country's relations with African countries. In my encounters in Indonesia, I was overwhelmed by the very enthusiastic reactions to this plan. At the same time, finding collaborators with expertise on Africa in Indonesia sometimes felt like detective work. The decades of preoccupation with nation building and national security during the 'New Order', and the restricted parameters of global funding for scientific research have resulted in many challenges to entering into structural relationships with African countries, scholars, and institutions. Moreover, the public image of Africa in Indonesia is largely marked by stereotypes or absences – and this feeds into diplomatic, academic, and business relationships too.

Yet we may be at a turning point. In Indonesia, economic ties with African countries are increasingly recognised and sought, and growing numbers of African students find their way to Indonesian higher education. The great interest I encountered for developing African Studies/Indian Ocean research institutes, as well as in

trilateral knowledge collaboration, may thus provide an opportunity for the Netherlands to act as a catalyst for inclusive, trilateral knowledge communities supportive of these new developments. The Netherlands can contribute with small initiatives – an approach I refer to as 'pelan-pelan' (to go slowly, in Bahasa Indonesia) – or through a more ambitious programme that seeks to lay a strong foundation – an approach I describe as 'a Plan'. Either way, the Asia-Africa Conference of 1955 is a reminder of the need for inclusive transcontinental collaboration, and this legacy has perhaps never been more important as economic, health, and climate challenges threaten our peace and interconnected lives. While my fellowship has come to an end, my interest continues in 'Africa in Indonesia'.

Read more about Berckmoes' reflections on the assignment and her experiences in Indonesia in the [ASCL Africanist Blog](#).



Flagpoles in front of the Asia-Africa Conference Museum in Bandung, Indonesia.

Key publications

Dekker, M., & Pouw, N. (2022). **Introduction to the special issue: policies for inclusive development in Africa.** *The European Journal of Development Research*, 34.

Ezeoha, A., Akinyoade, A., Amobi, I., Ekumankama, O., Kamau, P., Kazimierczuk, A., Mukoko, C., Okoye, I., Uche, C. (2022). **Multinationals, Capital Export, and the Inclusive Development Debate in Developing Countries: The Nigerian Insight.** *The European Journal of Development Research*, 34, 2224–2250.

Shehu-Usman, O.A., Olatunji, O.S., Oladipo, O.S., Adeyemi, U.T., & Akinyoade, A. (2022). **Vulnerability of Rice Farmers to Climate Change in Kwara State, Nigeria.** *Turkish Journal of Agriculture (Food Science and Technology)* 10(2), 374–380. DOI: 10.24925/turjaf.v10i2.374–380.4648

Swinkels, C.E., Miroro, O.O., & Dekker, M. (2022). **(In)decent work for youth in agro-industrial value chains in Uganda.** In P. Goulart, R. Ramos, & G. Ferritu (Eds.), *Global Labour in Distress (Volume II: Earnings, (in)decent work and institutions)* (pp. 317–322). Palgrave Readers in Economics.

Research on Multinational Corporations: the nationalisation of foreign businesses in post-colonial Uganda

Since I joined the ASCL in 2014, I have consistently argued that businesses are at the centre of the relationship between Africa and the rest of the world. This means that the utility value of African Studies is limited when foreign businesses and their practices are not part of the menu.

This explains why multinational business practices in Africa, and the relationship between such businesses and their home and host governments, have remained one of the major strands of my research. My most recent research project in the above arena was my paper (with Abel Ezeoha), entitled: *We will pay compensation from future profits: the nationalisation of foreign businesses in post-colonial Uganda*. This paper, which was accepted for publication in *Business History* in 2022, was conceptualised in 2018 when I was invited to present my preliminary ideas on the subject matter at the African Economic History Seminar Series at Cambridge University. This paper advanced on our earlier work in the general arena of the relationship between home and host nation states, and multinational cooperation in Africa.

Some of the landmark studies that we recently published in this area include: *The nationalisation of foreign banks in postcolonial Tanzania* (with Dr Emmanuel Onah and Dr Chinwe Okoyeuzu, *Business History*, 2022) and *Multinationals, Capital Export, and the Inclusive Development Debate: The Nigerian Insight*, which we published in the *European Journal of Development Research* (2022). The later paper essentially summarised some of the main findings of our NWO-WOTRO research project on multinational business practices in Africa (2014–2018), which I led and which was generously



Chibuike Uche



Barclay's branch in Uganda.

funded by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. This publication, which I co-authored with our entire research team (Akinyinka Akinyoade, Ifediora Amobi, Ogbuagu Ekumankama, Abel Ezeoha, Paul Kamau, Agnieszka Kazimierzczuk, Catherine Mukoko, and Ifeanyi Okoye), was a grand and glorious way of ending our research collaboration on this important subject matter.

Our present paper on the nationalisation of foreign businesses in Uganda expands our interest in and knowledge of the subject matter both geographically and theoretically. Using the Obsolescing Bargaining Model, and the Political Bargaining Model, along with materials from four archives – that of the World Bank Washington DC, the National Archives Kew, the London Metropolitan Archives, and the Barclays Bank Archives Manchester – we explored the dynamics that impacted the outcome of the nationalisation of foreign businesses in post-independence Uganda. Although the nationalisation of foreign businesses was not new at the time, the Ugandan case was the first time that a country would announce that the foreign owners of the nationalised businesses would be compensated from the future profits earned by such nationalised businesses.

At the very least, this research paper provides lessons and insights for the diverse stakeholders (multinational corporations, and their home and host countries) that are entwined in the contestations, negotiations, and operationalisation of the nationalisation of foreign businesses.

4. Historical Context

Google digitised an estimated 40,000 of the Timbuktu manuscripts. These documents had been at risk of being looted or destroyed as a result of unrest and political instability in Mali starting in 2013. They contained stories of the pre-eminent past of pre-colonial empires, including early contributions to scholarship in mathematics, medicine, astronomy, etc.

At the ASCL, researchers with special interests in history paid in-depth thematic attention (with country foci) to the historical contexts of African society, politics, and economic life. Research spotlighted Southern Africa, Western Africa, and the Sahel, resulting in requests for consultation by some departments in the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Abdurahmane Idrissa was engaged in discussions with the Agence Française de Développement, and he was an active member of Nigerien former President M. Issoufou's high-level panel on peace and security in the Sahel. Some of the output of these researchers is provided below.

Key Publications

Idrissa Abdoulaye, Abdurahmane. (2022). *History of Niger*. In *Oxford Research Encyclopedias*.

Wels, H., & Kamsteeg, F. *Wild pedagogies for doing multispecies organizational ethnography: Using the tracking craft of the southern African San*. In L. Tallberg & L. Hamilton (Eds.), *The Oxford Handbook of Animal Organization Studies* (pp. 159–178). Oxford University Press.

Van der Hoog, T. (2022). *A New Chapter in Namibian History: Reflections on Archival Research*. *History in Africa*. Cambridge University Press, 1–26.

The Paradox of (Un)punishment in Congo Free State

For my **research project** on colonial concessionary companies in Africa, founded by the Ford Foundation, I made a trip to the Belgian National Archives, during which I was confronted with one of the paradoxes that are part and parcel of the discipline of history. The Congo Free State is rightly known for the wave of terror it unleashed on the Congolese in pursuit of what Edmund Morel would famously call 'red rubber'. As King Leopold II sought to make his new colony profitable – he wanted to finance both his luxurious lifestyle and have a proper colony like the other European monarchs – he and his cronies created a new state from the ground up. For the most part, this state was intended to support and cover up the violence related to the collection of blood rubber. However, it also included a public prosecutor's office. While the office was usually understaffed and subject to political pressure, it did include some magistrates and investigators who actually did their jobs. Notified by rumours, local Congolese, or businessmen, they would set out for the scene of an alleged massacre or crime, and interview witnesses in order to find out what had taken place.

In May 1904, a company agent at the Yemaka-Lombo trading post, Odon-Joseph Mahieu, set out for two villages which had not been collecting any rubber in order 'to make them work'. He had taken several African soldiers with him who remembered that when they arrived, 'The white man ordered us to kill all the natives of the village (...) said not to take any prisoners. I saw with my eyes six people killed. Maybe more were killed in the forest. We took 15 prisoners, including two women and a child.' These prisoners were then marched back to the trading post where they would be kept as hostages until their villages brought the rubber that Mahieu demanded. But on the long walk back to the post, one of the prisoners could go no further and told the agent they could not carry on walking. Mahieu retorted that, 'if you do not want to walk, you will die. I don't care.' He preceded to tie



John Kegel.



John Kegel did archival research at the Belgian National Archives, Brussels.

the prisoner to a tree and shot him in the chest with a Mauser rifle. All this came out during the subsequent investigation, and Mahieu was sentenced to 15 years in prison – one of the only Europeans who was held to account to some degree for his actions in the Congo Free State.

However, we should bear in mind that this was the exception. On 1 January 1909, an anonymous whistle-blower wrote a letter to the prosecutor's office. 'My conscience dictates that I report to you the following misdeed which has gone unpunished.' The letter continues to explain that Misters Walravens, Massart, and Dewalque, who were all agents of the *Compagnie du Lomami*, would regularly whip Africans to death in order to 'encourage' others to collect rubber. Just like many whistle-blowers today, he was not believed. The prosecutor-general insisted that, 'as a matter of principle, I believe I should pay no attention to documents of this kind, always emanating from people who are as unworthy as they are courageous.' Indeed, no further steps were undertaken.

The documents, which describe these events, have been waiting to be found for over one hundred years. For my research, which focusses on the history of concessionary companies in Africa, archives are indispensable. By listening to the stories hidden away in their dusty boxes, we can inform and contextualise the now prominent debates about slavery and the colonial past.



'Opper-Ethiopiën of 't Ryk der Abyssinen' by Jeronimo Lobo and Manuel de Almeida, 1707. Source: Wikimedia Commons.

Collaborative Research Groups

Seven collaborative research groups were active under the aegis of the ASCL research programme in 2022. Information specialists of the ASCL Library and associate members from other institutions in the Netherlands and abroad also collaborate with the academic researchers of the ASCL in the CRGs. Activities and the output of the active CRGs are:

Africa in the World: Rethinking Africa's Global Connections

(Convenor: Mayke Kaag)

The theme of this group centres on the rapidly changing context of Africa and its connections in a multipolar world. Thus, the group continues to investigate the contemporary dynamics of intensified global engagement in a sociological and historical context, as well as the underlying African perspectives and agency in the

ensuing processes. In this light, work has begun on an edited volume in the AEGIS Brill Series on the theme 'Trust and Trust Making in Africa's Global Connections'. The aim is to delve into this theme through a series of case studies that analyse processes of trust, mistrust, and trust making in diverse instances of global encounters involving Africans and other actors. Simultaneously, attention is being paid to more conceptual issues such as system trust versus interpersonal trust; agency and trust making; and practices and processes of trust, distrust, and trust making in doing research on Africa's global connections. Publication is expected in 2023.

Collaboration and Contestation in Words: Dialogues and Disputes in African Social Realities

(Convenor: Rijk van Dijk)

This CRG is unified around the themes of discursive competition, polemics, and exchanges that are prominent in African media and political contexts. In 2022, the CRG organised a series of masterclasses on 'Sexual Polemics in Africa' (21 April, 18 May, and 30 June). The themes of the masterclasses were, respectively, public polemics around abortion in Africa, the politics of (anti-) queer activism, and public contestations around comprehensive sexuality education. The three masterclasses provided an advanced platform for understanding and engaging with the topic in order to lift the debate to a higher level. Meetings were also held by members in order to select visiting fellows who had expressed an interest to be linked to the CRG.

Governance, Entrepreneurship, and Inclusive Development (GEID)

(Convenor: André Leliveld)

The GEID group communally explores the interrelationship between governance, entrepreneurship, and inclusive development, and members make a deliberate attempt to showcase the group's

inter-disciplinarity via research projects and publications. In 2022, a plethora of individual and joint-authorship publications and activities emerged from CRG members. The CRG held a hybrid seminar on the coffee and cacao cooperatives in Côte d'Ivoire, which was kickstarted by Frans Gosses on 16 August. The CRG expects to host a visiting fellow in 2023, who will be using evidence from cement production in Nigeria to assess 'Multinational Companies and the Rhetoric of Climate Change and Sustainable Development' (a research collaboration with Akinyinka Akinyoade and Chibuike Uche).

