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Annual Report 2021



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Preface

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2021 has been a year of transitions for the ASCL. Transitions in leadership and transitions in places and spaces to work and exchange. I came in as the director in April, following in the footsteps of Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald, who had been at the helm of the ASCL since 2017. Later in the year, Dr Akinyinka Akinyoade was elected as the Chair of the ASCL Researchers' Assembly when Prof. Jon Abbink stepped down after years of management contributions to the ASCL. I would like to thank both professors for their commitment to the institute and for their thoughtful and inspiring guidance over the years. We are happy that both are continuing their research and teaching activities at the ASCL. As for all ASCL staff, we transitioned from working (mostly) at home, to working in the office, to working from home again. Luckily, towards the end of the year, working in the office and travel for fieldwork for staff and students became possible again.

The ASCL's core business, conducting and publishing research on developments in and providing information on Africa as well as teaching, has continued in hybrid forms. Sometimes with alternative methodologies, but always in connection with our respondents and partners in various African countries, in Europe, and the Netherlands. The impact and consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic also triggered new questions and informed new research and partnerships. In this annual report we share with you our activities and results for 2021 with a number of highlights listed below:

- The ASCL welcomed new staff members: Anika Altaf who took up the coordination of the INCLUDE Secretariat, student assistant Robin Breedveld, INCLUDE knowledge manager Maya Turolla, and Marcel Stokhuijzen at the project office;
- We celebrated 7 PhD defences at Leiden University and other Dutch universities;



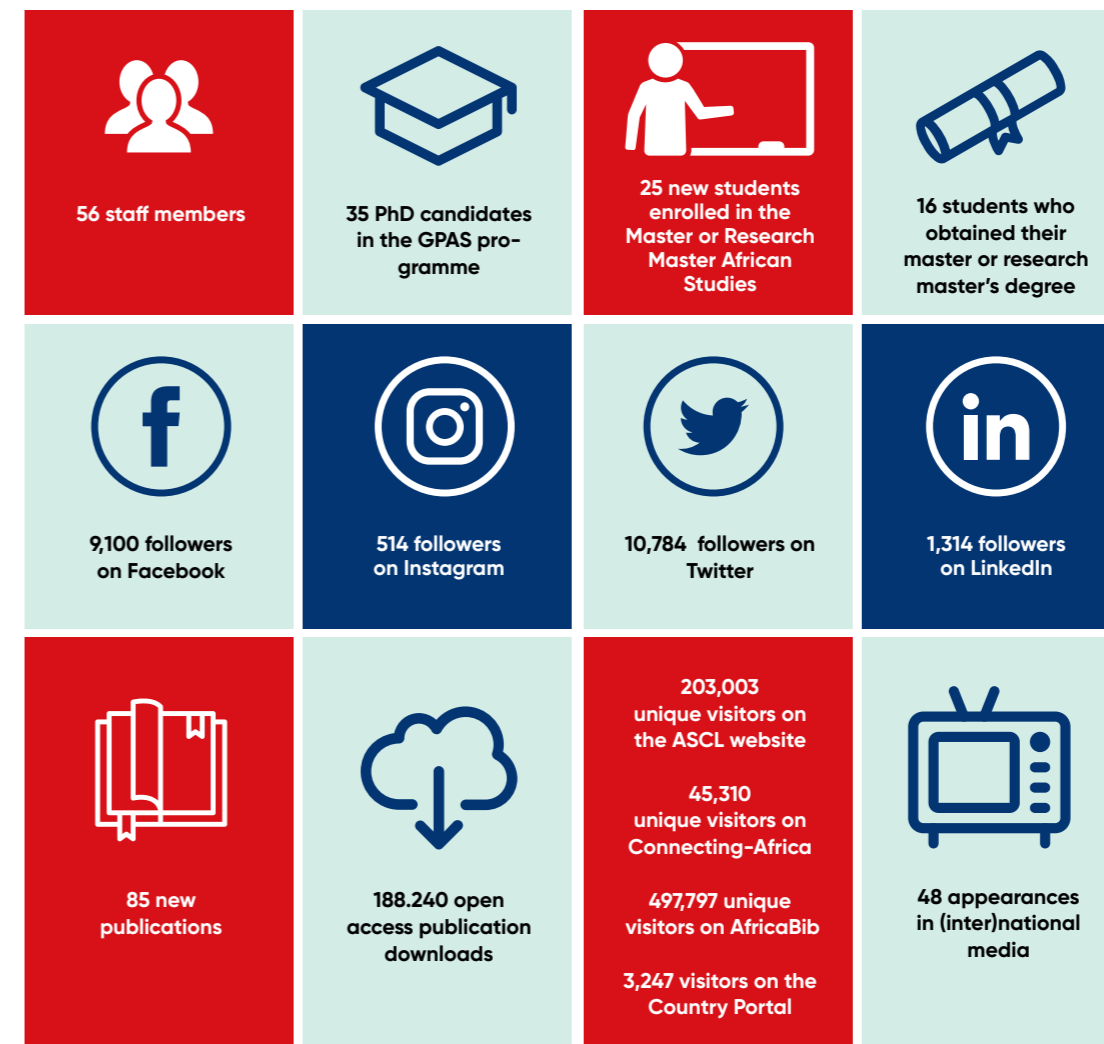
Prof. Marleen Dekker.

- Research awards and appointments: Lidewyde Berckmoes was awarded an Aspasia premium, André Leliveld received a Comenius Senior Fellowship to create an international online learning platform on frugal innovation, Mayke Kaag became Professor by Special Appointment of the Anthropology of Islam in Africa and its Diaspora at the University of Amsterdam, Mirjam de Bruijn started the DDMAC project, Annachiara Raia received a grant from the Modern Endangered Archives Program of the UCLA Library (MEAP) for the Ustadh Mau Swahili Muslim Library, and I received a NWA Small Grant myself for a project on SDGs for inclusive global development;
- The ASCL Library remained accessible during the stricter lockdown periods, welcoming students, staff, visiting scholars, and guests to enjoy the wealth of resources available;
- ASCL Library staff went on an acquisition trip to Rwanda, returning with > 600 new items;
- With two months of panels and round tables dedicated to changing and decolonising knowledge, networking, and collaboration practices, the virtual *Africa Knows!* conference established decolonisation squarely in our minds and practices. The conference website continues to be an inspirational resource with country knowledge profiles, podcasts, panel reports, and video recordings, and;
- Nanjala Nyabola gave an excellent presentation on African Feminism as a Method in the Stephen Ellis Annual Research Lecture.

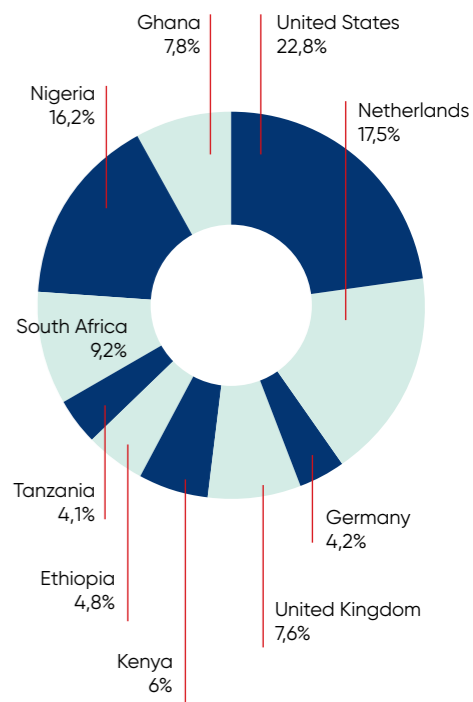
I wish you all much reading pleasure and good health!
Marleen Dekker

Facts and Figures

In 2021, the ASCL had:



Among the best visited web pages were the web dossiers, the news pages and the publications pages. A little less than half of the users of the website is visiting from an African country.



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The ASCL Africanist Blog

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The ASCL Africanist Blog is a platform for ASCL researchers and other staff members, as well as members from the ASCL Community. They blog about their research, fieldwork, conferences, new publications, and teaching experiences. They may also share their view on a development in society from an Africanist perspective. We will highlight below a few of the blog posts written in 2021.

Duncan Money wrote a **blog** with Jennifer Chansa (University of the Free State) about the nationalisation of two of Zambia's copper mines which were privatised in 2000. The greatest impact of the mines on the daily lives of local residents is their impact on the local environment: air pollution and water contamination. The government's decision to purchase the mines raised local expectations regarding its ability to 'end' pollution, Money and Chansa wrote. However, it is very likely that the government will focus first on production, they concluded.

In one of his blogs Ton Dietz **wondered** why suddenly there was so much attention being paid to the 'catastrophic Chinese support' for building a fisheries harbour in Sierra Leone, near the paradisiacal Black Johnson Beach. Western media, after all, have never really been interested in the severe environmental damage and socioeconomic misery caused by the huge mining projects in Sierra Leone, many of them owned by Western mining companies, Dietz noted.

PhD candidate Loes Oudenhuisen in her **blog** focused on feminist collectives' activities seeking justice in response to the rape culture and gender-based violence in Senegal. The societal responses to these actions show that gender and sexual rights are highly politicised in Senegal, she wrote.

Jon Abbink, last but not least, **reflected on** the parliamentary and regional state council elections that were held in Ethiopia in June under the tense conditions of the armed conflict in the Tigray Region. Despite incidents, there was no massive derailment of the electoral process, Abbink wrote, and none of the doom scenarios predicted by certain Western media materialised. He expressed hope that Ethiopian politics could enter a new phase of normality and deliberative parliamentary democracy.

Read **all blog** posts of the ASCL Africanist Blog.

Research

The African Studies Centre Leiden is an interfaculty institute at Leiden University, which specialises in research, education, information, and documentation services on Africa. It is the only multidisciplinary knowledge centre in the Netherlands specially devoted to the study of African affairs. The ASCL fulfils a key educational mandate by running the following academic programmes: a two-year Research Master's in African Studies; a one-year Master's in African Studies in collaboration with Leiden University's Faculty of Humanities; and two Leiden-Delft-Erasmus (LDE) Minors: Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development, and African Dynamics (both are multidisciplinary courses for third-year Bachelor students from the LDE universities). Common to these programmes is the built-in opportunity for students to gain field research experience in Africa.

