



CAMBRIDGE AFRICA

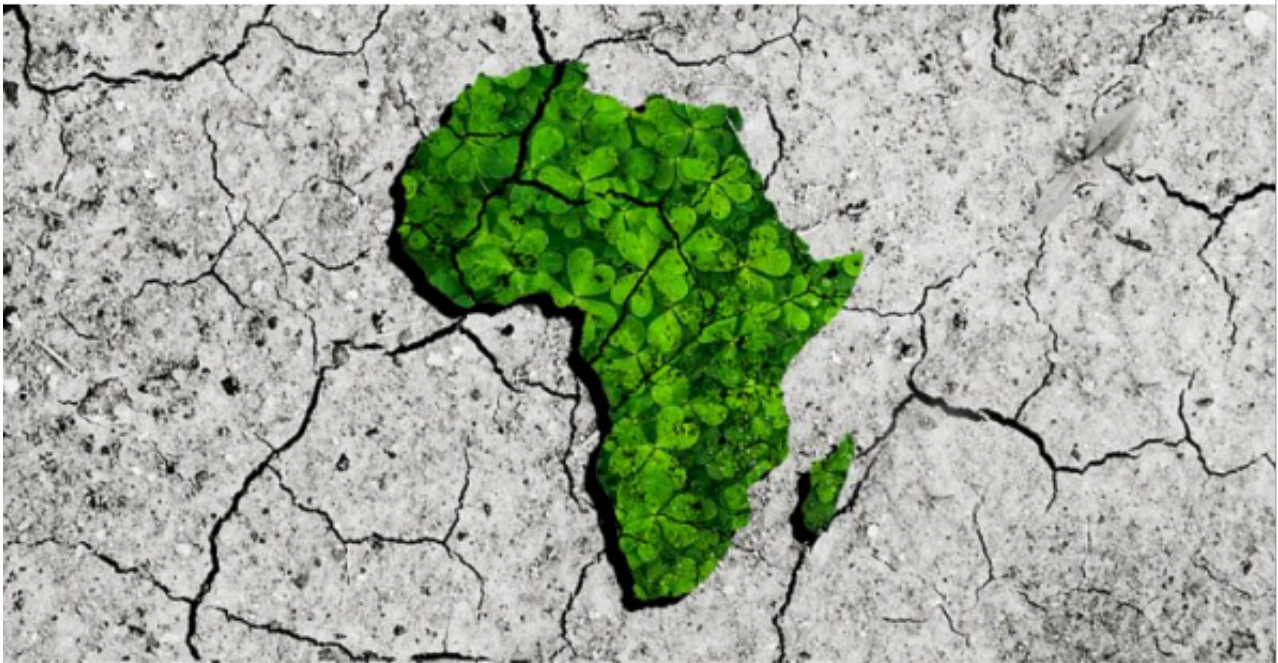


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Cambridge-Africa Autumn 2025 Newsletter

Welcome to the Cambridge-Africa newsletter for the start of the 2025-26 academic year. We have lots of exciting news to share with you.

The Mastercard Foundation and University of Cambridge
Climate Resilience and Sustainability Research Fund



The second call for Mastercard Foundation and University of Cambridge Climate Resilience and Sustainability Research Fund is now open. Pairs of Principal Investigators in Cambridge and Africa are invited to co-create applications with a broadly defined focus on climate resilience and sustainability between now and **15th January 2026**. Applications can be made for research catalyst awards of up to £20,000 and for workshops hosted in Africa for up to £50,000. Read more about this initiative on the [Cambridge-Africa website](#).

Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA Research Fund

We received an excellent response to our last call for applications for the Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA Research Fund. Thank you to all our volunteer peer-reviewers and panel members for contributing to the evaluation process. We will be informing applicants of the outcome of their application by the end of October.

Cambridge-Africa at Kings Seminars



We are re-launching the Cambridge-Africa at Kings seminars.. The first in the new series will be on **20th November 4.30 pm in the Audit Room, Kings College, Cambridge** and will be given by Dr Kingsley Daraojimba, an archaeologist with extensive experience working in southern Nigeria. Kingsley has been producing the first local environmental records from Igbo-Ukwu to help with the understanding of the creation of early urban landscapes in West Africa. Do join us for what will be a fascinating seminar, followed by a wine reception.



Igbo-Ukwu Bronze replica produced by the Factum Foundation as part of a Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA Research Fund award.

Save the Date – Cambridge-Africa Day 16th June 2026

The next Cambridge-Africa Day will be held on 16th June 2026 at Downing College, Cambridge. Please make a note of the date in your diaries. We hope you will be able to join us. Registrations will open in the spring.