Pioneering Futures of Health and Well-Being: Actors, Technologies, and Social Engineering

(Convenor: Akinyinka Akinyoade)

This CRG was established to pioneer research on topics like m-health, health insurance, and other emerging fields that combine new technologies and actors in the domain of healthcare and well-being in and concerning Africa. In 2022, an authors' workshop of the CRG was held at Legon, Ghana from 14-19 December. The theme of the proposed publication is: Technologies of Information and the Improvement of Public Health in Africa. This book aims to present the results of research done in and for the CRG, such as an explorative study on the meaning and the possibilities of m-health solutions in Chad, Ghana, Mali, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, and the EU health-technology provider context. Some experts were invited to add their contributions to this study of the ideas behind the technology itself, and its success and challenges. This became necessary in order to situate this technology in the field of African health projects. The following questions were included: What were the approaches so far? Why are some of the technical approaches not working? Does it change the health-seeking behaviour of people? In what ways

are systems of health governance improvised at various levels in the wake of newly introduced health technologies? How is the governance of health technologies influencing trust and distrust in African health systems? The book is expected to be finalised for publication in the African Dynamics series of Brill Academic Publishers. It will be the final activity of this CRG.

Rethinking African History

(Convenor: Klaas van Walraven)

The CRG 'African History' is the only ASCL CRG that is organised around one disciplinary interest, that is, questions concerning the history of Africa, and historicising perspectives on African cultures and societies. As such, it assembles historians and all other social scientists working on Africa who are interested in the continent's historical dynamics. In 2022, members of the CRG contributed to the organisation of the fifth Biennial Conference on African History (held under AEGIS auspices), in Leiden, held from 16-17 June. This conference was partly financed by AEGIS and the ASCL CRG 'Rethinking African History' budgets, and it successfully attracted over 30 historians who contributed to five roundtables where historical themes were discussed over the course of the event. Plans are underway for the sixth conference, which is slated for Basel.

Trans-species Perspectives on African Studies

(Convenor: Harry Wels)

The research focus of this CRG is on relations between humans-animals and other species in Africa, both as conceptualised in local African societies and cultures, and in academic research and policy. This CRG's research aims at a paradigm shift in the study of humans and other species in African society and history, moving away from a 'humans only' approach. In 2022, the CRG hosted Vanessa Wijngaarden as a visiting fellow at the ASCL, and

it partnered with the CRG 'Patterns of Living in Southern Africa' to conduct a workshop entitled 'Gaping Holes'.

Patterns of Living in Southern Africa, 1780s to the Present

(Convenor: Jan-Bart Gewald)

This CRG is engaged in the study and debate on the social history of Southern Africa, with a primary focus on the broad overlapping historical themes of urbanisation, industrialisation, and consumption. The group's members aim to promote consciousness and the utilisation of archival and other research collections in the Netherlands, while simultaneously strengthening relations with scholars from Southern Africa and encouraging collaborative work between researchers at Dutch and African universities. In June 2022, the CRG, in partnership with the CRG 'Trans-species Perspectives on African Studies' conducted a workshop entitled '*Gaping Holes: Towards multi-species histories and ethnographies of mining in southern Africa*'. Papers presented by speakers at the authors' workshop currently make up the manuscript that is being prepared as a book volume under the African Dynamics series.

New CRGs

Two new CRGs were given the green light to begin research engagements in 2023. These are 'Conflict Continuities' (Lidewyde Berckmoes as convenor) and 'African Languages Archives – unpacking local epistemologies' (Annachiara Raia and Azeb Amha as co-convenors).

Cooperation ASCL and Edinburgh's CAS

The academic collaboration of the ASCL with the Centre for African Studies at The University of Edinburgh, which began in 2018, remained on course. Two of the four PhD candidates based in the ASCL in this joint programme continued to make substantial progress in their research work. Furthermore, the ASCL and CAS began deliberations on the expansion of institutional collaboration to Africa-based institutions. One of these partners is the Institute of African Studies at Legon (Ghana), for which further talks will be held on the nature and structure of a tripartite relationship in 2023.

The ASCL and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

ASCL researchers are committed to dissemination and how their research results contribute to evidence-informed policy discussions. In line with this direction is a sustained interest in the seventeen SDGs declared in 2015 by the UN. In 2022, the ASCL continued to serve as a knowledge hub for Dutch contributions to the realisation of several of the SDGs with respect to Africa. On the centre's website, a trove of research activities, information sheets, publications, and much more, which involve the SDGs, can be accessed. Below, we provide a list of ASCL contributions in 2022 to the debate on the thematics and underlying assumptions of the SDGs, with examples of some published and ongoing work.

1. No Poverty

The **INCLUDE Knowledge Platform** retained its status as a hub of research, dissemination, and dialogue efforts regarding the dimensions of poverty in Africa. On the website of the knowledge platform, contributions of ASCL staff, ASCL-associated PhD candidates, and other research affiliates are presented in policy briefs, articles, blogs, webinar discussions, and conferences (adjusted to the hybrid participation requirements in the wake of COVID-19 restrictions and the increased lifting of restrictions). Publications under the auspices of INCLUDE in this SDG category are Caspar Swinkels' policy brief entitled '**On Target? The human side of targeting in development programmes and policies**'. It was shown that many interventions target people living in poverty, and income, assets, or other characteristics are used to zero in on beneficiaries. It therefore becomes important to think about what it means to be 'targeted' or, perhaps even worse, to be left out.



2. Zero Hunger

Self-sufficiency in food production has been the subject of research attention. An examination of the nexus between 'Land, sugar and pastoralism in Ethiopia' was conducted by Jan Abbink. Here, he assessed 'the impact of the Omo-Kuraz sugar projects on local livelihoods and food (in) security in the lower Omo Valley'. Details of this study can be found in the journal *Pastoralism: Research, Policy and Practice*. Other research presentations were made by Akinyinka Akinyoade concerning food innovation for Africa's urban areas.



3. Good Health and Well-being

'Good Health and Well-being' topics (physically and mentally) were treated in the research activities of the CRG 'Pioneering Futures of Health and Well-Being', which published work and ongoing research by Mirjam de Bruijn, Akinyinka Akinyoade, and André Leliveld. Researchers in this CRG deepened its field evaluations of m-health systems and its association with eradication efforts targeted at forgotten diseases in Sahelian parts of Africa. The COVID-19 pandemic also continued to yield novel research ideas, draft papers, and blogs, aimed at developing major research endeavours in the coming years. Its interdisciplinary connection with migration studies could be found in the example of Akinyinka Akinyoade's collaborative publication on the conditions of female returnees from Lebanon to Nigeria in the unfolding COVID-19 crisis.



4. Quality Education

The Centre maintained its important involvement in the two-year Research Master's Programme in African Studies and one-year

MA African Studies. Staff supervised many MA students, producing high-quality, field-research-based theses. The ASCL partnership with the Centre of African Studies (Edinburgh) also gained momentum in terms of the research work of the jointly supervised PhD candidates in tandem with research and presentations being done by ASCL staff on education in Africa. In addition, the ASCL continued to co-organise two Leiden-Delft-Erasmus (LDE) minors: the minor African Dynamics and the minor Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development. Building on Agenda 2063 and the SDGs the African Dynamics minor fosters a deeper understanding of integrated and sustainable development approaches in Africa. It also offers a Small Private Online Course (SPOC), presented as a global classroom, in which the students join forces with students from various African universities to explore different approaches to address the SDGs. The latter minor explores how and under which conditions frugal innovation can contribute to the realisation of the Sustainable Development Goals.



5. Gender Equality

Research at the ASCL on gender relations was highlighted in the work of one of our PhD candidates (Nako Mamadjibeye), whose thesis focusses on 'Women in Boko Haram', a hitherto neglected theme. PhD candidate Loes Oud-enhuijsen researches gender norms in Senegal, through a focus on the positioning of sexually dissident women in society. Furthermore, Abigail Barr, Marleen Dekker and Linda Tia Zuze worked on social norms and the financial inclusion of women. Attention to gender issues remained embedded in many research projects at the ASCL.



7. Affordable and Clean Energy

The International Centre for Frugal Innovation of the Leiden-Delft-Erasmus university 'consortium' played a prominent role in addressing this theme, especially in terms of various projects and in the teaching curricula of the minors 'Frugal Innovation in Africa' and 'African Dynamics'.



8. Decent Work and Economic Growth

The themes of employment creation, labour markets and labour unions, and inclusive economic growth were frequently discussed in work by Chibuike Uche, Duncan Money, Ton Dietz, Mayke Kaag, Marleen Dekker, and under the aegis of the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform. Productive employment, and particularly youth employment, featured extensively in the research focus of the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform and the International Centre for Frugal Innovation (co-directed by André Leliveld).



9. Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure

The International Centre for Frugal Innovation remained an efficient hub for teaching and research on these issues. Minor programmes on 'Frugal Innovation in Africa' and 'African Dynamics' once again attracted many student participants. Chibuike Uche and other colleagues co-authored a journal article entitled '[The nationalisation of British banks in post-colonial Tanzania: Did the banks' net capital export position and home government support influence compensation negotiation outcomes?](#)'. This article can be found in the prestigious journal *Business History*.



10. Reduced Inequalities

Issues of inequality in accessing new innovations and entrepreneurial activities remained key discussion points in the CRG 'Governance, Entrepreneurship, and Inclusive Development', as well as in the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform.



11. Sustainable Cities and Communities

Africa's urban context continued to be a setting of major research interest concerning the themes of sexuality and social change for some ASCL researchers. See Loes Oudenhuijsen's article '[Desiring researchers: Reflecting on sexuality and fieldwork in Senegal](#)'. In the two MA programmes, urbanisation features prominently in teaching programmes, while the PhD projects of the four Leiden-Edinburgh PhDs have an exclusive focus on urbanity and urbanisation.



12. Responsible Consumption and Production

ASCL researchers contributed to the global discussion on 'responsible consumption and production', using several thematic entry points. These came to the fore both in the work of the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform in the areas of youth employment, entrepreneurship, and productive employment, and in individual research interests.



13. Climate action

Climate change and environmental challenges featured in the research work of staff members such as Jan Abbink, Akinyinka Akinyoade, Ton Dietz, and Mirjam de Bruijn. Take for example



the research collaboration of Akinyinka Akinyoade with Nigeria-based colleagues on the 'vulnerability of rice farmers to climate change in Kwara State (Nigeria)'. Issues of climate change and adaptation were also discussed in the activities of the International Centre for Frugal Innovation and in the teaching modules of some courses in the MA programmes.

14. Life Below Water

While all ASCL research in 2022 took place above water, there have been extensive discussions about extractive industries in Africa where crude oil, as a submarine resource in West African territorial waters, has been the subject of increased attention. Added to this is the dynamics of the offshore fishery industry and the development of water transportation in dense coastal urban agglomerations, including in West Africa. The expectation is to have a complete research proposal, in concert with colleagues at Cultural Anthropology and Development Sociology of Leiden University, by mid-2023.



15. Life on Land

Research in this sector received near-universal attention by ASCL researchers and associates, as well as in several disciplinary and practitioner dimensions in 2022. This ranged from the 'Gaping Holes' collaborative project of the 'Trans-Species' and 'Patterns of living in South Africa' CRGs to the extensive systematic coverage of the situation in Ethiopia by Jan Abbink. Moreover, what was found stored in the archives for art, language, business, and diplomatic relations underwent scrutiny by Annachiara Raia, Azeb Amha, and Chibuike Uche. The Sahel, especially Mali and Chad, remained a focus of Mirjam de Bruijn and Rahmane Idrissa.



16. Peace and Justice, Strong Institutions

Political change, governance, and, more recently, fintech featured in the research work of Klaas van Walraven, Duncan Money, and Jan Abbink, as well as in that of a good number of PhD candidates such as Victoria Many and others (co)supervised at the ASCL and/or by ASCL staff. Some members of the CRG 'Rethinking Contemporary African History and Historiography' are active researchers and observers of governance processes in Africa. Lidewyde Berckmoes employs life-course and intergenerational perspectives to increase understanding of cyclical dynamics of conflict and peace in the Great Lakes Region, particularly Burundi and Rwanda.



17. Partnerships for the Goals

The ASCL maintained its network hub function via existing research projects and has actively continued its connection to the Netherlands and Africa, and to the knowledge sector, in terms of diplomacy/policy, business, and civil society in countries in the Global North and South. The **ASCL Community** is also a valuable repository of contacts and resource persons working in/on Africa. The ASCL continues its linkage with ECDPM (Maastricht), SAIL, and EADI, and is a partner and a prominent (and founding) member of the European **AEGIS** network.