The ASCL continues to maintain its prominence among European (and global) institutions within the realm of African Studies, as well as being a global hub of expertise and advice on matters relating to Africa for a variety of actors in the world of policymaking, diplomacy, news media, the business community, and NGOs. The library and documentation resources of the ASCL have been playing a pivotal role in this regard, with their extensive collections, research-oriented services, and expanding (digital) information services and web-based platforms.

The overarching research programme of the ASCL for the period 2019-2024 is '**Strident Africa**', in recognition of the dramatic increase in the scale of the role the continent is set to play in the coming decades. For the second year running, ASCL research activities were disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which severely impacted field research projects and forced people to mostly work remotely. These restrictions, however, increased the amount

of time devoted to writing and the usage of secondary sources of research information.

Thus, the reliance on online platforms for hosting webinars and conferences continued successfully, with worldwide participation by scholars. A prime example is the Africa Knows! conference, a large international gathering organised under the auspices of the Leiden African Studies Assembly (LeidenASA), which was able to adapt and produce interesting online sessions and panels from the beginning of December 2020 to the end of February 2021. This virtual event enabled the participation of a large number of African scholars. LeidenASA is a network of Leiden-based Africanists, which, through its design, serves as an institutional network for integrating African Studies and the study of Africa in all faculties



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of Leiden University. The platform has evolved into an effective exchange forum for Leiden University-based and visiting scholars of African Studies.

COVID-19 has evolved to become one of the pandemics that has changed the course of the world's history. How this is impacting Africa politically, socially, economically, and in terms of public health is increasingly the subject of inquiry among researchers of the ASCL. Within the Researchers' Assembly, it is also resulting in new discussions on the nature, ethics, and methodology of field research in and on Africa in times of pandemic, with reflections on the changing nature of research partnerships, 'remote' research, and related questions.

Research and publishing on Africa have remained at the core of ASCL's mission, predominantly in the social sciences and the humanities. The research programme '[Strident Africa: Societal and Environmental Change in the Context of 50 Centuries of History](#)' has continued to remain the overall framework. Four general domains of research are identified:

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

In this reporting year, most ASCL research was conducted within the four aforementioned domains. Interdisciplinarity continued as a guiding light in the research work of individual researchers and in the seven Collaborative Research Groups (CRGs).

Furthermore, the six ASCL professorial Chairs (one of which is located in the Leiden University History Department) have con-



tinued as focal points of the Centre's research activities. These six chairs are: 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 in the Governance of Finance and Integrity in Africa. The ASCL's strategic research and teaching linkage with TU Delft and Erasmus University continued to blossom in the co-management of the [International Centre for Frugal Innovation](#) (ICFI).

Writing and submission of new funding applications by staff continued, facing the same conditions of intense international competition as ever. The Centre also contributed to the works of Government Ministries such as the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through advisory research and activities.

Despite the limitations imposed by the pandemic, particularly by restrictive travel rules, international partnerships still received con-

siderable attention. The CRGs functioned as platforms for hosting visiting fellows, (foreign) guest lectures were facilitated, scientific exchanges were stimulated, and collaborative papers/chapters were written for publication in journals or collective volumes. The Researchers' Assembly (RA) of the ASCL also continued as the chief forum for institution-wide exchanges on ongoing work, ideas, and project-proposal drafts among ASCL researchers. Researchers and teaching staff met approximately every three months within the RA to discuss research and teaching news and activities, including the Graduate Programme African Studies. The RA was chaired by Jon Abbink and regularly featured presentations by other ASCL staff, such as Jos Damen, vice-director and head of the ASCL Library, and communications advisor Fenneken Veldkamp. Abbink's tenure ended in December 2021, with Akinyinka Akinyoade elected to succeed him in January 2022.



The ASCL's research and exchange partnership with the Centre for African Studies of The University of Edinburgh (UK) carried on, with the four Leiden-Edinburgh Research Groups (LERGs) formed in 2018 continuing their activities as much as possible under the COVID-19 regime. Though the two-to-three-month 'sabbatical' opportunities could not be used in Edinburgh in the backdrop of the restrictions that came with the pandemic, the works of the first two PhD candidates continued unabated. These two PhD candidates were engaged in 2019 in the context of the joint-scheme.

In continuation of its research engagement with scholars from outside the ASCL, the Centre hosted a number of (visiting) scholars from Africa and elsewhere. Compared to previous years, the number of visiting scholars was a lowly three, due to the travel restrictions. These fellows were individually attached to a CRG and to a senior ASCL researcher. The number of external PhD researchers affiliated to the ASCL's Graduate Programme of African Studies steadied.

Highlights of research conducted under the four general headings of the research programme 2019-2024 are presented below. Each section also mentions a number of representative publications.

1. Politics and Security

On the ground, events in 2021 indicated a growing disregard for democratic values. Up from one in 2020, a noticeable rise in the overthrow of governments via coups occurred in Burkina Faso, Chad, Guinea, Mali, and Sudan. These countries had been plagued by poor governance, insecurity, and a frustrated youth population; suffice it to say that there is no one-size-fits-all *raison d'être* for these. On top of all this is the continued 'grappling with Islamist insurgencies that keep spreading, capitalising on local

tensions and grievances against political elites¹. Elsewhere on the continent is the damaging and destabilising civil conflict in Ethiopia and in Mozambique. Nigeria's experience with growing criminality and insecurity appeared to be continuing unabated. Election processes were contested in Benin, Chad, Ethiopia, and Uganda. South Africa suffered an outbreak of violence and looting in the wake of the arrest of ex-President Jacob Zuma. While former President Yahya Jammeh's political party in The Gambia has returned to power via a coalition, the norm is that a return to the constitutional order 'when the conditions are right' has been the promise made in countries where democratic order has been truncated. Moreover, reaping the dividends of democracy suffered setbacks as the COVID-19 pandemic exerted further pressure on governance, public life, and economics.

The research focus of ASCL researchers and PhD candidates related to political changes, fragilities of governance, delivery of public services, elections, and other associated themes in diverse ways. Questions raised in publications include how national, regional, and international powers responded to instabilities in governance; how military takeovers are greeted by the people; and the ongoing challenges in the Sahel as well as the environmental changes across the continent. A mix of political stability and fragility was experienced across African countries; some of these countries also faced the strains of environmental challenges and climate change.

Both senior researchers and PhD candidates carried out projects related to the above themes, examining the enduring challenges of instability as well as political changes. Topical publications

1. Adapted from *The Japan Times* article of 29 January 2022 titled 'Five African Countries. Six coups. Why now?'

include Jon Abbink's exposition on '[The Tigray conflict in Ethiopia: post-war ramifications and international response](#)'. This was published in The Global Observatory – Institute of Peace (USA) blog at the start of the year, on 25 January 2021, yet it remained the 'Most read GO-IPI story for 2021'. Other equally important research works relating to politics and political upheavals include the work of L.H. Berckmoes (co-authored) on '[The Longitudinal Ethnography of Violence](#)'; Klaas van Walraven's exposé on '[Socialism in Sawaba: The Journey of Doctrines and Ideas in a Social Movement in Niger](#)'; and Mirjam de Bruijn's keynote address at the Web Science Workshop DigDivDigHum-20, entitled '[ICTs, Social Media, and Tendencies of Radicalization in the Sahel](#)'. Deeper insights were provided about the Ethiopia-Eritrea conflict as working papers by Abbink such as '[The Atlantic Community mistake on Ethiopia: counter-productive statements and data-poor policies of the EU and the USA on the Tigray conflict](#)', and '[The Politics of Conflict in Northern Ethiopia, 2020-2021: a study of war-making, media bias and policy struggle](#)', to name a few.

Key publications

Abbink, J. (2021). Law and politics in the Ethiopian-Eritrean border dispute, 2002–2019. In Andrea de Guttery, Harry H.G. Post, & Gabriella Venturini (Eds.), *The 1998–2000 Eritrea-Ethiopia War and Its Aftermath in International Legal Perspective. From the 2000 Algiers Agreements to the 2018 Peace Agreement (2nd edition)*, pp. 171–194, & 742. Springer–T.M.C. Asser Press (E-book: DOI 10.1007/978-94-6265-439-6).

Berckmoes, L. H., Rosenkrantz Lindegaard, M., & Rodgers, D. (2021). Introduction : the longitudinal ethnography of violence. In *Conflict and society*, 7(1), 96–106.

Van Walraven, K. (2021). Niger. In *Africa Yearbook: Politics, Economy and Society South of the Sahara in 2020* (pp. 145–153). Brill.

Professor by special appointment of the Anthropology of Islam in Africa and its Diaspora

As of 1 September 2021, Mayke Kaag has been named professor by special appointment of the Anthropology of Islam in Africa and its Diaspora at the Faculty of Social and Behavioural Sciences of the University of Amsterdam (UvA). The chair has been established on behalf of the African Studies Centre Leiden, and was previously occupied by our former colleague Benjamin Soares.

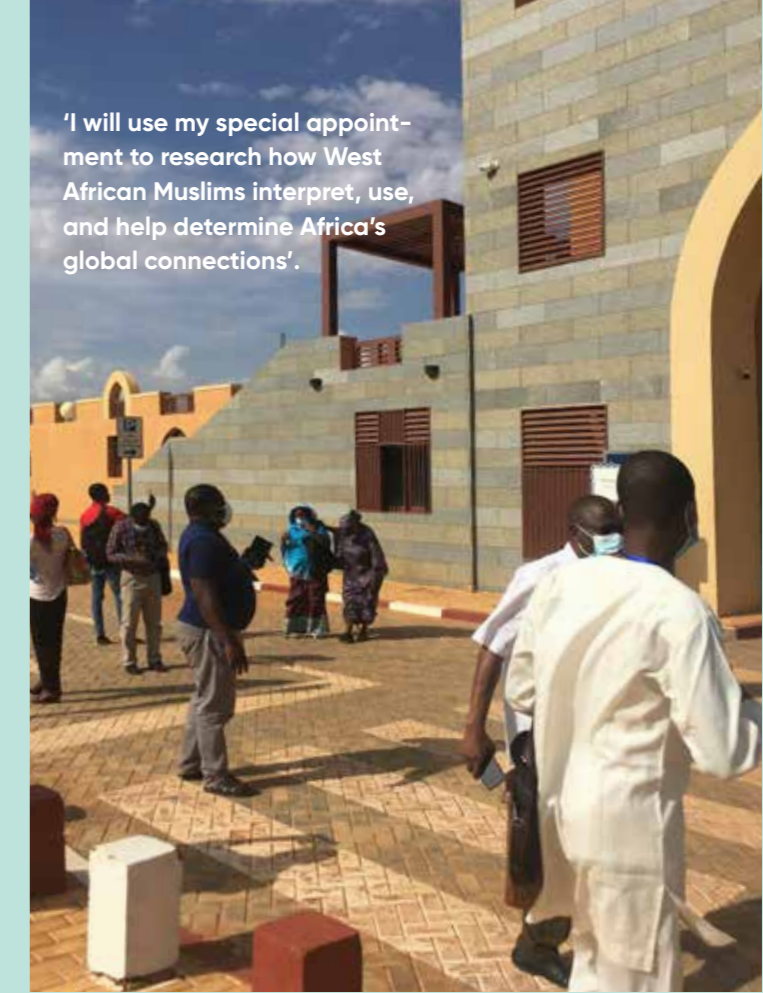


Prof. Mayke Kaag

'People who are familiar with my work, know that it is centred on the political anthropology of Africa's global connections. My research on contemporary Islam in Africa and the African diaspora also takes this perspective. Islam – in Africa as elsewhere – is a product not only of global connections but also helps to shape these connections in various ways. My research focuses primarily on connections achieved through Muslims' mobility and migration and through Islamic charities and educational institutions.