Lung Health in Africa



Spirometry training at PATS-MECOR, September 2025, held at the Brackenhurst Centre, Kenya

Cambridge-Africa is delighted to continue its association with the [PATS-MECOR](#) Programme, a pan African initiative to support research into lung health across Africa. PATS (Pan African Thoracic Society) runs the MECOR (Methods in Epidemiologic, Clinical and Operations Research) course annually

for clinicians and other health professionals involved in lung health across Africa. The course strengthens research capacity and Cambridge-Africa supports the programme in conjunction with the Aldama Foundation, providing organisational and faculty input as well as linking to the opportunities provided by the Cambridge-Africa Programme.

Mastercard Foundation Scholars Programme

Applications are now open for the 2026/7 academic year. The programme themes are climate resilience and sustainability. Recognising the wide range of expertise to address this complex challenge, full scholarships for African scholars are available for a wide range of one-year MPhil postgraduate courses at the University of Cambridge.

There are also a number of webinars being held in October and November for prospective applicants from Africa to find out more about applying for the scholarships. More information is available on the [program's website](#).

Applications for the 2026/2027 academic year are now open



Other events in Cambridge

REAL centre seminars

The REAL centre has a seminar series taking place at the Faculty of Education, Cambridge in person and online, including seminars on African topics in education. The seminar on 4th November is being given by Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA Research Fund awardee Dr Dawit Getahun.

Context based learning in secondary school science classrooms in Ethiopia:
Teachers' practices and textbook representations

Tuesday 4 November, 1-2pm

Dr Dawit Asrat Getahun, Department of Psychology and School

[Register here](#)

Reconceptualising the learning crisis in Africa: Multi-dimensional pedagogies of accelerated learning programmes.

Tuesday 18 November, 1-2pm

Professor Kwame Akyeampong, The Open University; and Dr Sean Higgins, University College London Institute of Education

[Register here](#)

Cambridge Global Health Partnerships

Raising the Bar for Global Health: Developing people, delivering impact

Thursday 6 November, 6.00 pm – 8.00 pm, Botanic House (The Glasshouse) @ Innovate Cambridge, free (registration required)

Join Cambridge Global Health Partnerships (CGHP) for an inspiring evening of storytelling as recent recipients of their grants and ethical elective bursaries share their reflections. Discover how they have contributed to health partnerships that are delivering global health impact and how their experiences are shaping their clinical practice.

Register here: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/raising-the-bar-for-global-health-developing-people-delivering-impact-tickets-1733487912009?aff=oddtcreator>

Blogs

A number of blogs have been published on the [Cambridge-Africa website](#) since the last Cambridge-Africa newsletter.

Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA Research Fund awardee Dr Robert Shey wrote a blog on his work with Professor Mark Howarth on onchocerciasis (River Blindness) vaccine development. Their research focuses on developing a virus-like particle vaccine which offers a range of advantages as a way forward for vaccine development against this very disabling condition, affecting 21 million people worldwide.

Read Dr Robert Shey's blog

We reported on the very successful Postgraduate Research Symposium held in June in conjunction with the African Society of Cambridge University (ASCU). The event showcased the wonderful research being undertaken by African postgraduate scholars in Cambridge. We also heard about a range of not-for-profit activities led by students and enjoyed their creative talents.

Read the blog on the Postgraduate Research Symposium

At the Postgraduate Research Symposium, the Dr Amit Bhasin Prize was awarded to Abii-Tah Bih, a Cameroonian scholar who is undertaking research for her PhD on the Anglophone Conflict in Cameroon. Abii-Tah wrote a blog on her journey to her PhD research and the NGO she has established to support internally displaced persons in Cameroon and refugees living in neighbouring countries. Congratulations to Abii-Tah.

Read Abii-Tah's blog

Two of the graduating Cambridge-Africa PhD scholars have successfully completed their PhDs and write about their experience of their journeys to this achievement. Priscilla Bretuo and Iyeyinka Kusi-Mensah have both managed

the challenge of juggling new motherhood with their research. Priscilla's research was on non-formal education for marginalised girls in Ghana and Iyeyinka's on transitions into self-employment in Ghana and Nigeria.

Read Priscilla's blog

Read Iyeyinka's blog

Adeniyi Emmanuel, Cambridge-Africa ALBORADA coordinator, organised and hosted a number of 'Fireside Chats' with experts from Africa working in industry and UN agencies.

Read the blog on the Fireside Chats

Swabrah Masabah Halimah visited Cambridge over the summer as one of two Ugandan medical students undertaking an elective in oncology and hematology at Addenbrooke's hospital where she was hosted by Dr Martin Besser and Dr Huiqi Yang. Swabrah wrote a blog of the transformative experience of the elective as part of her journey towards a career in oncology to support the rising numbers of those with cancer in Africa.

Read Swabrah's blog

This newsletter gives you a snapshot of Cambridge-Africa activities but please do look [at our website](#) for more information on the Programme and for updates on events and opportunities. We can be contacted via enquiries@cambridge-Africa.cam.ac.uk . Our LinkedIn account is <https://www.linkedin.com/company/cambridgeafrica>