In Leiden, the ASCL partners with LeidenGlobal. Likewise in various externally funded research projects, ASCL staff continued their collaboration with local counterparts in Africa, both in academia and the policy world. New and diverse research endeavours are being conducted with externally acquired funding, and, with the lifting of travel restrictions, ASCL researchers and PhD candidates have resumed research trips to Africa, the Middle East, and South-east Asia in further fulfilment of the 2019-2024 'Strident Africa' research programme.

PhD Research

Graduate Programme African Studies

In 2022, the Graduate Programme African Studies (GPAS) saw a few changes. One of them is the introduction of a masterclass for PhD candidates by the invited, esteemed ASCL Seminar Series speakers, prior to their public talk. PhD candidates benefit from the expertise of these established scholars and have the opportunity to discuss their own challenges with them. Another initiative, starting in 2023, is the setup of thematic seminars in which supervisors and selected PhD candidates discuss relevant topics. In addition, GPAS encourages PhD candidates to take part in courses, e.g. the combined Research Master-PhD course on the 'Theoretical Foundations of Africanist Research'.

PhD Theses Defended in 2021

ASCL staff (co-) supervised about 60 PhD candidates based at Leiden University or at other universities in the Netherlands. The following PhD candidates defended their thesis in 2022 (only ASCL promotor are mentioned):

Evelyne Tegomoh

The story of houses in the grassfields: mobility, belonging and hierarchies in urbanizing North-West Cameroon

11 May 2022 at Leiden University

Promotor: Mirjam de Bruijn

Annelien Bouland

Please give me my divorce: an ethnography of Muslim women and the law in Senegal

22 May 2022 at Leiden University

Promotor: Mayke Kaag

Adane Kebede Gebeyehu

Vulnerability and Insecurity in the Lower Omo Valley, Ethiopia: Nyangatom adaptive responses to climate change and external development changes

8 September 2022 at VU University Amsterdam

Promotor: Jan Abbink

Kassim Assouma

Increasing Political Leverage of Informal and Formal Workers' Organisations for Inclusive Development: The case of Benin

13 September 2022 at Leiden University

Promotors: Ton Dietz, Mayke Kaag

Meet the PhD Candidate - Victoria Manyá

'The African Startup Ecosystem: Funding, Informality, and Maturity Trajectories' is the working title of my PhD research project. I'm researching tech-enabled entrepreneurial ecosystems in Lagos, Nigeria, and Accra, Ghana, using quantitative and qualitative data to understand better the interactions that enable or hinder startups. Using the imagery of the rhizome, I first investigate startup experiences, the nature of their resilience, and their contributions to the maturity of ecosystems to which they belong (Deleuze & Guattari, 1987). Next, the Deleuzian Imaginary for fluidity, complexity, interconnectedness, and non-linear manifestations of a phenomenon will aid in my understanding of the startup ecosystem's evolutionary posture, in which informal practices pervade entrepreneurial actions.

Fundamentally, the study hypothesises that, like Deleuzian rhizomes, African ecosystem maturity is neither predictable nor linear and does not grow like arboreal ecosystems in developed economies (within more formal and institutionally substantial settings). Instead, their startups employ resilience strategies, which are important determinants of the maturity of Nigerian and Ghanaian startup ecosystems.

After conducting exploratory fieldwork for preliminary data collection, I discovered that, while African ecosystems have functional similarities to theoretically prescribed ecosystems, the form of these ecosystems differs due to the unique composition of supporting elements.

I considered the ecosystems of Nigeria and Ghana, such as ginger. Despite sharing identical geographies, I believe African ecosystems have distinct contexts, indicating a range of rhizome sizes.'



Victoria Manyá

PhD Defence - Kassim Assouma

'I joined the ASCL as a Junior Researcher in the NWO-funded project 'Increasing Political Leverage of Informal and Formal Workers' Organisations for Inclusive Development: The cases of Ghana and Benin', in 2014. I then subsequently entered into a PhD trajectory at Leiden University.

My dissertation is entitled '**Les acteurs de l'économie informelle dans l'arène politique: l'utilisation stratégique de l'espace politique par les taxis-motos au Bénin**'. The starting point was that research on the informal economy has paid relatively little attention to the political engagements of its actors. I therefore provided an empirical contribution to the study of the implications of political-arena attendance for the social and political lives of informal workers in the Global South by exploring the world of the taxi-moto drivers (*zemiɗjan*) in Benin.

The anthropological perspective of my research involved extensive fieldwork in Benin, alternating with documentation and writing stays in Leiden. I will be forever marked by the support and professionalism of the ASCL staff who facilitated this. Ton Dietz, former Director and my promoter, created the favourable conditions to allow the thesis to be carried out beyond the 2.5 years of the programme. Mayke Kaag, as a mentor and co-promoter, provided me with scientific insight and ongoing support to bring my project to fruition. She also ensured the connection with the others promoters including Nassirou Bako Arifari, based in Benin. Their support also helped with the language challenges and those related to the COVID-19 crisis, which slowed down my process towards the end. I was eventually awarded the PhD degree on 13 September 2022.'



Kassim Assouma successfully defended his PhD dissertation on 13 September 2022.

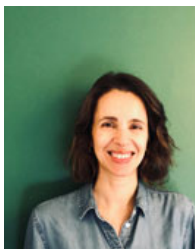


Guests at the ASCL

Yacouba Cissao is a socio-anthropologist and researcher at the Institute of Social Sciences of the National Centre for Scientific and Technological Research in Burkina Faso. His research interests are migration, mobility, security, and border issues in Burkina Faso. During his fellowship at the African Studies Centre Leiden, he focused on informality and people's livelihood strategies in border spaces in the African context.



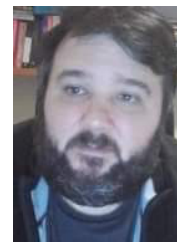
Bárbara Direito was at the ASCL as a self-financed visiting fellow. She is a research fellow at the Centro Interuniversitário de História das Ciências e da Tecnologia at NOVA University (Lisbon, Portugal). Over the past few years, her work has focused on the history of colonial Mozambique and specifically on the land question. More recently she has been focussing on the history of livestock in Southern Mozambique, combining insights from agrarian history, the history of veterinary medicine, and environmental history.



Sultan Khan was at the ASCL as a self-financed visiting fellow. He is a Professor of Sociology at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa. His research interest is in the field of social change, social issues, urban sociology, social policy, development, and social dynamics. At the ASCL, his project was to conceptualise aspects of indigenous knowledge systems and traditional leadership in the African context.



Paulo Müller graduated in social sciences with a doctorate in Social Anthropology (Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil). His research focus was on cross-border migration and the politics of tradition in Northern Angola. He is currently a joint professor at the Federal University of Fronteira Sul. His fellowship focussed on the dynamics of autonomist and independentist digital activism in Cabinda (Angola's northernmost province).



Onyekachi E. Nnabuihe is a senior lecturer in the Department of Criminology, Security, Peace and Conflict Studies, Caleb University, Lagos, Nigeria. His research interest is in peace, conflict, governance, institutions, security and development studies, resource and identity conflicts. His fellowship project focused on the interaction between rituals, festivals, politics, and conflicts. It reconstructs the growing narrative of violence as a way of asserting ethno-religious group ownership of African cities.



Juliette Ruaud is a political scientist who works primarily on the social history of voting and politics, and on colonial history. Her fellowship focussed on the uses of biography and micro-history in African historical studies.



Vanessa Wijngaarden is a senior research associate at the University of Johannesburg, with a background in social anthropology and political science. Some of her interests are 'othering' and stereotyping, multivocality in academia, and human-animal relationships. During her time at the ASCL, she focussed on the multispecies turn in African Studies, where interspecies approaches have lagged behind even though the field has much to offer.



Teaching at the ASCL



A total of 16 new students started the (Research) Master African Studies in 2022.

(Research) Master in African Studies 2021-2022

As an interfaculty institute within Leiden University, the ASCL is actively involved in teaching at the undergraduate, graduate, and post-graduate levels. The ASCL chairs the Research Master's programme and the Master's programme in African Studies, and further contributes to the newly designed Bachelor's programme in African Studies..

The Master and Research Master in African Studies are a respective one- and two-year MA programme. In November 2022, a total of 20 students received their diploma. Roos de Raadt, Robin van Anel, Mathijs Cazemier, Xu Yangzhi, Daantje van de Linde, Sara Ganesello, Ryohei Shiozaki, Hodo Hassan, and Fransje Bolwijn deserve a special mention as they obtained their degree with distinction.

(Research) Master's theses completed in 2022

Robin van Andel (MA)

Children as Business: Karamojong Child Beggars in Kampala and the KCCA Child Protection Ordinance 2019

Júlia Arenós Karsten (MA)

Stories of Strength: Exploring education for African refugee girls in Cairo

Fransje Bolwijn (ResMA)

Afro-Dance in Paris: Constructing identity through dance practices

Pleun van der Brug (MA)

To be or not to be engaged? That's the question

Mathijs Cazemier (MA)

New Needs, New Methods: A review of sustainable transport and mobility planning in Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

Layla Farah (MA)

"I Am a Kenyan Citizen, but my Identity is also Somali": The Kenyan-Somali feelings of citizenship and belonging in Nairobi

Sara Giancesello (MA)

Political Islam, Inclusive Governance and Fragile Settings: A case study of Burkina Faso

Marieke van der Heijden (MA)

"Money is Everything": How the Western aid-industry governs a small Tanzanian NGO

Oussama El Khairi (MA)

Diaspora of No Nation

Daantje van de Linde (MA)

Coming to terms with a colonial past: Repatriating Namibian heritage from German museums

Sheki Lumumba (MA)

The coping strategies of internally displaced women in Yaoundé

Maartje Markus (MA)

On n'a pas la même réalité: Practices of homemaking by Senegalese students in France

Kuki Noordam (MA)

Exploring the Implementation of eHealth Innovations in Africa: Through the lens of anchoring and the digital divide

Roos de Raadt (MA)

Researching Single-Use Plastics in Ghana: A study of the knowledge, attitudes and practice of consumers of single-use plastics in Ghana

Gilda Rodrigues (MA)

What does the West African Student want for West African Education? ECOWAS' desire to harmonise as the path to a decolonised primary education

Ryohei Shiozaki (ResMA)

"A Vida dos Moçambicanos é a Vida de Convivência" ["The Life of Mozambicans is Life of Conviviality"]: Exploring conviviality of Afro-Mozambicans in Lisbon, Portugal



Hodo Hassan, graduate of 2020-2021, giving a speech at the Research Master graduation ceremony on 2 November 2022.

Robin van Seumeren (MA)

M-Agri Services amongst Dairy Farmers in West Nigeria: Is the time ripe?

Ine van de Voorde (MA)

The Politics of the Uganda-DR Congo Road Project

Bouwe Werker (MA)

A Friendship Higher than Mountains: An analysis of China-Rwanda relations

Ria Winters (MA)

Karel Schoeman: an Afrikaans voice in Africa: A historical, sociological and linguistic approach into the life and work of South African writer Karel Schoeman (1939-2017)

Xu Yangzhi (MA)

"When the bill came we realized the need for nKabomu": Constructing a digital safe space for queer Ghanaians

Alumna MA – Júlia Arénos Karsten

'My name is Júlia and I am from Barcelona, Spain. After completing my BA in Global Studies, I felt the need to learn more about the African continent, as well as to break down my prejudices and discover new perspectives. That's when I found the MA in African Studies which included three months abroad, and I knew immediately that it was the perfect Master's for me.

This programme allowed me to be creative, explore my interests, and discover my passions. From the very beginning, the teachers created a safe space for all students to contribute and learn from one another. As a result, I became not only an Africanist but also a researcher.

One of the most unforgettable experiences during my MA was my research internship in Cairo, where I spent two months researching the education that African refugees were receiving there. I put theory into practice, I pushed myself to new limits, and I felt that what I was doing was meaningful.

If given a chance, I would choose again and again this Master's. Thanks to this Master's, I have been able to become the person I have always aspired to be and to achieve my professional goals. I got an internship at the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, where I worked on humanitarian emergencies in Africa. And I also got my current job as a consultant working on projects oriented toward reducing inequality in education. Overall, choosing this MA has been one of the best decisions I have ever made.'