Muslims from Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly their perspectives and agency, have often been underrepresented in research on (global) Islam. I will therefore use my special appointment to research how West African Muslims interpret, use, and help determine Africa's global connections. Local cultural and political contexts are important in the analysis, as are the experiences that (categories of) African Muslims have of inclusion or exclusion, influenced by local, national, and global power dynamics. I will examine the impact that these experiences have on processes of religious meaning-making, forms of political Islam, and connections that Muslims in Africa and the diaspora establish.

'I will use my special appointment to research how West African Muslims interpret, use, and help determine Africa's global connections'.



University of King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Al Saoud in Niamey, Niger.

At the UvA, I participate in the 'Exploring Diversity: Critical ethnographies of belonging and exclusion' programme group at the Department of Social Anthropology, which falls under the Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research (AISSR). As an Africanist scholar with a background in anthropology, I find the anthropological debates very stimulating, and I greatly enjoy learning from colleagues about their research in Europe, Central Asia, and elsewhere in the world. For my part, I hope my chair will also serve as a bridge between the Exploring Diversity group and our CRG 'Africa in the World', and between UvA's Department of Anthropology and the African Studies Centre Leiden more broadly'.



2. Society and Culture

Studies on specific themes were conducted in various geographic areas of African culture. The broad spectrum of research in this area covers religious life, visual arts, and media, as well as the intracontinental and global flows in literature, music, and other cultural representations, including its diasporas. In the context of religious life, Rijk van Dijk along with other authors edited a special issue of the *Journal on Religion in Africa* on religious activism in the Southern African region.

Migration received differential attention by the ASCL researchers. For example, Rahmane Idrissa Abdoulaye wrote several chapters about migration in the context of EU-Africa, in particular about West African migration and the justice question, and unequal Europe-Africa pacts.

Akinyinka Akinyoade explored the human trafficking angle of migration in a co-edited publication with colleagues based in Italy. In this Italian publication, Akinyoade also co-authored a chapter about the feminisation of human trafficking in Nigeria: a case study of returnees from Lebanon. For Rijk van Dijk, it was more of '*A Question of Faith*' with his co-authorship in an explorative study on the relationship between West African religion, migration and human trafficking – a cooperation between the ASCL, the Centre against Child and Human Trafficking, and the University of Humanistic Studies in Utrecht. Ton Dietz published '*Migratie vanuit Afrika 2015-2019: wen er (nog steeds) maar aan*' (Migration from Africa 2015-2019: get used to it (still)) in the Dutch magazine *Geografie*.

The study of society and culture also covered language, poetry, health, and sexuality. Azeb Amha, along with others, published

about name tunes in the Oyda (Ethiopia) and Yopno (Papua New Guinea) languages. Aspects of language use, literature, and linguistic variety were seen in Annachiara Raia's work on Swahili literature and culture. Mirjam de Bruijn and Loes Oudenhuisen (PhD candidate) jointly wrote about female slam poets of francophone Africa and how words are used for social change.

In terms of health, Mirjam de Bruijn researched the impact of mobile health systems on the suppression of *Schistosoma Haematobium* in Chad. Despite the availability of relatively cheap medication, the prevalence of bilharziasis and schistosomiasis in some parts of Africa remains unnerving. Lidewyde Berckmoes and colleagues looked into the ambivalence about sexual freedom among Burundian adolescents living in the Nakivale refugee settlement in Uganda. And Loes Oudenhuisen shed light on the politicisation of gender and sexuality in Senegal.

As for Africa in general, Mayke Kaag continued her work on contemporary Africa as a centre of global encounter and connectivity, resulting in the volume *Destination Africa*, published by Brill.

Key publications

Amha, A., Slotta, J., & Sarvasy, H.S. (2021). Singing the individual: Name tunes in Oyda and Yopno. *Frontiers in Psychology*, 12(667599). Doi: 10.3389/fpsyg.2021.667599.

Attoh, F., & Akinyoade, A. (2021). La femminilizzazione della tratta di esseri umani in Nigeria: un caso studio di rimpatriati dal Libano. In A. Akinyoade, F. Carchedi, M. Galati, & M.R. Impala (Eds.) (2021). *DOPPIO SGUARDO La tratta delle donne nigeriane per sfruttamento sessuale. I dati e i servizi dedicati. Il caso della Regione Calabria* (pp. 326–351). Maggioli Editore|Romagna.

Kaag, M., Khan-Mohammad, G., Schmid, S. (2021). Introduction. In

Ustadh Mau's Swahili Muslim Library (Kenya)

Despite a global pandemic and the threat of climate change to cultural heritage, in June 2021, my proposal to the Modern Endangered Archive Program – a granting programme from the UCLA Library – on preserving Ustadh Mau's Swahili Muslim library was selected to receive funding (24 months, USD 50,000). The project, starting in July 2022, is hosted by the Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society and entails the creation of a team in situ and the cooperation of several partners, such as the ASCL Library, the National Museums of Kenya, the Hekaya Arts Initiative (Mombasa), Things That Talk (Leiden), Iwalewahaus (University of Bayreuth), and the Zanzibar Institute of Archives and Records (ZIAR).

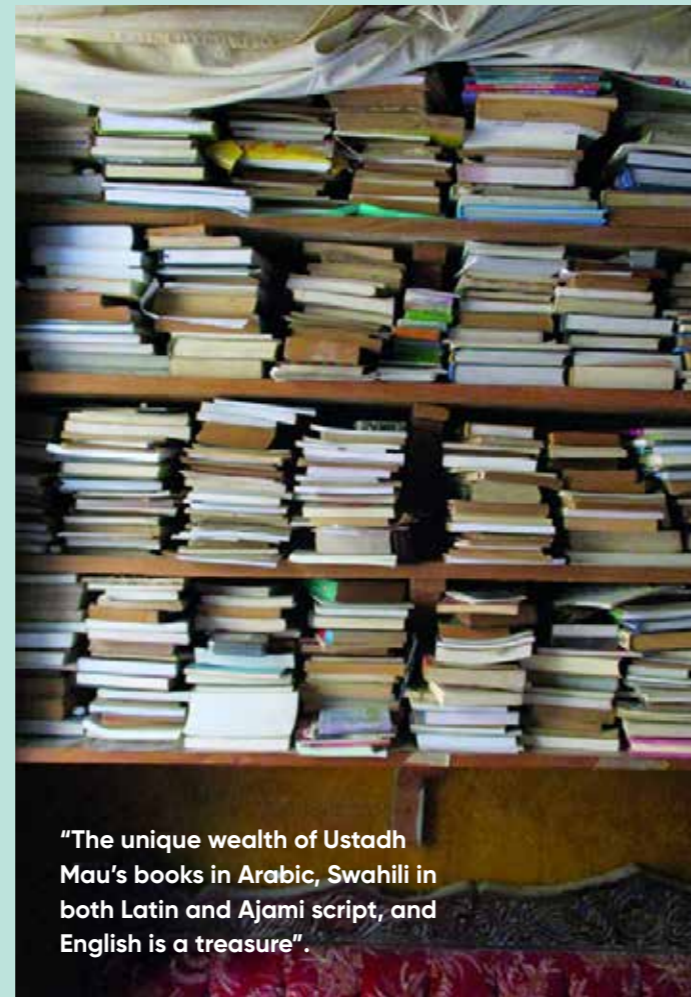


Dr Annachiara Raia

Mahmoud Ahmad Abdulkadir, locally known as Ustadh Mau, is an eminent poet, intellectual, and imam from Lamu Island, Kenya. I entered Ustadh Mau's library for the first time in 2014, and gradually came to realise the value of this library as a living archive and its relevance to the literary-historical heritage of the island. The unique wealth of Ustadh Mau's books in Arabic, Swahili in both Latin and Ajami script, and English is a treasure. As he has said about his library (*maktaba* in Swahili) in an interview, Ustadh Mau's joy lies in his books, and this joy permeates the place. The library houses Swahili manuscript poetry in Ajami, booklets and memoirs from the Middle East and India, as well as audio cassettes of Ustadh Mau's own Friday sermons, delivered weekly since 1986 at the oldest surviving mosque on Lamu. Ustadh Mau's sermons and his Swahili poetry reflect his values of education, social justice, morality, and piety; his memoirs narrate his thirst for knowledge and his social commitment.

The archival material to be digitised includes handwritten, printed, and audio materials. A great proportion consists of Ustadh Mau's own manuscript poetry, handwritten with a pen on loose-leaf paper or in notebooks. These poems are written in Swahili in Arabic script, also known as Ajami, a writing system that is facing disappearance. In several conversations with Ustadh Mau, he has revealed his own lack of interest in publishing his poems, being

The Ustadh Mau Library in Kenya.



"The unique wealth of Ustadh Mau's books in Arabic, Swahili in both Latin and Ajami script, and English is a treasure".

that his Kenyan society is more accustomed to listening than reading. This explains why several compositions have also been 'given voice', so to speak, through solo audio recordings.