Júlia Arénos Karsten (second from the left) during fieldwork.

Alumnus ResMA – Ryohei Shiozaki

"Filho, tomar um copo de vinho tinto por dia é bom para sua saúde (Son, drinking one glass of red wine per day is good for your health)." My Mozambican 'dad', Ntaluma, in Lisbon, often said this to me and never let a guest drink alone. His house was known as 'Mozambican House' among the Mozambican migrants in Lisbon, who I was doing research on. I met him at



Ryohei Shiozaki

then in the end lived in his house for three months. The experience of living there gave me considerable insight into which kinds of invisible mechanisms bring people together: the fact that they never said 'no', that they were constantly making phone calls to each other, etc. Drinking wine with people looks like something fun to do, but at the same time there is an invisible pressure involved, which 'forces' people to come together and eventually evolve into a community among diasporas.

Now, luckily, I have the good fortune to be working for the Embassy of Japan in Mozambique, so I mostly stay in Maputo. My life has changed drastically from analysing how Mozambican people drink wine together to examining macropolitics and economics. Yet I must say my analysis involving wine-drinking wasn't irrelevant. Strong bureaucracy – and corruption – are deeply rooted in the society, even though decentralisation and anti-corruption have been two of the central issues faced by the Mozambican

government since independence. Can't these issues be analysed from the standpoint of what I learnt from the people I met in Lisbon? Red wine, shared strong (cultural?) expectations? It will take time, but my journey that started with the ResMA experience is still ongoing.'

LDE Minor African Dynamics

It has become untenable to consider one area of the globe as less important and more marginal than another. Ongoing debates regarding political instability, climate change, inequality, and migration streams stress how interconnected and interdependent our world is and emphasise the necessity of partnership and collaboration to create the 'World We Want'.

In this light, Africa is an extremely important continent with complex challenges and extraordinary opportunities. Exploring this is what the LDE (Leiden-Delft-Erasmus) Minor African Dynamics again enabled 24 final-year Bachelor students from different academic perspectives to do this past semester. In the second quarter, they joined forces with 21 students from the University of Nairobi in a virtual exchange to critically engage in advancing the SDGs, followed by a two-week field study hosted by the University of the Western Cape in South Africa to conclude the minor.

'In my three years as a law student, I have had issues with the feeling of belonging. I did not know whether I had made the right decision about choosing my Bachelor or the university I ended up going to. I cannot stress enough how appreciative I am of the education I have received during this minor and the environment I could be part of. The unique experiences we shared whilst participating in this minor is something that will keep us connected as we all go our own, very diverging, paths.'



Ridaa Belboukhaddaoui, Architecture & Built Environment, TU Delft.



'Economic theory and business practices have been dominant throughout my academic career. However, being guided by the hand of the SDGs in this minor has contributed to an intersectional approach that illustrates how economic theory can be applied to guide policy and legislation in topics such as poverty, gender, equality, etc. This has contributed to a holistic understanding of the realities that African countries face while simultaneously highlighting present opportunities.'



Floris Gast, Political Science & International Relations, Erasmus University Rotterdam.

'I will go back to University College Fryslân with great stories and much extra knowledge and plan to come back to Leiden University to enrol in my Master's. Looking at small things in a systematic way so as to understand the entirety of something complex is a tool I will use in the future. Additionally, the Minor gave me room to enjoy studying with students from different disciplines. This resulted in a lot of fruitful discussions with people outside my bubble, enabling exploration of more practical possibilities rather than just ideological outcomes.'



Jorian Moree, Global Responsibility & Leadership, University of Groningen.

LDE Minor Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development (FI4SGD)

During the past decade, frugal innovation has emerged as a new discourse on innovation. It challenges mainstream innovation thinking and practices in a global context in which a majority of the people do not have access to affordable, basic necessities and current production and consumptions patterns, notably in the Global North, have led to overexploitation of resources, causing environmental degradation and climate change worldwide. Among both academics and policy makers, frugal innovation is ascribed the potential to contribute to today's societal challenges such as sustainability, inequality, exclusion, and poverty, across the globe. In this multidisciplinary LDE Minor, students explore and discuss this ascribed potential, combining theory and practice by studying frugal innovation discourses and cases from different parts of the world, and by working on real-life frugal innovation challenges in health, agro-food, energy, housing, and water, together with societal stakeholders.



Kick-off of the minor.



Excursion to the Dutch Design Week, Eindhoven.

WHAT IS A GREENHOUSE?

A greenhouse is a covered construction that creates a closed ecosystem for your growing products. This causes your production to be climate INDEPENDENT, which makes it possible to produce the whole year-round. You have more control of your production and the potential of your production to become bigger.

WOODEN VS METAL

In the market of Morogoro there is already an imported metal greenhouse available. In this section we show you the potentials and limitations comparing to the metal greenhouse and a new emerging greenhouse in the area: a local wooden greenhouse.

WOODEN GREENHOUSE

POTENTIAL

- LOWER METAL COST
- SMALLER RISK
- ALLOW MORE FARMERS TO START GREENHOUSE FARMING

LIMITATION

- SHORTER LIFESPAN
- HIGHER MAINTENANCE COSTS

FOR YOU?

Wooden greenhouses allow you to start greenhouse farming with less money, which can cause you making your first financial growth. When you reach enough money to invest in the metal greenhouse, we recommend to upgrade to the metal greenhouse, because it is cheaper in the long-term period.

OPEN-FIELD VS GREENHOUSE

Criteria	Open-field	Greenhouse
Cost of production	Low	High
Risk control	Hard to control into the external world	Easy to control because inside is closed
Operational costs	High	High, but slightly lower than open-field in a good area
Diseases and Pests presence	High	Highly lower
Yield per area	Low	High
Available quality	Low	High
Water needed	High	Low
Investment period	Low	Very short
Growing period	Low	Very short
Weather dependency	High	Independent
Climate control	Low	High
Logistics	High	Low
Safe access to materials	High	Reduced
Seed availability	Common	Common

Project on Frugal Greenhouses, Morogoro, Tanzania.



Frugal heat resilience, Chieti, Italy.

Between September 2022 and January 2023, the minor had its fifth edition. Thirty-three students participated, representing three universities and a multitude of disciplines. This edition was special, because after two years of lockdowns that prevented on-campus education and international travel, students were able to come together again in classrooms and laboratories, and could work in small groups on their 'field assignments' abroad. Seven field assignments were situated in or focused on a frugal innovation in an African country (Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania). Two projects took place in Italy.

Meanwhile, there is a continuous reflection on the curriculum of the minor taking place. Two major initiatives took off in 2022, to be integrated into the minor in coming editions. Firstly, based on the Comenius Senior Fellowship project conducted by ASCL researcher and lecturer André Leliveld, an international and multidisciplinary online community of learning and practice will be introduced in the minor in the coming years. This community will help students develop a more global and diverse perspective in their understanding of and approach to Frugal Innovation. This new environment builds upon insights that today's learning does not only take place through formal education but is also achieved by bringing students together in international communities of learning and practice in which they can share and discuss their own knowledge and expertise, from their own context. In addition, it aims to contribute to a further decolonisation of the curriculum by bringing lecturers and students from different parts of the world, such as India, Kenya, the Netherlands, South Africa, and possibly Mexico together.

Secondly, in the past five years, the student population in subsequent editions of the minor has become more diverse, attracting students with different histories and backgrounds, which brings

in multiple narratives and perspectives on frugal innovation from students' own lived experiences. And, as many field assignments take place in non-western contexts, raising consciousness among and equipping students with the skills to recognise and understand different histories and lived experiences is pivotal for successful field assignments. For these reasons, a JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity,

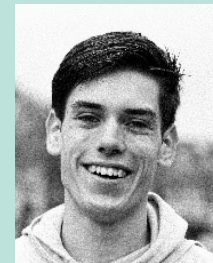
and Inclusion) approach has been and will be further introduced to the curriculum, and will become one of the guiding principles underlying the minor. Rebecca Baugh, an alumna working as a student-assistant for the minor and the Comenius project, has provided a big impetus in 2022 toward pushing this agenda forward.

"Do more with less" is one of the many frugal catchphrases I will never forget after attending this minor. Similarly, services and innovations that are not operating smoothly, jokingly calling "frugal", became a habit. The small group of students and teachers combined with intensive days led to many new friendships in a short timeframe. I liked the interdisciplinary and internationally orientated aspects of the minor with guest speakers from all around the globe and topics closely related to real-world problems. For my field assignment, I spent two-and-a-half months in Rwanda, exploring the possibilities of a spot-checking monitor for the healthcare sector. I dedicated my workdays to literature research and visits to health facilities, whereas I used the weekends to explore the country, both massively contributing to my practical knowledge and personal development. It was quite the adventure simultaneously creating lifelong memories. It would be an understatement to say I enjoyed the minor.'



Indy Broekhuizen

'Would you like to learn something about innovation, other people, and yourself in an interdisciplinary way? Then the Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development Minor might be something for you! I attended the minor in 2022/2023 and it was yet another experience that was absolutely worth it. I really liked working together with people from Leiden University, TU Delft, and Erasmus University Rotterdam on social, economic, and environmental challenges in the field of Innovation. Since this minor focusses on a very new idea of innovation, all the theoretical classes are really interesting and cutting edge. But it is not only that, you also go abroad for two months to apply what you have learnt and above all get to know yourself, other students and a new culture all at the same time. I made friendships for life and also learned so much about Rwanda and frugal innovation. If you have the time and the budget, I would highly recommend participating, because all the struggle and time invested will eventually be totally worth it. Enjoy!'



Jasper van Zaanen



Special projects

In 2022, INCLUDE focused on harvesting, exchanging, and disseminating new knowledge with the goal of contributing to more inclusive development policies. This was done across a variety of topics including work and income for youth and women, green jobs for youth, inclusive youth agripreneurship, and digitalisation.

Under the umbrella of the Global Initiative for Decent Jobs for African Youth, working on the research initiative **Boosting decent employment for Africa's youth**, INCLUDE continued its partnership with the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and the International Labour Organization (ILO). All the knowledge products created by the partners over the past three years were collected in a synthesis paper which calibrates cutting-edge evidence from across Africa and draws out best practices for a more just, sustainable, and inclusive approach to decent jobs for young people.

INCLUDE also finalised the **Growth Sectors for Youth Employment** (GSYE) project (implemented by the AERC), which aims to strengthen the evidence base on youth employment, drawing on research that examines the growth sectors with the highest multipliers and potential to create employment opportunities in nine African countries: Ethiopia, Egypt, Kenya, Mali, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, Tunisia, and Uganda. Following the completion of nine country case studies, two framework papers, and country dissemination workshops, the AERC organised a virtual Regional Policy Forum (RPF) on 28 March 2022, bringing together about 100 participants (a third of whom were policy makers) who deliberated on the key findings from the papers and implications of this for policy-making in Africa.



African Policy Dialogues (APD) meeting in Mali, 2022.

On **green jobs for youth**, INCLUDE initiated a new project with Palladium to strengthen the evidence base around youth employment and the future of work in Africa. The partnership is strategically placed with the Challenge Fund for Youth Employment (CFYE) and has produced a research paper, a policy brief, a two-pager, a blog, and a video highlighting the key messages and policy recommendations. Some of the recommendations are to provide direct incentives for green-transition pioneers, to promote inclusivity in green employment (in accordance with the SDG principle of leaving no one behind), to facilitate learning and exchange between green-job creators in the Global South, and to equip Africa's youth with the skills required in the new green economy. This research and INCLUDE have been mentioned in the Dutch International Climate Strategy by Minister Schreinemacher and Minister Jetten.

Building on the success of the [Cash Transfers for Food & Future](#) project, INCLUDE and the Netherlands Food Partnership engaged in a new collaborative project on inclusive youth agripreneurship in Africa. The commissioned Insights Paper and Policy Brief (produced by The Broker), addressed the lack of robust evidence and contextualised approaches on what works best in different environments, and how young people can be meaningfully engaged in the design and implementation of appropriate programmes. The project promoted youth engagement not only by engaging young people in the knowledge-building process, but also by learning from community engagement practices. It did so by organising two online learning sessions and two reference-group meetings that included Africa-based youth-led networks, programmers, and Dutch policy makers.