Apart from texts, roughly 340 recordings of his Friday sermons and poetry, stored in MP3 files and on audio cassettes and CDs, will be digitised with the help of an audio engineering expert. These audio materials have allowed Mau's preaching and counsel to spread far and wide beyond the Lamu archipelago.

Ustadh Mau's original materials are located entirely in his home library, located in the Langoni area of Lamu's UNESCO World Heritage-listed Old Town. Not only this library in the island's Old Town, but also the entire island community has been strongly tested by environmental calamities. Sadly, Ustadh Mau's poetry, sermons, and personal photos are neither well organised nor stored in appropriate containers. For instance, his collected poems (130) are kept in envelopes that are slowly falling apart, stored in niches beneath his library roof, on top of the bookcase. Insects (*ntwa* in Kiamu) have already inflicted damage on his books; curtains to protect the books from the sun and local specific medicine to protect the books (so called, *dawa la kitabu*) can no longer help. In other words, if the digitisation is not done now, the opportunity will pass us by.

Access to Ustadh Mau's library will have a transformative impact: an open-access platform will allow for the expansion of a broader readership and begin new research into modern Swahili intellectual history. The expected outcome will be called the Ustadh Mau Digital Archive (UMADA).

M. Kaag, G. Khan-Mohammad, & S. Schmid (Eds.) (2021). *Destination Africa. Contemporary Africa as a Centre of Global Encounter*. Leiden: Brill Publishers.

Van Dijk, R., Kirsch, T.G., & Duarte dos Santos, F. (2021 (2019)). (Family resemblances in action: an introduction to religiopolitical activism in Southern Africa). *Journal of Religion in Africa*, 49(3/4).



3. Economy

The INCLUDE Knowledge Platform (see elsewhere in this report), hosted by the ASCL, continued to facilitate its several activities and projects focused on economic development, employment/youth employment, social protection and basic service delivery, entrepreneurship, and investment in Africa. Policy updates, fact-sheets, national and regional research reports focusing on natural resources and extractive industries, youth employment, decentralisation, agro-industrial value chains, and the influence of COVID-19 on economies, social policy-making, and public health are themes that the INCLUDE partners produced in publications. Hodo Hassan (MA programme) with Maya Turolla (INCLUDE Secretariat) and Hannah Itcovitz asked an underlying question in their publication entitled **‘What and when is a job decent according to youth in Africa?’**

Research work on economics in Africa at the ASCL was conducted by Marleen Dekker, Chibuike Uche, Akinyinka Akinyoade, Ton Dietz, and Caspar Swinkels. This also comprised work on multinationals, capital exports, and the inclusive development debate (by C. Uche, A. Akinyoade, and a host of partners drawn from an INCLUDE-funded multi-year research). Their research employed a blend of multiple and historical case study design, and a mix of institutional, behavioural, resource-based, and multinational theories, to examine the nature of multinational companies’ (MNC) engagements in local economic development and capital export practices in a Nigerian case analysis (FrieslandCampina, Nigerian Breweries Plc., and Dangote Cement), indicative of an African context.

Development economist André Leliveld continued his work and teaching on ‘Frugal innovations and technologies’ in Africa’s eco-

nomie transformation and development, with a focus on Eastern Africa. Marleen Dekker collaborated with others to analyse the economic consequences of ill-health in rural Ethiopia. In an interdisciplinary (history and economics) dimension, Duncan Money systematically examined changes in occupational structure and key industrial sectors of Zambia for the entire 20th century. Ton Dietz took a deep dive into the implications for financial markets and sustainable development goals as accelerated development is set to lift the economies of African countries, with a poignant question: ‘Will Africa leapfrog?’ Several ASCL researchers also contributed to policy reports for other external agencies.

Key publications

Dekker, M., Yilma, Z., Mebratie, A.D., Sparrow, R., Alemu, G., & Bedi A.S. (2021). Economic consequences of ill-health in rural Ethiopia. *Health Systems & Reform* 7(2).

Dietz, A.J. (2021). *Will Africa leapfrog? Accelerated development is set to lift the continent’s economies with big implications for financial markets and sustainable development goals*. The Hague: NN Investment Partners.

Money, D., Cohen, A., & Pilosof, R. (2021). Zambia: Changes in Occupational Structure and Key Industrial Sectors, 1900–2000. In Andrew Cohen & Rory Pilosof, *Labour and Economic Change in Southern Africa c.1900–2000: Zimbabwe, Zambia and Malawi* (pp. 104–153). London: Routledge, 2021.

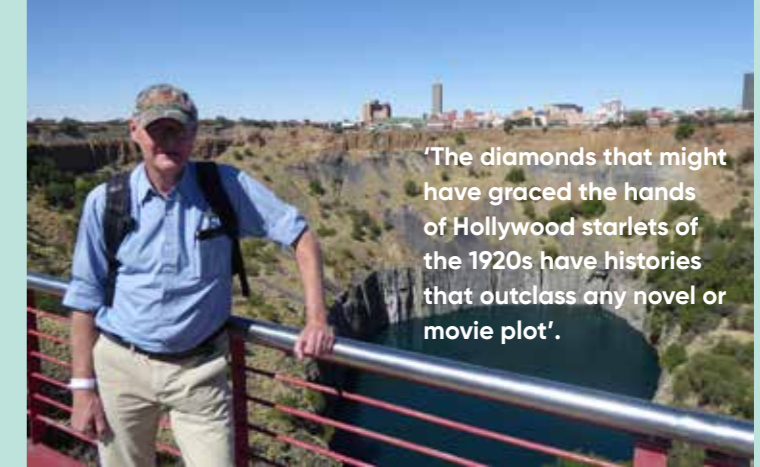
Gaping Holes: Towards Multi-species Environmental History of Diamond Mining

‘In June and November, I travelled to Kimberley, in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa, to conduct research on the multi-species environmental history of diamond mining in the area between 1870 and 1920. Central to my research are the linkages that connect mining for diamonds in South Africa with events and practices often at some far remove place. As such, my research has taken me from the municipal archives in Haarlem, to the provincial archives of the Cape in Cape Town, through to the archives of the Duggan Cronin Museum, the McGregor Museum, and the Africana Library in Kimberley. In November, I was extremely fortunate in being able to visit active mining sites with diamond diggers.

In the heat of the early afternoon, forty kilometres to the west of Douglas, diamond miner Koos van Zyl stated, *“Hier het hulle gesukkel, gesoek, en gevrek”* (“Here they struggled, sought, and died”). We were standing in a small graveyard surrounded by *Haakbos* (hook-bush), small, stunted, gnarly grey thorn bushes, that can form near impenetrable thickets. On the horizon, about ten kilometres to the south and 100 metres below us, the Orange River flowed through the arid reaches of the Northern Cape en route to the Atlantic Ocean. Behind us, a geological terrace formed by *Rooikopje* (red-kopje) sediment gravels, deposited by the Orange River countless eons ago as it cut and eroded its way to its current bedding. On the terrace, as far as the eye could see, countless mounds of stones, dug to bedrock and sorted and sieved from fist size to quarter inch in size, the detritus of the dashed dreams and harsh lives of diamond diggers who had laboured there more than a century ago. These diggers had come in search of that ever-elu-



Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald



‘The diamonds that might have graced the hands of Hollywood starlets of the 1920s have histories that outclass any novel or movie plot’.

The Big Hole near Kimberley, South Africa

sive stone, the one that would make them rich and free them forever from the toil of hard labour. Like gamblers that stayed at the table, hoping that their luck would change, they too continued until it was too late and their lives, and that of their dependents were destroyed.

At my feet I stared at the sad remains of seven grave mounds, three adults and four children. The mounds had been covered with banded ironstone rocks, and a number had been decorated with glass bottles filled with stones. On a child’s grave one of the bottles stood out, it was a small *Peck’s Anchovette Fish Paste* bottle with its distinctive ribbed glass. As a child I craved and enjoyed *Peck’s* on toast, and could well imagine that it had been placed as a remembered treat. What was striking for me were the linkages that connected this small grave-gift to a myriad of environments, practices, and the world as a whole. This small bottle, the contents of which might have cheered a child, had once been filled with fish paste derived from fish caught and salted in the Mediterranean, boiled and potted in South London, transported by Newcastle coal-powered and Strathclyde-built steamships, and traded inland by ox-waggons from the harbours of South Africa. In this small bottle the world was bound to a child who had died whilst his parents sought in vain for the diamonds that would make them rich. The diamonds that might have graced the hands of Hollywood starlets and Bloomsbury Flappers of the 1920s have histories that outclass any novel or movie plot, and long will I continue to seek them out.’



4. Historical Context

Researchers at the ASCL continue to pay attention to a thematic and country focus on the historical contexts of African society, politics, and economic life, within a perspective of long-term trends. Their research searchlights focussed on Southern Africa, Western Africa, and the Sahel, resulting in a strong output in terms of book projects, journals, special journal issues, blogs, and interviews in print and electronic media. In the Sahel, Rahmane Idrissa Abdoulaye fused both retrospective and forward accounting methodologies to showcase how *'Yesterday meets tomorrow in Sahelian intellectual currents'*, in a contribution to *The Oxford Handbook of the African Sahel*. Duncan Money walked readers along a fine line in *'Rebalancing the historical narrative or perpetuating bias? Digitising the archives of the Mineworkers' Union of Zambia'*. He focussed further attention on Zambia with a monograph on how white mineworkers operated 'in a class of their own' in the country's copper belt circa 1926-74, but went geographically wider with *'A Trove for Historians of Africa: Reflections from the International Studies Group and Research Associates'*, written in collaboration with other researchers. Tycho van der Hoog's PhD project to investigate how Southern African liberation movements cooperated in the frontline states during the period 1950 until 1990 continues to grow from strength to strength.

Key Publications

Idrissa Abdoulaye, A. (2021). The Sahel: a cognitive mapping. *New Left Review* (132), 5-39.
 Money, D, (2021). White Mineworkers on Zambia's Copperbelt, 1926-74: In *a Class of Their Own*. Brill.
 Van Walraven, K. (2021). Socialism in Sawaba: The Journey of Doctrines and Ideas in a Social Movement in Niger. In F. Blum et al. (Eds.), *Socialismes en Afrique (Socialisms in Africa)* (pp. 109-133). Éditions de la Maison des Sciences de L'Homme.