INCLUDE concluded the research for the programme [Digital divides or dividends? Including basic services in Africa's digitalization agenda](#) in 2022. All five commissioned case studies were completed (in Benin, Ghana, Mauritius, Rwanda, and Uganda) along with the synthesis report which was carried out by the Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESA). The research offers major insight into the differing contexts around digital transformation, the scope and scale of digitalisation within basic services, and common challenges when it comes to inclusion. The findings also help to quantify digital divides (particularly rural-urban and gender divides) in the countries studied.

Finally, the African Policy Dialogues (APDs) also remained an active pillar of INCLUDE's work in 2022. In total, the seven APDs hosted 22 dialogues across six countries: three in Mozambique,

six in Ghana, three in Kenya, four in Niger, one in Mali, and five in Uganda. A key intermediate outcome of the APD work from 2019-2022 is the establishment of networks of actors exchanging ideas about evidence for inclusive development in their respective countries. Due to such networks, APDs were called upon to provide input for government policies on youth employment and labour externalisation in Uganda, transformation of local governments to become more developmental in Ghana, and inclusion of all learners (including those from marginal areas) through ICT in Kenya.

Library, documentation, and information

Key Figures in 2022

	2022	2021
Number of visitors	1864	1404
Loans	3937	3604
Items catalogued	4503	3829
Titles in ASCL collection	219,928	215,425
Titles in Connecting-Africa	90,673	86,379
ASCL Repository (downloads ASCL publications *)	191,594	188,240

* Most downloads from US and NL. Most downloads from Africa: Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria

Important achievements

Most of the significant achievements for the ASCL Library in 2022 were in line with the new ASCL Library 2022–2026 Policy Plan. The Library put more focus on its Africa character (with special acquisitions from Zimbabwe) and on its special collections (e.g. the Jan Knappert Swahili archive), and gave renewed attention to the role of the Library in education. A new Collection Plan 2022–2026 was published as a follow-up to the Library Policy Plan.

Collection development, acquisitions, and cataloguing

Cataloguing and acquisition

In 2022, 3602 books were processed via the acquisition module in the ALMA library system. In total, 4503 library materials were catalogued, including films, novels, etc. Also included were 404 electronic documents and many gifts.

Gifts

The Library received a very important archive, containing 22 boxes with the books and manuscripts of Jan Knappert (1927–2005), the famous author on Swahili culture. The boxes were received via Frans Wijzen of Radboud University Nijmegen. Apart from books and articles by Knappert, the archive consists of documents, unpublished material, and books in Swahili.

Another archive was donated by the son of researcher and photographer Jan Broekhuijse: 10 boxes with books, photos, slides, and maps – mainly of Burkina Faso in the 1960s and 1970s.



Administrative map of Upper Volta, gift from Jan Broekhuijse.

The Library further received book donations from:

- Mieke van Ee (Ethiopia, books and newspapers)
- Anna-Maria Brandstetter (Congo)
- Dorrit van Dalen (Ghana, Nigeria)
- Anja van Altena / Frans Helmerhorst (Nigeria)

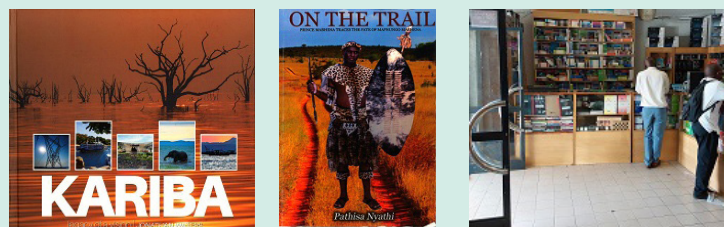
- Holger Weiss (Ghana, Islam)
- Marisca Bruinooge
- Emeke Aniagola
- Wim Hoppers, Gitty Petit, Jan Jansen, Ton Dietz, and others.

A Zimbabwe book acquisition trip (by proxy)

Jeanine Florijn, wife of ASCL collection specialist Gerard van de Bruinhorst, combined a visit to Zimbabwe with a book acquisition trip for which the Library and its readers are extremely grateful. She gathered 170 publications from several bookshops (The Orange Elephant and The Heritage Bookshop, and others). These publications included a set of books by local authors and coffee-table books, as well as a signed copy (on the spot) of *Mulberry Dreams* by Violette Kee-Tui. Furthermore, she acquired an extensive and fairly representative selection of textbooks which were written in conformity with the new competence-based Zimbabwean curriculum. Except for a small Ndebele Bible-study leaflet and some bilingual anthologies, all publications are in the English language.

The quality and number of (recently published) books as well as the appearance of a new generation of writers offer hopeful signs of a book publishing industry on the rebound, although still plagued by problems such as high costs, low returns, and piracy. The latter is a recurrent theme of discussion within the African book trade.

A couple of coffee-table books purchased at the Orange Elephant are two of the most recent books by Jonathan Waters: *Tree Tales of Zimbabwe and Kariba*. According to the publisher's blurb: '... covering 80 trees and forests of historical and botanical interest, *Tree Tales of Zimbabwe* is a walk through the nation's past'. His



Book acquisitions, including from Jonathan Waters.

2020 book *Kariba: Legacy of a vision* tells the stories of more than a hundred people whose lives were impacted by the construction of the world's biggest man-made lake. Just like the earlier work by this author, (ASCL Library already has his photographic history of Harare, also published by the Zimbabwean New Zanj publishing house), it provides many illustrations, a considerable amount of detail, as well as a unique insight from a socio-historical perspective. Other pictorial works, most of them hardcover and expensive (also authored by White Zimbabweans), include the cookbook *Dusty Road: Township Tastes* by Sarah Lilford; *Zimbabwe: On the road less travelled*, which is a photographic report of an annual cycling tour 'to raise money and awareness for Zimbabwe's struggling pensioners'; and *A Field Guide: Mana Pools National Park*, a fully updated and a more than twice as large second edition of an earlier guide by Jan Teedes.

Read more about this book acquisition trip.

Spotlights on the collection

In the course of 2022, ten *Library highlights* on the ASCL website drew attention to new books and films in the Library. These were:

- **Filmmaking in Sudan** (*Talking about Trees*)
- **African cookbooks** (about the 60 cookbooks in the Leiden collection)
- **Irene Ropa Rinopfuka Mahamba**: a woman's take on the Zimbabwe Chimurenga
- **Slam poetry** (particularly French-language books on this topic)
- **If an Egyptian Cannot Speak English**, by Noor Naga



- **Cahiers du Bureau Social Urbain**
- **Chosen**, new film by Jean-Marie Teno
- **My First Time** (personal stories of 50 Kenyan women about the first time they menstruated)
- **A Zimbabwe acquisition trip (by proxy)**
- **De koerier van Maputo** – a biography of Klaas de Jonge by Jenne Jan Holtland



Gerard van de Bruinhorst and Jos Damen wrote an article about the book acquisitions of the ASCL Library: '*Op boekenjacht in Afrika. Acquisitiereizen voor meer diversiteit en betere collectie*', in the journal *Informatieprofessional*, 2022 (7).

Information services

The Leiden Alert Service on African Studies (LASA) had 336 subscribers by the end of 2022. When subscribing to the alert service, people receive updates whenever new publications on a certain country or topic (or combination) are published. This helps in staying informed about interesting information and e-books in the current ocean of information.

Web dossiers

In 2022, five ASCL Library **web dossiers** were among the ten most popular web pages of the ASCL. ASCL web dossiers remain popular because they group the information on a current topic and make the information available in context. Every web dossier made by the ASCL Library staff has an introduction written by a specialist, links to the descriptions of books and journal articles in the catalogue, and gives a list of annotated links to electronic resources and relevant websites.

In 2022, these four web dossiers were published:

The ASCL Rwanda collection

This web dossier was made to reflect the book acquisition trip by Elvire Eijkman and Gerard van de Bruinhorst to Rwanda in 2021 (indeed, during the COVID-19 pandemic). With this trip, the ASCL Library managed to triple the Leiden collection of books published in Rwanda. In fact, the team returned with around 600 items, comprised of books, journals, a collection of newspapers, and a number of films on DVD.

African-authored travel writing

From the Introduction, by Aedín Ní Loingsigh, University of Stirling: 'Discovering the breadth and diversity of first-hand African accounts of travel experiences (...) requires us to accommodate a broader spectrum of travelling figures from migrants and refugees to tourists, from sailors to slaves, from nomads to diplomats, as well as members of the African diaspora.'

African photography

On the occasion of the 13th edition of Bamako Encounters, which took place in Bamako, Mali, in July, the ASCL Library created a web dossier on African Photography. The web dossier showcased the Library's rich collection of photobooks, as well as literature on photography. It also highlighted the ASCL photo collection on Wikimedia Commons, and other web resources. The web dossier focussed on photography by photographers from Africa and its diaspora. The introduction was written by Andrea Stultiens, visual artist and artistic researcher.

Language, conciliation, and conflict in Africa

This web dossier coincided with the 25th anniversary celebrations

of the NVAS (Netherlands Association for African Studies) on 9 and 10 December. From the Introduction: 'Spoken mediation is a multimodal phenomenon that encompasses spoken words, songs, bodily gestures and communicative silence. Each of these means of communication can serve to break up or cement social cohesion.'



Image to illustrate the biennale of photography in Mali, Bamako Encounters.

ASCL Library Collection Plan 2022-2026

Last year, the ASCL Library published the [ASCL Library Policy Plan 2022-2026](#). This plan also effected the Collection Policy, and as a result the [ASCL Library Collection Plan 2022-2026](#) was drawn up in 2022, discussed with the ASCL staff and Executive Board, and was approved. There will be more focus on primary sources, books produced in Africa, and hard-to-find materials. These sources will be brought to the attention of various user groups, both in Africa and the Netherlands. The ASCL Library will drop the old rule regarding language acquisition ('Western languages only') as a strict criterion, and will start a pilot with the acquisition of books in Swahili.



Jan Knappert's archive was donated to the ASCL Library.

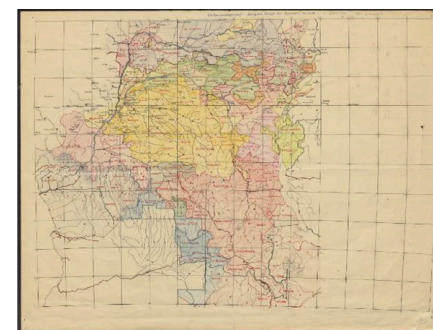
Jan Knappert Swahili Archive in Leiden

Jan Knappert (1927-2004) was a polyglot. He mastered several languages and translated the Finnish national epic, *The Kalevala*, into Swahili. He held a degree in Sanskrit, in Semitic languages, and a Master's in Austronesian Studies, with Tagalog and Malagasy. His bibliography is as impressive as his career. Knappert did his PhD in Leiden in 1958, for which he made a Dutch translation of the Swahili epic poem *Utendi wa Tambuka*. Knappert also worked as an advisor for the Tanzanian government in the 1960s. Afterwards, he worked as a researcher at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London, at the Catholic University in Leuven, and at several African universities. The archive of Jan Knappert, consisting of 22 boxes with books and manuscripts, were kept by Frans Wijzen of Radboud University in Nijmegen. Because of Knappert's old connections with Leiden University, because of the presence of an African languages department in Leiden, and the well-stocked Library of the African Studies Centre Leiden, it seemed logical that the Knappert Swahili Archive would find a place in Leiden. The content of the archive is diverse. It contains books and articles by Knappert, books and leaflets in Swahili, unpublished manuscripts, and more. This treasure trove is a special gem in the collection of the African Studies Centre Leiden and will receive a proper archival description.

ASCL Library in education and outreach

ASCL Library staff were involved in several activities.

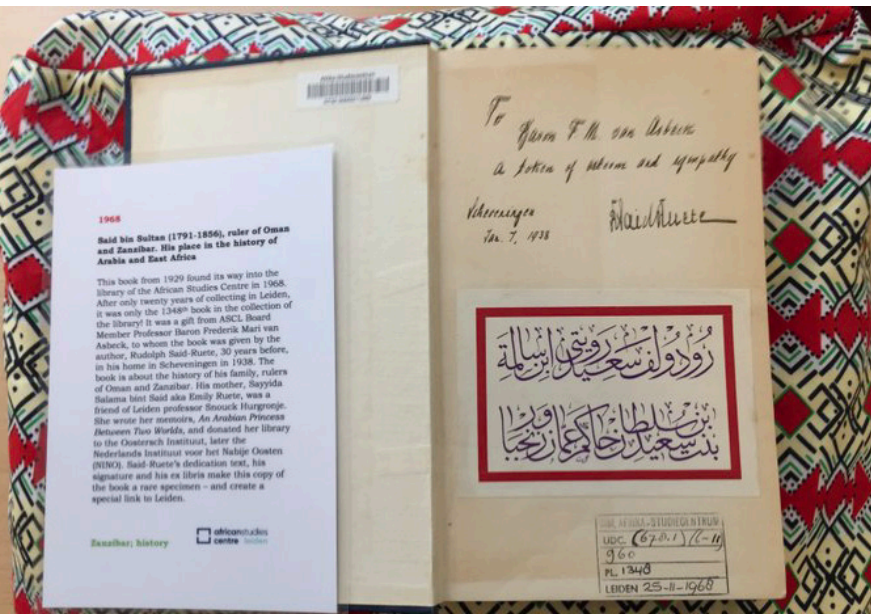
- Student assistant Roos Schepers wrote a piece for the *GLAM Newsletter* about her work on the Hofstra Archive ([Letters from Sierra Leone: the Sjoerd Hofstra photo collection in a new light](#)). Intern Cameron Stone wrote a blog about the collection for the ASCL Website ([Photographing Africa: Lessons from the Hofstra Collection](#)). They both uploaded a few hundred new photos by Hofstra to Wikimedia Commons.
- Several introductory tours of the ASCL Library for students and other groups were given by Marijke den Hartog, Ella Verkaik, and other staff members.
- Elvire Eijkman spoke at the yearly ELIAS meeting of European Librarians in African Studies in June at Sciences Po Bordeaux about ways to make African films available in the 21st century.
- During the German Africa Days (VAD) in Freiburg in June Jos Damen gave a talk about AJOL (African Journals Online) and Research4Life.
- The impressive (3,5 kg.) book [Maps That Made History](#) (editor: Martijn Storms, UBL) used several African maps (e.g. a language map of Ruanda-Urundi and Nigerian court maps) from the ASCL Library Collection.
- Two film events were organised by Elvire Eijkman and others. In September, the screening of *Stop Filming Us* by Joris Postema was watched by



Ethnographic map of Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi, 1950.

both Leiden and LDE students. On 6 October, the kick-off of the iAfrica Film Festival 2022 screened the film *Kumbuka* (2021) by Petna Ndaliko Katondolo. The film director attended via an online connection and had a lively discussion with the audience afterwards.

- Edith de Roos and Jos Damen were involved in 'expert talks' about information on Africa given by ASCL staff members to staff of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



Book exhibited at the ASCL's 75th anniversary. The book was given by its author, Rudolph Said-Ruete, in 1938, to ASCL Board Member Professor Baron Frederik Mari van Asbeck, who gave it to the ASCL Library in 1968.

- During the 75th anniversary of the African Studies Centre Leiden, the Library exhibited 25 special books, maps, and films acquired over those 75 years, and staff members gave three talks about the history of the Library and background on the activities.
- H.E. Francis Danti Kotia, ambassador of Ghana to the Netherlands, visited the Library of the ASCL together with Annetje Ottow, president of Leiden University on 6 April. Kotia reflected on the Leiden collection of books, films, and maps from Ghana – including several pamphlets with speeches by Nkrumah.
- The Tanzanian Embassy in the Netherlands celebrated World Kiswahili Day (7 July) by reading poetry in the ASCL Library and celebrating various Kiswahili founders' writings including Hayati Mwalimu Nyerere and Jan Knappert.
- Edith de Roos guided several Africa walks ('Traces of Africa in Leiden') in the framework of Leiden City of Science 2022, co-organised with LeidenGlobal and the Faculty of Humanities.
- Germa Seuren, Ursula Oberst, Gerard van de Bruinhorst, and Heleen Smits were involved in teaching and student guidance. Some courses given: 'Primary sources on Africa's international relations', to students of Leiden University College, The Hague; a course for the Graduate Programme African Studies, 'Linked Data and how to make use of it' (Research Master's); and an archival introductory course with Walter Nkwi (Faculty of Humanities).
- The kick-off meeting of the *Ustadh Mau Digital Archive* (UMADA) project was held in the form of a digitisation workshop on Lamu Island, Kenya, in October. Ursula Oberst participated in a three-day workshop and helped to steer the metadata in this project. The project focusses on Mahmoud Ahmed Abdulkadir, locally known as Ustadh Mau, an eminent poet and imam from Lamu island.

Highlighted events

ASCL 75th Anniversary



Lecture by Chibuiké Uche during the ASCL 75th anniversary.

On 8 September, the ASCL celebrated its 75th anniversary at Museum Volkenkunde in Leiden. It was a festive day, one where the ASCL reflected on Africanist research and information documentation throughout the decades. This happened in the form of discussions with societal partners, alumnae of the African Studies programme, (former) PhD candidates, academic partners, and other people who have been involved with the work of the ASCL. The ASCL reflected on the changes that have taken place in terms of doing research on Africa, as well as on how the institute represents Africa. In the morning, presentations were given by Chibuiké Uche (about the history of Dutch interest in Africa) and Jan Abbink (on the history of the ASCL's research agenda), and a societal pan-



The panel consisted of five alumnae of African Studies.



Tamia Botes received the Africa Thesis Award 2021.

el, consisting of partners from business, diplomacy, journalism, and the arts discussed the societal relevance of the ASCL.

The afternoon session was dedicated to the ASCL Library, in which Gerard van de Bruinhorst and Heleen Smits gave an overview of the Library's collection development, cataloguing, and digitisation of books, photographs, and other sources. The Anniversary Day ended with the Africa Thesis Award ceremony, in which Tamia Botes shared her insights on the history of *voetvrou* in Johannesburg, followed by a panel discussion with five alumnae of African Studies on how the African Studies programme has boosted their careers.

An extensive report by Menno Bosma as well as a selection of the pictures taken by Monique Shaw can be found on the [ASCL website](#).

Visit to Netherlands Institute Morocco (NIMAR)

Mayke Kaag and Marleen Dekker visited the Moroccan capital Rabat from 6-7 July in the framework of a visit to the Netherlands Institute Morocco (NIMAR), together with partners from Leiden University, several Moroccan universities, and the Netherlands Embassy in Morocco. The goal of the visit was to exchange knowledge and strengthen cooperation.

Marleen Dekker gave an introduction on inclusive development in Africa, while Mayke Kaag presented her work on education in Africa and its global linkages. Both Dekker and Kaag also participated in a debate on the envisaged collaboration between education institutes in Morocco and the Netherlands. ASCL researcher Rahmane Idrissa gave an online presentation about trans-



Mayke Kaag gave a presentation during the visit to NIMAR.



Visit of the UNDP delegation, with on the right Regional Director Ahunna Eziakonwa.

Saharan historical connections and slavery. The collaboration with NIMAR continues in 2023 in the shape of a follow-up meeting and workshop in Leiden and a summer school in Rabat.

Visit UNDP Director

LeidenASA and the ASCL hosted a visit of a delegation of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in September 2022. The main message of Ahunna Eziakonwa, Regional Director for Africa at the UNDP, was that Africa needs a new narrative that is consistent with the developments that are taking place on the continent, in which youth, tech hubs, and leapfrogging play an important role. In her speech, Ms Eziakonwa stated that the African continent faces many challenges, but that its people are very inventive. All these developments call for a new lens in research, in policy ideas, and in bringing African voices to the table. In return, Anika Altaf, coordinator of the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform, gave examples of impactful research on inclusive development. More insights were shared during a discussion with PhD candidates and other Leiden University staff members. Among the topics discussed were the importance of reliable data, citizen engagement, building favourable environments in which tech hubs can thrive, and the importance of the diaspora.

Diplomatic visits



Visit to the Nigerian Embassy in The Hague in June.

The ASCL was invited to several diplomatic missions in 2022 and also welcomed a number of African diplomatic representatives to the institute. During these visits, ties between the ASCL and the respective countries were strengthened. In June, Annetje Ottow, President of the Executive Board of Leiden University, Marleen Dekker, Heleen Smits, and Jos Damen were invited to the Embassy of Nigeria. The same delegation also visited the Embassy of Ghana, after an initial visit by H.E. Francis Danti Kotia to Leiden University and the ASCL in April. In the framework of the ASCL Library's collection of Swahili literature, Embassy of Tanzania officials made a visit to the Library and listened to a presentation by Annachiara Raia in September. In June, the Netherlands Ambassador to Angola, Tsjear Hoekstra, visited the ASCL and exchanged observations with PhD candidate Antonio Frank.



A delegation of the Tanzanian Embassy to the Netherlands visited the ASCL Library in September.



Tsjear Hoekstra, Netherlands Ambassador to Angola, visited the ASCL as part of a meeting with PhD candidate Antonio Frank.

LeidenASA Annual Meeting

In 2022 LeidenASA continued to function as a network of Africa researchers at Leiden University. A seed fund call resulted in seven initial applications. In round two, six revised applications were reviewed by the LeidenASA steering committee (consisting of representatives of all faculties).

The following three application were awarded:

- 'Should I stay or should I go? In search of secure land tenure in an insecure climate' (applicants: Bernardo Almeida, Carolien Jacobs, Fekadu Adugna Tufa, Markus Rudolf)
- 'Restoring the Rangelands through Collective Biocontrol: a socio-ecological approach to combat invasive species in the SOKNOT region' (applicants: Emily Strange, Michiel Veldhuis, Caroline Archambault, David Ehrhardt)
- 'AfReCA: Co-creating the African Regional Cooperation Agenda' (applicants: Armin Cuyvers, Chibuikwe Uche, Frederik Behre)

The year was concluded with the LeidenASA Annual Meeting. This year's programme was a bit different from previous years. Instead of a keynote speaker, LeidenASA members were invited to talk about their current research project, the seed fund winners unfolded their plans, and a total of 14 enthusiastic LeidenASA members delivered their ideas via a fast-paced pitch session.

Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture

Stephen Ellis (1953–2015) was a renowned senior researcher at the African Studies Centre Leiden. He combined a great interest in how 'real politics' work and have an impact on people's lives, with a fascination for the role played by religion and morality. With the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture, the ASCL wishes to honour his memory and encourage work that reflects his spirit. Every year, Prof. Gerrie ter Haar, Stephen Ellis' widow, is the guest of honour. The Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture 2022 was given by Megan



Megan Vaughan gave the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture 2022.

Vaughan, Professor of African History at University College London. In the lecture, she focussed on the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic through a biosocial and historical lens, exploring the experiences and impact across the continent including the role of local political actors. She emphasised Africa's ability to deal with virus outbreaks in recent history, and the fact that African countries suffered less illness and death as a result of the coronavirus.

Exhibition Ilvy Njikiktjien

In the framework of the Leiden City of Science year, Dutch award-winning photo journalist Ilvy Njikiktjien was invited to exhibit a collection of photos from her project '**Born Free: Mandela's Generation of Hope**' at the ASCL and the Pieter de la Court building from May to the end of July. During her work in South Africa, Njikiktjien photographed a great number of young people who are part of the 'born-free' generation, born after 1994. The result is a collection of vivid, personal, and even intimate photographs of a young generation of South Africans. The photos were printed in the form of tear-off blocks, so all who were interested could take a photo. The exhibition opened with a documentary about the project, an introduction by Ilvy herself, and a presentation by Jan-Bart Gewald, Professor of African History at the ASCL.



Jan-Bart Gewald gave an introduction to the exhibition.