The Promises and Pitfalls of mHealth in Africa

A couple of years prior to 2021, researchers in the CRG 'Pioneering futures of health and well-being: actors, technologies and social engineering' had been conducting multiple exploratory studies on perceptions of and experiences with mHealth and schistosomiasis in Africa. Focusing on case studies particularly in Chad, using qualitative and quantitative research approaches, studies were conducted with patients and communities where mHealth interventions are being implemented, with doctors involved in these interventions, as well as with Europe-based international organisations initiating and supporting mHealth projects.



Dr Akinyinka Akinyoade

MHealth is an approach to public health in which new ICTs, mobile phones, and social media, are considered a solution to the organisation of public health in regions where there is still a deficit. A health solution is not just a medical problem. Health solutions need to be understood in a wider context, that is, not only within the environment in which the solution is being applied, but most certainly also in terms of the ideas that have helped to create the solution. Hence, we need to study a health solution in terms of its perception, its application, its reception, and its outcomes. We are following in the steps of technology and society studies that see a technology as being appropriated by society and also include its specific development in the sociopolitical context of a specific environment. Due to mobile-phone penetration, hopes have been placed in mHealth to increase access to healthcare.

Thus, the theme of the CRG is based on a humanities approach to mHealth, with a special focus on schistosomiasis (bilharzia), as representative of 'forgotten diseases' in the Sahel and parts of East Africa. The core group of ASCL researchers and students that share a common interest in this theme has expanded, with new members from Chad, Mali, Uganda, and the UK. These connections allow for the adoption of multi-modal research methods, as well as multi-sectoral considerations, and perspectives that signal different entry points of evaluation.



'Studies were conducted with patients and communities where mHealth interventions are being implemented, with doctors involved in these interventions'.

Example of mHealth in Madagascar.

Collaborative Research Groups

Seven collaborative research groups were active under the auspices of the ASCL research programme in 2021. Working hand-in-hand with the ASCL academic researchers were the information specialists of the ASCL Library and support staff members of the ASCL, as well as associate members from other institutions in the Netherlands and abroad. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, many CRG research activities and exchanges were conducted via digital platforms by members and associates. The output of the active CRGs are hereby highlighted:

Africa in the World: Rethinking Africa's Global Connections (Convenor: M. Kaag)

The theme of this group centres on the rapidly changing context of Africa and its connections in a multipolar world. To this end, the group continues to investigate the contemporary dynamics of intensified global engagement within a sociological and historical context, along with the underlying African perspectives and agency in the ensuing processes. Members of the CRG contributed their work in the field of Africa's global connections at various seminars, workshops, conferences, and in their publications. The previously postponed international workshop, 'Travelling Islam. The Circulation of Religious Ideas in Africa (and Beyond)', in collaboration with the Leiden University Centre for the Study of Islam in Society (LUCIS) and the Centre for the Arts in Society (LUCAS), was held on 24–25 June; while the edited volume *Destination Africa: Contemporary Africa as a Centre of Global Encounter* (on the basis of the conference co-organised by the CRG in 2018) was published in the Brill AEGIS series in July.



Collaboration and contestation in words: Dialogues and disputes in African social realities (Convenor: R. van Dijk)

This CRG has discursive competition, polemics, and exchanges, which are prominent in global and African media and political arenas, as their central theme. The CRG members had digital interactions throughout the year and met in person during a CRG meeting in September, when PhD candidate Loes Oudenhuisen gave a presentation about fieldwork in Senegal (also read her blog [Feminists and other dangerous elements: the politicisation of gender and sexuality in Senegal](#)). One of the main outcomes of the CRG's discussions was the conceptualising of a masterclass series for 2022 around the theme of sexual polemics.

Governance, entrepreneurship, and inclusive development (Convenor: A. Leliveld)

The main objective of this CRG is to explore the interrelationship between governance, entrepreneurship, and inclusive development. In order to achieve the CRG objectives, its members collaborate on research projects and publications, in which the interdisciplinarity of the group becomes clearly visible. As in 2020, COVID-19 was an impediment for the CRG's achieving the goals it had set for 2021. A change of convenorship took place in April 2021, after it became known that Marleen Dekker – who at that time was the convenor – would become the new ASCL Director. André Leliveld took over the convenorship from her. A newly admitted independent PhD candidate, Victoria Many, also swelled the ranks of the group. Despite these transitions, the CRG succeeded in making substantial progress in its thinking about a special issue and what it should be about. Three areas of focus were considered and discussed: the challenges of entrepreneurs and how they overcome them; tension between governance and entrepreneurship on different levels; and different meanings of entrepreneurship. A draft document was written and discussed at two meetings.

Pioneering futures of health and well-being: Actors, technologies, and social engineering (Convenor: Akinyinka Akinyoade)

The central plank of this CRG is to pioneer research on topics like mHealth, health insurance, and other emerging fields which combine new technologies and actors in the domain of healthcare and well-being in and on Africa. In 2021, the humanities approach to mHealth, with a special focus on schistosomiasis (bilharzia), as representative of 'forgotten diseases' in the Sahel and parts of East Africa, remained at the core of the CRG's activities. Using



data and other pertinent information acquired from an ongoing field research effort conducted in Chad and Mali, and extended to Uganda (in 2020), the CRG organised a seminar in June 2021 to present emergent findings from these studies so as to gain a deeper understanding of the promise and pitfalls of mHealth in Africa. These preliminary insights became useful for the identification of critical issues and gaps that need to be filled, not only in future research and practice but also as the foundation articles for a book publication in the ASCL flagship African Dynamics Series of Brill Publishers in 2022. Janina Hubmann undertook an MA research internship exercise with the CRG in the Netherlands (due to the COVID-19 travel restrictions) and utilised literature, data, and CRG connections to Africa-based stakeholders for her MA research. The CRG also hosted Dr Valentina Fusari for a three-month long ASCL Visiting Fellowship programme. A new CRG Chair, in the person of Akinyinka Akinyoade, was elected by popular vote to take over the administrative reigns and build on the strong foundations of Mirjam de Bruijn.

Rethinking Contemporary African History and Historiography (Convenor: Klaas van Walraven)

'African History' is the only CRG at the ASCL that is organised around a disciplinary interest, that is, questions concerning the history of Africa and historicising perspectives on African cultures and societies. As such, it assembles historians and social scientists working on Africa and interested in the continent's historical dynamics. The CRG was able to organise one physical meeting in 2021. Specifically, on 22 June Dr Ettore Morelli presented a paper entitled 'The kingdom of the Barolong, *kgosi* Tau and smallpox in 18th century Southern Africa'. Irrespective of the COVID-19 travel restrictions, the CRG History engagements continued among members in the Netherlands and abroad, through exchanging ideas about ongoing research, regarding historical, historiographical, and methodological questions in the widest sense of the term. The AEGIS African History CRG conference, in which this CRG plays a strong role and which was cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions at Leiden University, had to be postponed to 2022.



Trans-species Perspectives on African Studies (Convenor: H. Wels)

The research focus of this CRG is on relations between humans ('human animals') and other species in Africa, both as conceptualised in local African societies and cultures, and in academic research and policy. This CRG research project aims at a paradigm shift in the study of humans and other species in African society and history, away from a 'humans only' approach.

In 2021, the CRG focused most of all on the completion and defence of the PhD thesis of Michael Glover, the first within the ASCL on a 'trans-species' theme, entitled 'Cattle and Colonialism'. Online, Michael successfully defended his thesis on 23 November. Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald was his supervisor. While waiting to present his defence, Michael worked on an edited volume on the topic of animals in history, together with Les Mitchell, that will in time be published in the ASCL Brill Series. In addition to Michael Glover's work, the CRG supported Vanessa Wijngaarden in her application for a Visiting Fellowship at the ASCL in 2022. Also a first.

Patterns of Living in Southern Africa, 1780s to the Present (Convenor D. Money)

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 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. The year 2021 was a research-planting moment, one main outcome of which were deliberations for holding a workshop at the ASCL in

2022 with the theme of multi-species histories and ethnographies of mining in Southern Africa.

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, continued unabated. The four PhD candidates in the joint cohort, two at the ASCL and two at the Centre of African Studies in Edinburgh, kicked off their respective projects, and we organised two online exchanges on urban perspectives and concept development. One of the Leiden-Edinburgh Research Groups ('Inequalities on the move: Student inequality and career aspirations in higher education') published a scoping review of the literature in *Development Policy Review* (Reinders, Dekker, Falisse: *Inequalities in higher education in low- and middle-income countries: A scoping review of the literature*).

LeidenASA

LeidenASA, the Leiden African Studies Assembly, is the network of Africa specialists of Leiden University. While an array of activities was planned under the auspices of 'Africa 2020' to mark the year in which seventeen countries on the African continent celebrated 60 years of independence, most of those activities had to be postponed to 2021 (and 2022) due to the COVID-19 pandemic. One of its key activities was a conference with the theme *Africa Knows!*, originally planned as a three-day physical conference in Leiden/The Hague, which in the end was successfully turned into a three-month online conference (December 2020 - February 2021).

As part of the 'Africa 2020' activities, *country profiles* for all African countries celebrating their 60th independence anniversary were

launched. After the first 17 country profiles were published in 2020, Sierra Leone and Tanzania were added to the list in 2021. The country profiles will be incrementally constructed in forthcoming years and will systematise political, social, economic, demographic and agricultural developments in related countries in their first six decades of existence.



The ASCL and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

ASCL researchers are committed to the dissemination and impact of their research results and how these contribute to policy discussions 'to improve the world'. From this emanates a sustained interest in the seventeen SDGs declared in 2015 by the UN.

In 2021, the ASCL maintained its unique position as a knowledge hub for Dutch contributions to several of the SDGs in respect to Africa. The *website* gives access to a range of research and education activities as well as publications on the SDGs. Below, we provide a selection of ASCL contributions to the debate on the themes involved and the underlying assumptions of the SDGs over the past year.

1. No poverty

The *INCLUDE Knowledge Platform*, hosted by the ASCL, promotes evidence-based policy-making on inclusive development in Africa. Its annual conference, that took place in June, focused on COVID-19 and recovery, African Policy Dialogues, social protection, and youth employment. Zeroing in on this last theme were multiple *Youth@Work* webinar series where subthemes such as rural economy, green economy, work hazards and the like were related to the provision of and access to employment for young people in Africa. Duncan Money and colleagues took a historical approach in Zambia by examining changes in occupational structure and key industrial sectors between 1900 and 2000, which resulted in a book chapter.