Event Overview

27 January 2022

ASCL Seminar: 'The memory of persecution is in our blood': documenting loyalties, identities and motivations to political action in the Ugandan Pentecostal Movement

Speaker: Barbara Bompani (The University of Edinburgh)

24 February 2022

ASCL Seminar: Roadblock Politics – Predation and Resistance in Central Africa

Speaker: Peer Schouten (Danish Institute for International Studies)

10 March 2022

ASCL Seminar: Dockside Reading: Hydrocolonialism and the Custom House

Speaker: Isabel Hofmeyr (University of the Witwatersrand)

22 March 2022

CRG Seminar: Teaching a more-than-human-sentience approach in African Studies through 'wild pedagogies'

Speaker: Vanessa Wijngaarden (University of Johannesburg)

24 March 2022

Book launch: 'White Mineworkers on Zambia's Copperbelt, 1926-1974: In a Class of Their Own'

Speaker: Duncan Money (ASCL)

31 March 2022

Opening new exhibition: Rwanda library collection

07 April 2022

ASCL Seminar: Subaltern Metropolitan Adventure and Colonial Mediation in Nigeria

Speaker: Moses Ochonu (Vanderbilt University)

10 April 2022

Leidse Wereldwandeling: Sporen van Afrika in Leiden

14 April 2022

Country Meeting: Violent Resistance – Militia Formation and Civil War in Mozambique

Speaker: Corinna Jentsch (Leiden University)

21 April 2022

CRG masterclasses at the ASCL: Sexual polemics in Africa: The public polemics of (anti-)abortion activism

12 May 2022 to 31 July 2022

New exhibition: 'Born Free – Mandela's Generation of Hope' by Ilvy Njiokiktjien

18 May 2022

CRG masterclasses at the ASCL: Sexual polemics in Africa: The politics of (anti-) queer activism

24 May 2022

ASCL Seminar: 'Christianity is now your tribe': Mission, Education, and Ethnicity in Colonial South Sudan

Speaker: Christopher Tounsel (Pennsylvania State University)

31 May 2022

Seminar: Fleeting Commitments or Can the Museum be Decolonised?

Speaker: Wayne Modest (National Museum of World Culture)

01 June 2022 to 03 June 2022

Workshop: Gaping Holes: Towards multi-species histories and ethnographies of mining in southern Africa

06 June 2022

Leidse Wereldwandeling: Sporen van Afrika in Leiden

09 June 2022

Seminar: Rituals, Festivals and Claims to Urban Spaces in Nigeria
Speaker: Onyekachi Nnabuihe (Caleb University)

09 June 2022

Roundtable: Writing a General Labour History of Africa from the 16th to the 19th centuries

16 June 2022

ASCL Seminar: Religion and economic policy in sub-Saharan Africa
Speaker: Amma Panin (UCLouvain)

23 June 2022

Seminar: 'The vast Empire of the grandfather'. Claiming to be the grandson of the king of the Congo (1856-1912)
Speaker: Juliette Ruaud

29 June 2022

CRG masterclasses at the ASCL: Sexual polemics in Africa: Public contestations around comprehensive sexuality education

14 July 2022

Séminaire : Commerce informel et contrebande de carburant. Dynamiques et logiques des acteurs dans l'espace frontalier de Bittou (Burkina Faso)

Speaker: Yacouba Cissao (Centre national de la recherche scientifique et technologique)

11 September 2022

Leidse Wereldwandeling: Sporen van Afrika in Leiden

14 September 2022

Séminaire : Repenser l'informel en Afrique à partir de ses relations avec le domaine politique : quelles implications pour les agences et partenaires au développement?

05 October 2022

Inaugural Lecture Mayke Kaag

06 October 2022

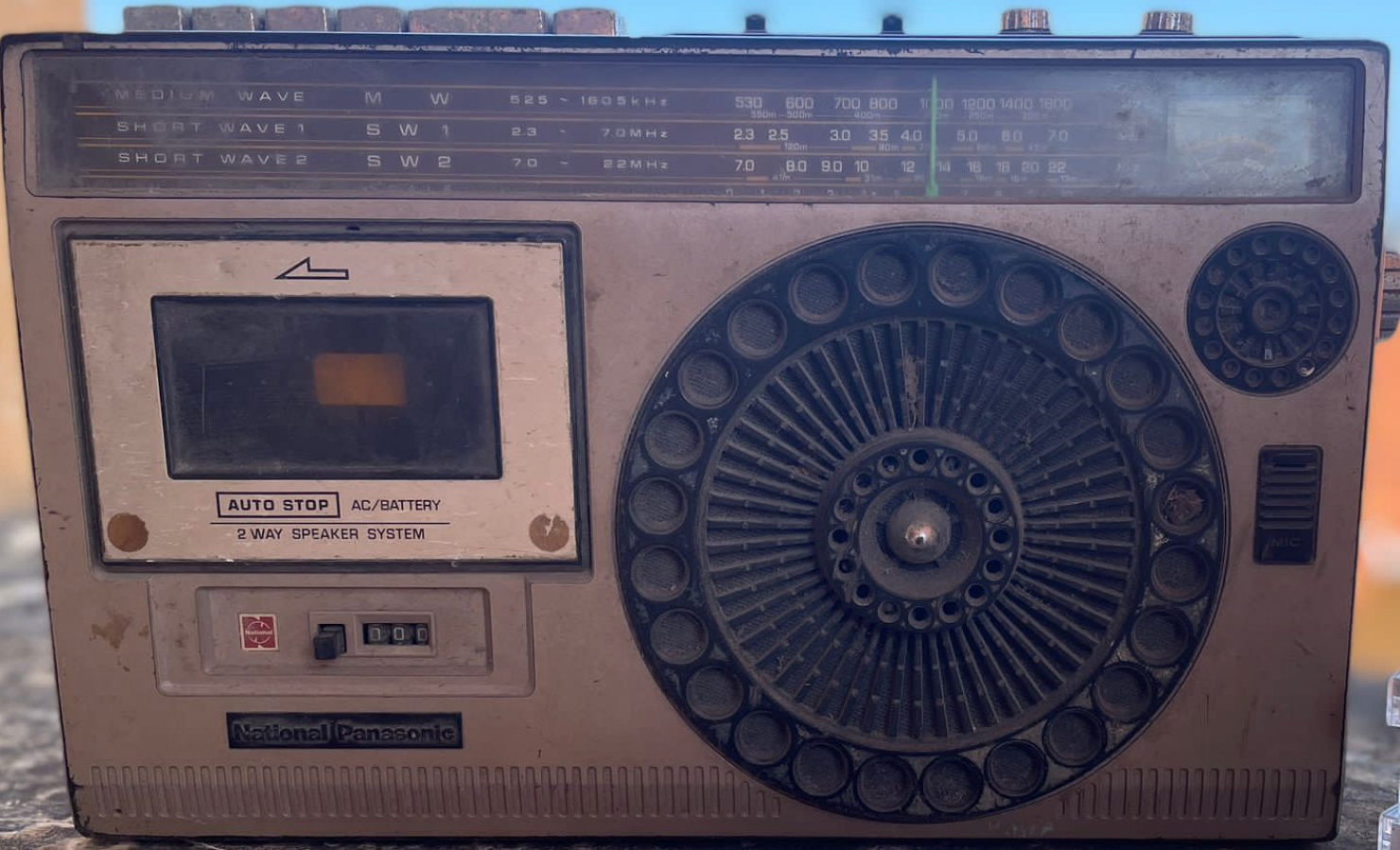
Kick-off iAfrica Film Festival 2022 – 'Kumbuka' (DRC)

09 October 2022

Leidse Wereldwandeling: Sporen van Afrika in Leiden

01 December 2022

Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture by Megan Vaughan: Africa in the time of Coronavirus – Biology, history and politics
Speaker: Megan Vaughan (University College London)



ASCL in the Media

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Rahmane Idrissa gave an interview about the effects of France's withdrawal from Mali in Nieuwsuur.

Researchers of the ASCL were regularly approached this year to give interviews on Dutch and foreign radio and television and in the (international) press, confirming the ASCL's reputation in the media landscape. A few examples:

Mirjam de Bruijn, being an expert on security in the Sahel region, appeared on several radio and TV programmes about the political turmoil in Mali. At the start of the year, she was asked to give background information about the ECOWAS sanctions and national protests against it (*NPO Radio 1*, 18 January). This was followed by interviews about anti-French sentiments (*NOS*, 28 January) and pro-Russian sentiments (*NPO Radio 1*, 28 March), and an interview about hip-hop as a protest form in Senegal and Mali (*Bureau Buitenland*, 10 August). She was also interviewed in the podcast series 'Open Geesten', and *Trouw* sought out her expertise (1 December).

Jan Abbink was frequently asked to share his insight on the conflict in Tigray. He gave interviews about economic repercussions (*Business Insider Africa*, 5 January), the Stabilization, Peace and Democracy Act (*The American Conservative*, 30 March), and the conviction of an Ethiopian war criminal in the Netherlands (*Met het Oog op Morgen*, 18 April). Apart from that, he also participated in a documentary on the history of Islam in Ethiopia (*Al Jazeera*, 16

April), and he commented on the first shipment of Ukrainian grain to reach Africa since the start of the Russian invasion (*Nederlands Dagblad*, 31 August).

Radio, television, and podcasts

Podcasts have become an important medium for the ASCL since their broadcast length is excellent for in-depth interviews on specific topics. Tycho van der Hoog, for example, gave extensive presentations on the history behind Namibian beer (*Beer Bound Podcast*, 19 December) and on the North Korean presence in Africa (*Africast*, 1 December). The same podcast interviewed MA African Studies alumna Femke van Zeijl about her life in Lagos (*Africast*, 29 September) and Ton Dietz about how the war in Ukraine affects Africa (*Africast*, 5 May). Some radio and TV interviews included items on Wikipedia articles on Africa (*Radio Weetlust*, 15 January), France's withdrawal from Mali (*Nieuwsuur*, 17 February), and human-animal relationships in Africa (*NTR Atlas*, 7 July).

Daily newspapers

As in the past few years, most of the interviews that ASCL researchers gave were published in written media. Jan Abbink and Chibuïke Uche reflected on the ASCL's 75th anniversary (*Algemeen Dagblad*, 7 September), while Duncan Money was quoted about the migrant labour system in South Africa (*Daily Maverick*, 27 November). Megan Vaughan, who gave the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture, was interviewed about COVID-19 in Africa (*Medisch Contact*, 5 December and *Trouw*, 6 December). Other newspaper articles starring ASCL staff members were about the history of Kimberley, South Africa (*News24*, 16 November), Russia's presence in the Sahel (*The Guardian*, 3 February), and the politico-historical ties between Ethiopia and Russia (*Historisch Nieuwsblad*, 23 September). A complete list of interviews with different media can be found on the [ASCL website](#).

Governing bodies & personnel on 31 december 2022

Members of the ASCL Board

Prof. M.R. Rutgers	Leiden University, Humanities (chair)
Prof. P.F. Wouters	Leiden University, Social and Behavioural Sciences
Prof. J.P. van der Leun	Leiden University, Law School

Members of the board of the 'Stichting Afrika-Studiecentrum'

A.C.A. van der Wiel	Former Netherlands ambassador to Nigeria (chair)
M. Diboma	2SCALE (programme director)
Dr S. Luning	Leiden University

Members of the Academic Advisory Council

Prof. M.J. Spierenburg	Leiden University (chair)
Dr F.K. Ameka	Leiden University
Dr E.H. Bähre	Leiden University
K.F.K. De Belder	Leiden University
Prof. E. Bulte	Wageningen University & Research
Prof. B. Büscher	Wageningen University & Research
J.C.M. Damen	African Studies Centre Leiden
Dr J. Fransen	Health Innovation School Rotterdam
Prof. P. Knorringa	International Institute of Social Studies
Dr Y.P.B. van Leynseele	University of Amsterdam
Prof. V. Mazzucato	Maastricht University
Dr L.J. Smith	Radboud University Nijmegen
Prof. R. van Tulder	Erasmus University Rotterdam
Dr A.C.M. van Westen	Utrecht University
Prof. P. van der Zaag	UNESCO-IHE

Director

Prof. M. Dekker

Research staff (and their areas of specialisation)