2. Zero hunger

The importance of cash transfers for food security was also addressed in the work of the *INCLUDE Knowledge Platform*. Specifically, the concluding report of the '*Cash transfer for food security project*', conducted by The Broker in conjunction with three Dutch knowledge platforms, was published in February 2021. The report contains discussions of how, and the extent to which cash transfers can be an effective way of bringing about food security in fragile settings. Research on food and water security issues was done by ASCL staff member Akinyinka Akinyoade.



3. Good health and well-being

Good health and well-being (physically and mentally) was treated in publications and ongoing research by Marleen Dekker, Lidewyde Berckmoes, Mirjam de Bruijn, and Akinyinka Akinyoade, along with various ASCL-affiliated PhD research projects. Research work on depression and post-traumatic stress symptoms is visible in the output of Berckmoes, while the collaborative research group 'Pioneering Health' deepened its field evaluations of mHealth systems and its associations 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, which will build towards bigger research endeavours in the coming years. The pandemic's interdisciplinary connections with migration studies could be found in Akinyoade's collaborative publication on the conditions of female returnees from Lebanon in Nigeria during the unfolding COVID-19 crisis.



4. Quality education

The overall theme of the Africa Knows! conference was decolonising knowledge, to which its very online set-up actually contributed. As part of the conference, 54 country profiles on education and knowledge institutions in Africa and their development between 1960–2020 were published. In 2021 the [Africa Knows! website](#) was adapted so that it will remain fully accessible for future scientists, students, and all other stakeholders as a useful source of information.

The ASCL co-organises 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.

Some of the research done by ASCL staff focused on education in Africa. See, for example, Marleen Dekker's collaborative publication on 'Inequalities in higher education in low and middle income countries: A scoping review of the literature'.

5. Gender equality

Research at the ASCL about gender relations is highlighted in the PhD work of Loes Oudenhuijsen who published a piece about feminists and the politicisation of gender and sexuality in



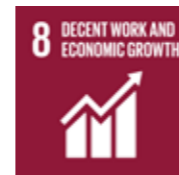
Senegal. Attention to gender issues remained embedded in many research projects at the ASCL, and indirectly related to this is Lidewyde Berckmoes' collaborative publication on crisis, social reproduction, and transformation in Burundi's transnational families.

7. Affordable and clean energy

The Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa (in 2021 renamed as the International Centre for Frugal Innovation) of the Leiden–Delft–Erasmus universities' consortium retained its pride of place with this theme being addressed in various projects and in teaching curricula for 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 Chibuiké Uche, Duncan Money, Ton Dietz, and Mayke Kaag, under the aegis of the INCLUDE Knowledge Platform. Balanced economic growth adapted to local conditions also features in the research focus of the International Centre for Frugal Innovation (co-directed by André Leliveld), while the Strengthening the Reform Agenda (StRA) project on Ethiopia (coordinated by J. Abbink and Y. Nigatu) maintained its thematic focus on policy options for creating more youth employment and on fostering direct foreign investment.



9. Industry, innovation, and infrastructure

The International Centre for Frugal Innovation in which the ASCL participates, remains an efficient hub for teaching and research on these issues. The minor programmes on Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development and African Dynamics paid ample attention to innovation in relation to the SDGs. The INCLUDE Knowledge Platform announced that researchers from former INCLUDE programmes won two project grants in the WOTRO Impact and Innovation Grants.

10. Reduced inequalities

Issues of inequality in terms of access to new innovations and entrepreneurial activities remained key discussion points in the CRG Governance, Entrepreneurship, and Inclusive Development. Noteworthy here is also the expansive desk research project about inequalities in higher education in low and middle income countries, conducted by Marleen Dekker along with former colleagues of INCLUDE.

11. Sustainable cities and communities

Africa's urban contexts continues to provide a setting for huge research interest in the themes of sexuality and social change for some ASCL researchers. See Loes Oudenhuijsen's work '[Quietly queer\(ing\): the normative value of sutra and its potential for young women in urban Senegal](#)'. Duncan Money gave insight into urban and social change in Central Africa's borderland communities, viz. in Zambia's Copperbelt. In the two MA programmes, urbanisation features prominently, while the PhD projects of the four Leid-



en–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 changing lifestyles in Africa (and among African diaspora communities) as entry points for research, take the work of Duncan Money on Southern Africa, Jon Abbink on the dialectics of bonding and contestation, and by Rijk van Dijk, also on Southern Africa, in publications and discussions about mixed race marriage and the meaning of human rights and religious activism.

13. Climate action

Climate change and environmental challenges featured in the research work of staff members such as Jon Abbink, Akinyinka Akinyoade, Ton Dietz, and Mirjam de Bruijn. For example, Jon Abbink dealt with the question how agro-pastoralists cope with climate change, using evidence from a case study of the Nyangatom in the Lower Omo Valley of Ethiopia. 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

All ASCL research in 2021 took place above water.



15. Life on land

The CRG Trans-Species Perspectives on African Studies calls to study and research social issues by including non-human animal perspectives. In a blog post, its convenor Harry Wels did suggestions for 'species inclusivity' in the curriculum and teaching of African Studies.

Extensive research coverage of the conflict situation in Ethiopia and Eritrea (J. Abbink), political vigilantism in Ghana (L. Berckmoes), and 'ICTs, Social Media and Tendencies of Radicalization in the Sahel' (M. de Bruijn) are to be noted here, since they consider land resource and its linkage to conflict.



16. Peace and justice, strong institutions

Political change, turmoil, radical ideologies, and security feature in the research works of Klaas van Walraven, Duncan Money, Jon Abbink, and Mirjam de Bruijn, as well as a good number of PhD candidates. This SDG 16 is also being addressed in ongoing externally funded projects such as the Strengthening the Reform Agenda (Ethiopia) project, and in many INCLUDE Knowledge Platform activities and working papers.



17. Partnerships for the goals

The ASCL remains a network hub function via existing research projects and actively maintains its connections to the Netherlands and Africa, and the knowledge sector with diplomacy, policy, business, and civil society in countries in the Global North and South. The **ASCL Community** also constitutes a valuable bank of contacts and resource persons working in and on Africa. The ASCL continues a linkage



with **ECDPM** (Maastricht), **SAIL**, and **EADI**, and is a partner and a prominent (founding) member of the European **AEGIS** network. In Leiden, the ASCL is partner of **LeidenGlobal**. In various externally funded research projects, ASCL staff continued their collaboration with local counterparts in Africa, both in academia and the policy-making world, a main example of which is the African-Dutch Knowledge Platform **INCLUDE**.

PhD Research

Graduate Programme African Studies

Unfortunately, for many of the ASCL PhD candidates, 2021 was another 'lost year' because of the impossibility of conducting fieldwork in Africa due to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

The regular GPAS meetings continued fully online and were, in general, well attended. In 2021 a GPAS committee was established, chaired by the director of the GPAS, Prof. Rijk van Dijk, and consisting of representatives of the PhD candidates, the support staff, and the ASCL Library. Its aim was to advise and discuss on matters relating to the GPAS programme, the supervision of students, and the practicalities of the completion of PhD trajectories.



Visiting PhD candidate Abeer Abazeed successfully defended her PhD dissertation on 21 April.

Six new PhD candidates started their projects in 2021. An overview of GPAS candidates can be found at the end of this report.

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 2021 (only ASCL promotors are mentioned):

Gerda Hooghordel

Reeds in the wind of change: Zulu sangomas in transition
30 March 2021 at Leiden University
Promotor: Rijk van Dijk

Martin van Vliet

Beyond institutional blueprints: hybrid security provision and democratic practice in Mali
21 April 2021 at Leiden University
Promotor: Jon Abbink

Bert van Pinxteren

Language, education and identity in Africa
16 September 2021 at Leiden University
Co-promotor: Akinyinka Akinyoade

Michael Glover

Cattle and colonialism: an animal-centred history of Southern Africa, 1652-1980s
23 November 2021 at Leiden University
Promotor: Jan-Bart Gewald
Co-promotor: Harry Wels

Nakar Djindil Syntyche

Insécurité Alimentaire et stress politique au Guéra, Tchad 1965-2006: Étude de l'impact à long terme des violences sur la production agricole, l'organisation sociale et l'accès aux services de santé

24 November 2021 at Leiden University
Promotor: Mirjam de Bruijn

Larissa Schulte Nordholt

Africanising African history: decolonisation of knowledge in UNESCO's general history of Africa (1964-1998)

1 December 2021 at Leiden University
Promotor: Jan-Bart Gewald

Amisah Bakuri

In pursuit of well-being – Sexuality and religion among Ghanaian-Dutch and Somali-Dutch in the Netherlands

22 December 2021 at the University of Amsterdam
Promotor: Rijk van Dijk

**Meet the PhD candidate:
Ibrahima Poudiougou**

Since 2018, Ibrahima Poudiougou has been a joint PhD candidate at the Department of Culture, Politics, and Society of the University of Turin and at the African Studies Centre Leiden.

'As part of my PhD research, I conducted extensive fieldwork between 2018 and 2021 (13 months) in central Mali, specifically among the Dogon, in order to understand the sociopolitical changes that the armed conflict has generated since 2016. My aim is to study land conflicts and agricultural migrations from a historical and anthropological perspective in order to better understand the complex interactions they have with the armed conflict. This allows me to move away from a purely security-oriented approach by highlighting the social changes generated by the formation of self-defence groups in rural areas (in reaction to jihadist groups) and the new forms of social and political relations that are emerging in central Mali. Such an approach is facilitated by the immense documentary resources that I can access through the library of the African Studies Centre Leiden, but also by the continuous exchanges with other ASCL PhD candidates and senior researchers. This makes Leiden a good environment to grow intellectually by developing the capacity to critically approach some of the traditional topics of African Studies.'



Ibrahima Poudiougou

PhD Defence: Michael Glover

'In 2016, Dr Harry Wels and Prof. Jan-Bart Gewald convinced me that it wasn't too controversial and I didn't need to wait until later in my career to write serious animal-centred histories. They soon invited me to write a chapter on the possibility of a cattle-centred history of Southern Africa for a book they were editing, and so began my trajectory as a historian of Southern African cattle.'

In 2018, I registered for a PhD with the ASCL. Maaïke Westra graciously helped me to arrange a cotutelle agreement with the University of the Free State in South Africa. I was based in South Africa most of the time during the PhD process (2018-2021) but happily spent about a year in Leiden during that spell. My PhD thesis title is 'Cattle and colonialism: an animal-centred history of Southern Africa, 1652-1980s'. It was conferred in 2021. Its core question is 'What are some of the major impacts of colonialism on the group and individual experiences of cattle in Southern Africa?' It comprises a history of Southern African colonialism from the perspective of cattle's experiences. Quite a few people tried to warn me about trying to write a regional history on top of writing a new kind of history in which the animals are central. But these two ASCL scholars weren't daunted and often encouraged me to go further than I thought prudent at the time. The reading burden of a regional history is heavier than that of a local or national history, and it's harder to work the archives of six countries than of one. But Dr Wels was a very competent and cheerful and professional supervisor. Maaïke Westra's administrative support was also very enabling. So, while it was intellectually challenging, my PhD journey was mostly very enjoyable. What I really liked



Dr Michael Glover

about studying at the ASCL was the commitment to research freedom and the broad-mindedness of those I encountered. For the research, I even did fieldwork for a month in the Karoo in South Africa, with a herd of 17 free-roaming, indigenous, Southern African Nguni cattle. My research was unique in that in a sustained, evidence-based way, it told histories of how cattle were subjectively impacted by colonialism for over 300 years in Southern Africa, and I think the ASCL played a part in that.'

Guests at the ASCL

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Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, fewer visiting fellows stayed at the ASCL in 2021 than in previous years. However, it was great to welcome the following guests at our institute.

Valentina Fusari

Valentina Fusari graduated in Cultural Anthropology and Ethnology at the University of Siena (2006), holds a PhD in Geopolitics (University of Pisa, 2011), and attended the Collen Program on Fertility, Education, and the Environment (University of Oxford, 2014).

Her research is broadly rooted in demographic anthropology, social history, and colonial demography, and promotes an interdisciplinary perspective. Her research interests focus on the dynamics of fertility, hidden population, and mixedness in the Horn of Africa, where she carried out her fieldwork (Eritrea and Ethiopia). Current projects concern the social and geographical mobility of the Italo-Eritrean population in postcolonial Eritrea, and the agency of female missionaries in colonial/postcolonial Eritrea.

Her research project at the ASCL investigated the recent drop in fertility rates in Eritrea (1991–2020), with particular attention to changes attributable to proxy determinants, including reproductive health, female education, as well as mobility and the socio-political environment, which resulted in demographic behaviours that move away from tradition, altering the population's structure and dynamics.



Ettore Morelli

Ettore Morelli is a historian of Southern Africa. He is currently a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Pavia, Italy, and a member of the PRIN (Research Project of National Relevance) Genealogies of African Freedoms. His past affiliation included the University of Cape Town, where he was Postdoctoral Fellow at the APC (Archive and Public Culture Research Initiative), and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), where he taught as Senior Teaching Fellow and, before that, where he obtained his PhD in History.

Ettore's main research area is the history of the interior of Southern Africa before colonialism, ca.1500–ca.1850.

At the ASCL, Ettore worked on his principal project, the book project based on his PhD thesis. The book will be a history of the region stretching from the modern border of Botswana to the Maloti-Drakensberg mountains in modern Lesotho, in the roughly three centuries before formal colonialism (ca.1500–ca.1850).



Jacqueline Kisato

Jacqueline Kisato is a lecturer in Fashion Marketing at Kenyatta University. She holds a PhD in E-Marketing in Fashion MSEs and is a Master's trainer in entrepreneurship in partnership with a German university and UNESCO. Jacqueline's research mainly focuses on E-marketing and sustainable entrepreneurship for micro and small enterprises in African countries. The focus of her work is mainly researching on how to build sustainable and innovative businesses that leverage technology and have a positive impact on the environment.

Jacqueline is also currently principal investigator in a multidisciplinary project on creating biodegradable packaging and sanitary towels from banana pseudo stems. This is a research-based project funded by Kenya's national funding agency NRF (National Research Fund–2020–2023) that aims at producing evidence-based research, biodegradable sanitary towels and packaging, creating sustainable entrepreneurial ventures for women and youth, and innovative business models that have a green footprint and positive environmental dividends.



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A total of 25 new students started the (Research) Master African Studies in 2021.

(Research) Master in African Studies 2020–2021

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.

The *Master* and *Research Master* in African Studies are a respective one- and two-year MA programme of the ASCL at Leiden University. In November 2021, a total of 16 students obtained their diploma. Mira Demirdirek, Christen Faver, Hodo Hassan, Janina

Hubmann, Shannon Lorimer, Samantha da Luz, Joris Martens, Marcia Semedo Gonçalves, and Femke van Zeijl deserve a special mention as they obtained their degree with distinction.

(Research) Master's Theses Completed in 2021

Marly van den Boom (MA)

A Cup of Gender Equal Impact: A research into Moyee Coffee and the FairChain Foundation and their possible contribution to the realization of the Fifth Goal of Sustainable Development Goal Agenda 2030

Mira Demirdirek (MA)

"My phone is like my office": Youth, refugees and digital livelihoods in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Christen Faver (MA)

(Re)Producing identity tensions: an in-depth look at the integration and output of non-nationals in South Africa's cultural industries

Hodo Hassan (MA)

Quietly Queer: Queer Women and Their Quest for Decent Work in Urban Kenya

Janina Hubmann (MA)

Health Solutions for Africa. A Qualitative Analysis of European-Based Approaches

Diene de Jong (MA)

Agricultural Policies and Food Security in Nigeria: Agriculture as the road to the promised land of food security

Shannon Lorimer (MA)

Social media and cultural violence in northern Nigeria

Samantha da Luz (MA)

From Mining Conflict to Multi-Stakeholder Collaboration: How multi-stakeholder platforms can promote inclusive and sustainable mining governance in Sub-Saharan Africa

Joris Martens (MA)

Towards a better understanding of the decline of pineapple production in Ghana: reintroducing critical political economy in the analysis of global value chains

Daniel Okiror (MA)

Forging cultural identity from the "margins": An investigation into the Iteso traditional music and performances

Tikam Sall (ResMA)

Decolonising Opportunities and Impediments for History and Geography Teaching in Senegalese High Schools

Jochem Scheelings (MA)

"Pan-Germanism, Pan-Asianism, Pan-Africanism": Three ethnic unification movements from the 20th century examined, compared and contrasted

Marcia Semedo Gonçalves (MA)

Re-Writing the Historical Past: Literary Representations of the Rwandan Genocide

Junyang Shen (MA)

Linguistic Landscape of Tourist Attractions in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



Bernardo Tiberi Venturucci was a Research Master graduate of 2021.

Bernardo Tiberi Venturucci (ResMA)

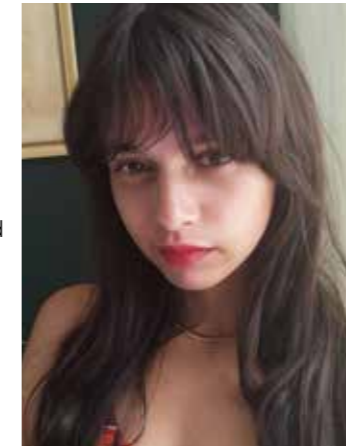
Language and Intentionality: Exploring agency in language use as a marker of identity among Senegalese street sellers in Florence

Femke van Zeijl (MA)

The Curious Case of Casa do Fernandez: Challenges of Heritage Management in Nigeria

Alumna MA – Samantha da Luz

'I am Dutch and Cape Verdean but born and raised in the Netherlands. After a Bachelor in Liberal Arts and Sciences, I decided to follow my instinct and interests by taking up an MA in African Studies.



Samantha da Luz

I will not lie – I was motivated by the internship opportunity in Africa. The programme therefore started with disappointment, as travel to Africa was prohibited due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Lessons also soon switched to online, leaving little chance to explore university life. What was supposed to be the time when I would find a sense of direction and develop professionally and personally, seemed lost to me.

But my dramatic reaction was uncalled for. The programme was definitely intense but extremely rewarding. Both staff and students helped me immensely expand my knowledge of Africa. I was drawn to natural resources governance, and – due to the work-from-home restrictions – was able to intern at an American organisation specialised in this field. After three months of literature review, interviews, and report writing, the organisation offered me a Research Analyst position. Even before graduating, the Master's had resulted in a job. On a more personal level, while conducting my very first "field" assignment, I met a Ghanaian alumnus of Leiden University. He turned out to be a great interviewee, and also the love of my life.

I started the MA African Studies feeling pessimistic, but now I can say it has formed and transformed me for the better. I am currently working at my internship organisation but will shortly make another unexpected turn: starting a career in finance at Robeco. To sum up, I am still finding myself, but my studies have certainly pushed me in the right direction.'

Alumna MA – Rebecca Alcolea Krauss

'The African Studies Master was a fantastic and enriching learning experience. I gained precious knowledge and accessed the right tools to explore and understand the world around me. Moreover, the engaging nature of the courses through class discussions and group projects enabled me to understand the subject matter much better.' As Rebecca followed the Master's programme before the COVID-19 pandemic, she was still able to do an internship in Africa. 'One of the experiences I enjoyed most was being able to go to Tanzania for my three-month internship and master thesis research. I also traveled to Uganda to visit some of my classmates at the time, creating some long-lasting friendships sharing the same passion for the African continent.'



Rebecca Alcolea Krauss

My research was about exploring the perceptions of albinism in Tanzania. After three months of in-depth field research, I shed light on the fact that education alone would not be enough to tackle negative perceptions of albinism; understanding and teaching should be done from the standpoint of albinos and society should be looked at from that perspective.

Currently I am a project manager at the United Nations Global Compact, working internationally on sustainability and human rights with the private sector. I aim to achieve many things in life, one of which is being able to work and travel all over Sub-Saharan Africa, experiencing first-hand the cultural, historical richness and complexities that I am so passionate about.'

LDE Minor African Dynamics

In 2021, the Leiden-Delft-Erasmus (LDE) minor African Dynamics was offered for the third time. Growing in popularity, 40 students were selected, representing all three of the partnering universities equally. Strengthening the African Studies Centre as lead institution, the minor pivots around the devoted input of Maurits Ertsen from TU Delft Civil Engineering and Geosciences, as well as Erasmus University Rotterdam (EUR)'s Rob van Tulder and Ronny Reshef from the Rotterdam School of Management. This is not to minimise the role of the multiple guest lecturers who passionately shared their knowledge and views on different dynamics at play on the African continent.