Prof. G.J. Abbink	Ethnicity, conflict management, religion, politics, ethnography, culture, Horn of Africa
Dr A. Akinyoade	Demography, healthcare, education, media, Ghana, Nigeria
Dr A. Amha	Afro-Asiatic languages, linguistics, Horn of Africa
Prof. W.E.A. van Beek (retired)	Religion, tourism, Cameroon, Mali, Southern Africa
Dr L.H. Berckmoes	Conflict, children and youth, intergenerational transmission, resilience, cyclical violence, regional conflict, Burundi, Rwanda
Prof. M.E. de Bruijn	Mobility, social hierarchies, communication technology, Sahel
L.R. Bruls	Digital media, conflict, Mali
Prof. M. Dekker	Inclusive development, social networks, (micro) insurance, land reform, economic development, poverty reduction, Ethiopia, South Africa, Zimbabwe
Prof. A.J. Dietz (retired)	African development, human geography
Prof. R.A. van Dijk	New religious movements, HIV/AIDS, globalisation, Botswana, Ghana, Malawi
Prof. J.B. Gewald	Social and political history, interaction between people and technology, Southern Africa
T.A. van der Hoog	PhD candidate, African history, liberation struggle, liberation movements,

	frontline states, international relations, nationalism		
Dr A. Idrissa	States and institutions, political Islam and political secularism, modern and pre-modern history, Niger, Sahel		
Prof. M.M.A. Kaag	Africa in the world, political anthropology, religion and development, migration, land issues, informal workers, West Africa	Dr A. Raia	ences that matter (race, gender, caste, sexuality, age); narrative and performance, creative arts practice (film, theatre, drama, live performance); critical pedagogy and educationalism
Dr J.B. Kegel	History, colonial concessionary companies, conflict, Rwanda, DRC	C.E. Swinkels	African languages, comparative studies, Islamic poetry in Africa, orality and literacy, Swahili literature and intellectual practices, Kenya, Somalia
J.M. Kwaks	(post-)conflict, displacement, Uganda, intergenerational transmission, land governance, intimate relationships	Prof. C.U. Uche	PhD candidate, entrepreneurship, youth employment
Dr A.H.M. Leliveld	Frugality, innovation, community-based health insurance, labour movements, trade unions, East Africa	Dr K. van Walraven	Political economy, business and financial history, financial institutions regulation and regional integration
Dr D.J. Money	History of Central and Southern Africa during the 19th and 20th century, labour, mining, migration, race, Zambia		Decolonisation, biography, French Empire, French Africa
M.B. Ndlovu	PhD candidate, urbanisation, militarisation, civil-military relations, youth empowerment, gender justice, political economy, sustainable African governance, African development, trauma and memory, transitional justice	Support staff	
L.W. Oudenhuisen	PhD candidate, sexuality, gender norms, agency, political economy, Islam, secularity, Senegal	J. Binnendijk	Controller/institute manager
K.V. Panoram	PhD candidate, sociology, anthropology and history; postcolonial, African, queer, Dalit Studies; diversity, differ-	T. Blomsma-Peters	Executive secretary to the director
		R.G.L. Jongenelen	Seminars, communications, press
		M.N.J. Stokhuijzen	Project officer
		W. Veerman	Programmer, ICT specialist
		F. Veldkamp	Web editor, social media, communications, press
		H.K. Westra	Programmer, webmaster
		M.A. Westra	Policy officer, PhD coordinator
		A.L. Yeadell-Moore	English language editor
		W.J. Zwart	Publications assistant

Library, Documentation and Information

J.C.M. Damen	Head of LDI
Dr G.C. van de Bruinhorst	Collection development
E.M. Eijkman	Information specialist
M. Härnqvist	Cataloguer
M. den Hartog	Assistant librarian
M.B. van der Lee	Assistant librarian
H. Müller	Wikipedian-in-residence
U. Oberst	Information specialist
M. Oosterkamp	Assistant librarian, publications assistant
A.E.I. Robson	Information specialist
E.M. de Roos	Assistant librarian
G.M.M. Seuren	Information specialist
Dr H.J. Smits	Information specialist
P.G. Verkaik-Steenvoorden	Assistant librarian

Educational staff

R.A.O. Baugh	Student assistant
M.D. Ditmars	Coordinator of minors' education and student affairs
Dr Mr C.T. Nijenhuis	Lecturer, trainer, coordinator Research Master
L. Wittebroek	Education Research Assistant

ASCL Publications

Dr Harry Wels	Publications manager
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INCLUDE staff

Dr A. Altaf	Researcher
C.E. Swinkels	Project researcher

Staff who left the ASCL in 2022

M.C.H. Heuvels	Knowledge manager INCLUDE
A.S. Mahadewsing	Student assistant INCLUDE
V.O. Many	Consultant INCLUDE
Dr D.J. Money	Project researcher
F.N. Notari	Teacher African Studies
J. Scheelings	Student assistant education
R. Schepers	Student assistant ASCL Library
Dr M. Turolla	Knowledge manager INCLUDE

ASCL PhD candidates on 31-12-2022

Gaddafi Abubakar	<i>Radio in Northern Nigeria: A History of Propaganda, 1944-1979</i>
Rashida Adum-Atta	<i>Food and Interreligious Coexistence in Madina</i>
Jeleel Balyaminu	<i>Natural Resource Governance and Socio-Cultural Conditions in Africa: From Policy to Practice</i>
Nilza César	<i>Participatory Assessment of Development of the Eduardo Mondlane University (1976-2013)</i>
Rishuai Chen	<i>Digital practices and transnational connectivity among African merchant migrants in China</i>
Tinashe Chimbidzikai	<i>(Re-) production and imagination of urban social space by Pentecostal Christian migrants in South Africa: A nar-</i>

	native ethnography (Cotutelle with the Georg-August University of Gottingen)	Antonio Frank	Interactions between the police and non-state policing actors in the townships of Luanda
Modibo Galy Cissé	Le conflit (terrorisme-djihadisme) dans le Delta Central du fleuve Niger au Mali	Tycho van der Hoog	Blood, Bullets, and Bronze: The Relations Between North Korean and Southern Africa, 1960-2020
Rebecca Cudjoe	Resilience in Limbo: Vulnerability or Strength? Understanding Migrants' Coping Mechanisms to Shocks and Trajectory of Resilience	Kauthar Khamis	Beauty Practices: A Modality of Religious Co-existence Amongst Christian and Muslim Women in Madina
Martin Luther Darko	The Quest for Health in Madina: Health seeking across Religious Boundaries	Alice Mapenzi Kubo	Developments in the Shea sector in Ghana and their implications for livelihoods
Yusuf Daud	Federalism in Somalia: Panacea or Predicament? The role of Somali civil society organisations in the federalisation and formation of federal states	Peter Lindhoud	Ecumenical concern about racial differences and rapid social change in Northern Rhodesia 1924-1964
Paul Deutschmann	Data-driven political campaigns in West Africa: the use of political micro targeting strategies in elections in Senegal and Ivory Coast (2018-2022)	Victoria Manyá	The African Start-up Ecosystem: funding, informality and the trajectories of maturity
Joseph Fosu-Ankrah	Common Grounds: Urban Spaces, Religious Encounters and Intercommunalities in Accra's Madina, ca 1800-2020	Koundja Mayoubila	Entrepreneuriat social et connectivité au Tchad: des frictions, aux fractures numériques et sociales, à la rupture
Julia Foudraïne	International labour solidarity: The Netherlands and South Africa during the international anti-apartheid struggle, 1971-1994	Kim Molenaar	Godly Gays? Sexuality and a Pentecostal Morality in Gaborone

Crépin Marius Mougua	L'enfance et la jeunesse en période de conflit de longue durée en Centrafrique		land conflicts and cultural and socio-political dynamics at Mopti (Djenné and Pays Dogon), Mali (Cotutelle with the University of Turin)
Mpalang'a-Maruv Liévain Mwangal	Musumb and its emperors (17th-21st century). Laboratory History of cities in Central Africa	Francesca Pugliese	Working experience in the Congolese mining sector (Cotutelle with the University of Liège)
Mandipa Ndlovu	Urban Governance and Bulawayo's Political Economy in Independent Zimbabwe	Núrel Reitz	Diverging Memories: A comparative analysis of interpretations of the 1904-8 genocide in Namibia and the Majimaji War in Tanzania
Belindah Okello	Challenges of Integration: A Case Study of the migrant Luo in Mombasa Kenya, 1902-2015	Reinder Schoonhoven	Exploring Continuities and Contestations of Ancestral Worship in Igede, Benue State, Nigeria
Penina Olum	Power balance in International Development, its influence in socio economic development in the global South	Caspar Swinkels	Grounded Theory of Change: opening the black box of policy implementation using qualitative process tracing
Loes Oudenhuisen	Islam, everyday ethics, and its gendered contestations: 'wicked' women in Senegal from 1950 to the present	Konstantin Valkov	How skateboarding is influencing the social transformation and the construction of identity of South Africa's youth
Kershan Vikram Pancham	Performing Bodies across gender, race and spirit borders in South Africa	Jacqueline de Vries	'Your custom was bad. It has been changed by Government': Control over women in colonial Kom (Cameroon)
Gitty Petit	Hidden knowledge in Dodoma, Tanzania: Middle class young adults and healers in relation to objects used for health purposes	Marie-Louise Wijne	Digital Data in Development Cooperation
Ibrahima Poudiougou	Territories of violence: ethnography of		



Financial overview

(in € '000)	2022	2021
Income		
Total contribution Leiden University*	3,051	2,891
Projects for third parties	1,755	1,704
Other income (publications, etc.)	414	332
Total	5,220	4,927
Expenditures		
Personnel	4,298	4,517
Institutional costs	1,239	713
Inventory depreciation	-	-
Total	5,537	5,230

* Of which 2,949 from the Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences

Peer-reviewed journal articles and book publications

- Abbink, G.J. (2022). *Has religion been fueling the politics of conflict in Ethiopia? : a cautionary tale*. Atlanta, GA: Center for the Study of Law and Religion, Emory University. Canopy Forum, 22 October 2022.
- Abbink, G.J. (2022). History education in Ethiopia post-1991: rethinking the nation's history in the context of "decolonization" debates. *Cahiers d'Etudes africaines* (247), 487-514. doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.4000/etudesafri-aines.38994>
- Abbink, G.J. (2022). Introduction: authoritarianism, innovative regimes, and forms of resistance. In J.-N. Bach with G.J. Abbink, S. Ancel, A.A.A. Aziz, E. Fantini, P. Ferras, H. Mwakimako, C. Nallet, A. Ylönen, & J. Záhořík (Eds.), *Routledge handbook of the Horn of Africa* (pp. 251-254). London, New York: Routledge.
- Abbink, G.J. (2022). The looming spectre: a history of the 'state of emergency' in Ethiopia, 1970s-2021. In J.-N. Bach with G.J. Abbink, S. Ancel, A.A.A. Aziz, E. Fantini, P. Ferras, H. Mwakimako, C. Nallet, A. Ylönen, & J. Záhořík (Eds.), *Routledge handbook of the Horn of Africa* (pp. 302-316). London, New York: Routledge.
- Abbink, G.J. (2022). Remembering Kassahun Berhanu Alemu (1955-2022) - the man and his work. *Ethiopian Journal of the Social Sciences and Humanities (EJOSSAH)*, 18(1), 157-163. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/3563765>.
- Alwahaibi, I., Dauletova, V., & Wels, H. (2022). Camels in the Bedouin community of Oman: beyond the human-animal binary. *Anthrozoös*, 36(1), 1-14. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1080/08927936.2022.2084993>
- Ameka, F.K., & Amha, A. (2022). Research on language and culture in Africa. In S. Völkel & N. Nassenstein (Eds.), *Approaches to language and culture* (pp. 339-383). Berlin, Boston: De Gruyter Mouton.
- Bach, J.-N., with: Abbink, G.J., Ancel, S., Aziz, A.A.A., Fantini, E., Ferras, P., Mwakimako, H., Nallet, C., Ylönen, A. Záhořík, J. (2022). *Routledge handbook of the Horn of Africa*. London, New York: Routledge.
- Bedert, M., Bochow, A., & Dijk, R.A. van (2022). Conceptualizing the after-crisis through ethnographies of postcrisis situations in Africa. *Africa today*, 68(4), 1-17.
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Colophon

Annual Report 2022, African Studies Centre Leiden

Editing	Rik Jongenelen Tom Leighton Fenneken Veldkamp
Design	Akimoto, Deventer
Photographs	Anika Altaf (p. 42) Jerome Bossuet (p. 14) Rishuai Chen (p. 30) Rachid Chounounou (p. 52) Jos Damen (p. 45, 47) Madi Ditmars (p. 38, 39, 40) Jeanine Florijn (p. 46) Sandra Hazenberg (p. 5) Rik Jongenelen (p. 33, 35, 54) Jan Knappert (p. 49) Erine Mukuti (p. 17) Monique Shaw (p. 51) Caspar Swinkels (p. 64) Fenneken Veldkamp (p. 8, 16, 18, 33, 52, 58) Maeike Westra (p. 7, 11, 29, 54) Yiriwa Intercontinental Consulting (p. 43) Commonwealth Secretariat (p. 9)
Cover photo	'Gibraltar area, Dakar'. Photo by Rishuai Chen.