Centring on the AU Agenda 2063 and the UN Agenda 2030 with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, the whole of Africa is explored from multiple perspectives. Through innovative activities and creative assignments, the students also have ample opportunities to learn from their peers' disciplinary approaches.



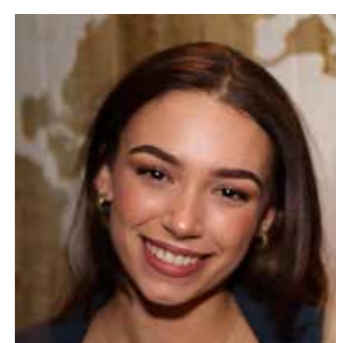
Students of the minor were able to meet both online and physically.

'The LDE Minor African Dynamics is every bit as interdisciplinary and dynamic as its title suggests. The minor provided a deep-dive into the SDGs and sustainable development, especially in relation to various African contexts. At times it felt like being put into a pressure-cooker, where the learning process was steep and both our cognitive and creative skills were challenged to the max. What helped me stay motivated throughout were my fellow students, the dedicated and expert lecturers, and professionals who were all willing to connect and share their knowledge and networks. Moreover, the minor provided me with a thorough grounding and framework to connect to my own discipline and place Africa-China relations within a broader and nuanced context.'

'Even though approximately 50% of the African Dynamics courses were taught online, I would say I gained the most new friendships in the shortest period of time ever. Besides the fact that the African Dynamics minor has numerous extremely knowledgeable professors and lots of interesting courses and assignments, the minor is also very focused on bonding and mingling during and after class. I have never felt more welcome than I have



Liesbeth Kanis, Leiden University, BA Chinese Studies



Robin de Wilde, TU Delft, BSc Architecture, Urbanism & Building Science

during the last few months. Besides the tons of new knowledge I gained, I also got to work with lots of new media I don't usually work with. This pulled me out of my comfort zone, but it also strengthened my skills. The cancellation of the field trip because of COVID was a bummer, but the assignments replacing it were once again very original and informative. It is with the utmost sincerity that I say I am extremely happy that I signed up for the African Dynamics Minor those many months ago.'

'The minor offers diverse perspectives ranging from local actors to national and international perspectives on doing business in Africa. This has sparked my interest in further study in a policy-oriented programme that would allow me to better develop systems-thinking approaches to tackle some of the wicked problems I have been introduced to. Throughout the minor, I stretched myself intellectually and creatively to complete the challenging assignments. Thankfully, the programme gave students freedom in interpreting the coursework and shaping their own ideas and submissions. Never had I imagined that I would one day record a podcast with an African Professor based in the Netherlands or make a feature documentary on Somalia. All's well that ends well, and I continue to miss my African Dynamics family.'



Panashe Madamombe, Erasmus University College, BA Liberal Arts and Sciences

LDE Minor Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development

Thirty-four students participated in this Leiden-Delft-Erasmus selection minor in 2021-22. The majority of the students came from Leiden University. Because of COVID-19 travel restrictions, the students had to do their 11 weeks of field assignments in and from the Netherlands. Part of the assignments could still relate to other contexts, predominantly in Kenya and Tanzania, or Sub-Saharan Africa in general, other assignments focussed on the Netherlands but still built upon global knowledge on frugal innovation.

'When talking to my friends about the minor I caught myself referring to it as "our" minor. The relatively small and tight group of motivated and passionate students really did make it feel like "our" minor. This 'FI4SGD' minor stimulated me on lots of fronts. First of all, being in a room of driven students with different backgrounds and aspirations is very inspiring. Moreover, learning about frugality in all shapes and sizes, made me keen to process frugal aspects in my projects and later studies. On top of that, having the ability to go to Delft University and Erasmus University and learning their different ways of thinking, definitely broadened my perspective. Being in teams with students from the different universities made the process and the result so much more interesting and complete. For the field assignment, I, together with my team, made an exhibition showcasing the potential of frugal lifestyles based on space technology, Cistercian monks, and Earthships. This gave me the chance to combine all of my interests and (new) abilities, from designing the physical art pieces to writing the philosophical groundworks.'



Meta Gewald, Leiden University, BA Philosophy

'The first word that pops into mind when thinking of the LDE Minor Frugal Innovation is community. From day one you are warmly welcomed and embedded into the community of Frugal Thinkers and Executors. It is truly believed that everyone and anyone can make a difference when they are empowered to do so. This belief can be seen in everything that is done during the minor. From the inspiring lectures, given by people who teach purely out of passion. To the amazing, but challenging pressure-cookers in which the frugal mindset is not only provoked, but also enforced. And from the fun games that gave pause for thought. To the energising bootcamps, which were the last steps in fully preparing me for my fieldwork in the Kenyan context. I'm honoured to be part of this beautiful community, and wish for everyone to feel what it is like to be frugally empowered.'

'The LDE Minor Frugal Innovation was very valuable to me as a socially minded business student, e.g. by experiencing the melding of business, innovation, and social impact. The courses were taught by such passionate lecturers and really opened my eyes to social entrepreneurship in Africa. While there were challenges due to COVID-19, the field assignment was also a great experience. It gave me an opportunity to learn a lot about how frugality applies in practice.'



Tim Binsbergen, TU Delft, BSc Civil Engineering



Johan Kim, Erasmus University Rotterdam, BSc International Business Administration



Special projects

INCLUDE

INCLUDE: Building forward more inclusively

INCLUDE is an African-Dutch platform of researchers, practitioners, and policymakers generating, gathering, and disseminating knowledge on inclusive development in Africa. We use research, policy dialogues, and knowledge sharing to make evidence-based knowledge produce better and more inclusive policies. In 2021, we continued our work on [African Policy Dialogues](#), [Growth Sectors for Youth Employment](#), [Boosting Decent Employment for Africa's Youth](#), and [Equity in COVID-19](#). We commissioned new research called [Digital divides or dividends](#), including basic services in Africa's digitalisation agenda. We also organised many events to share the outcomes of our work. One of the highlights was our conference '[Building forward more inclusively](#)', which took place from 8 to 16 June.

The conference stimulated a number of productive exchanges between over fifty expert speakers, session chairs, and moderators representing research, policy, and practice, as well as a numerous and equally diverse audience. Below, we summarise the most important findings, discussions, and policy recommendations from the seven sessions organised.



Cover of the June 2021
INCLUDE report.

- Keynote speaker Mavis Owusu-Gyamfi highlighted that 'when we are thinking of growth with depth, we must really focus on the three binding constraints that the continent needs to navigate right now: youth and employment, digital innovation, and climate adaptation and mitigation'. She applauded African innovations and unexpected collaborations that emerged in the face of the pandemic, yet the sustainability of such innovations remains a challenge.
- The points raised by Owusu-Gyamfi resonated well with the reflections shared by two youth moderators: Dr Chiamaka Nwachukwu and Amanda Kabagambe. Dr Nwachukwu stressed that young people's skills, determination, and innovative thinking are available and already in use; therefore, they should be invited to co-create solutions and policies directly affecting youth, instead of merely being the end-users of already formed policies.
- Based on the outcomes of the interactions between diverse stakeholders throughout the conference, a set of key recommendations was formulated, the full set of which can be found on our [website](#). These recommendations offer practical input on how to address structural constraints while promoting fundamental, more permanent, and inclusive socioeconomic transformation post-COVID 19, in order not to go back to 'the way things were' but to build forward more inclusively.

Comenius Project

In 2021, ASCL researcher and lecturer André Leliveld was awarded a Senior Fellow Comenius grant for his project proposal 'Global learning, local acting: co-creation of an international multidisciplinary online learning environment on frugal innovation'. This project aims to co-create an international and multidisciplinary online learning environment that helps students develop a more global and diverse perspective in their understanding and approach to Frugal Innovation, so that they can better understand and shape their role in contributing to societal challenges from a Frugal Innovation perspective.

The proposal builds on recent pedagogic and didactic insights into contemporary learning. These insights emphasise that today's learning not only takes 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, each from her or his own context. The project builds upon experiences gained from (online) multidisciplinary learning and internationalisation in the Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Minor 'Frugal Innovation for Sustainable Global Development', for which André Leliveld is the academic coordinator on behalf of the ASCL. During the design and implementation of the learning environment, students/alumni and lecturers from the Leiden-Delft-Rotterdam universities and from universities in Kenya, South Africa, India, and possibly Mexico will participate. This polycentric co-creation must guarantee that the learning environment is set up in such a way that it can be applied to a variety of didactic, institutional, and technological contexts. Hence, the curriculum will be a balanced and representative reflection of globally available knowledge and expertise on the subject, by which it also aims to contribute to decolonising knowledge in in-



novation/frugal innovation studies. The learning environment must enable students to process knowledge collectively and share experiences from their own contexts. Students from the various countries follow 'live' classes together online, work together on assignments, and bring to the classes diverse bodies of knowledge and expertise stemming from their own contexts and apply them to the contexts of others. The project fits in with the policy of the African Studies Centre Leiden and the LDE International Centre for Frugal Innovation, as well as that of Leiden University in general, which is to create and offer more diverse and inclusive education.

The ultimate aim of the project is to strengthen active citizenship among students, in which students become (more) involved in critical thinking about and feel better equipped to engage in debates on global and local societal challenges. For the international learning environment, the aforementioned minor serves as a pilot. The experiences with the co-creation and implementation of the international learning environment will, however, also feed into the LDE Minor African Dynamics, the Master's and Research Master's programmes in African Studies, and possibly other curricula of participating universities.



The proposal builds on recent pedagogic and didactic insights into contemporary learning.

Leiden-Delft-Erasmus



Leiden-Delft-Erasmus
Universities

The partnership between Leiden University, TU Delft, and Erasmus University Rotterdam was formalised through the Leiden -Delft-Erasmus (LDE) strategic alliance in 2012. Under the direction of the LDE-dean Prof. Wim van den Doel, researchers and scholars of the three universities collaborate in an inter- and multidisciplinary way on complex regional, national, and global challenges.

Prof. Ton Dietz – then director of the ASCL – was convinced that current and comprehensive knowledge of Africa is pertinent to all disciplines/sub-disciplines that engage in and/or relate to the African continent. Under his visionary leadership the ASCL joined forces with the LDE Alliance in 2013. Under the auspices of Dr André Leliveld, the ASCL became a constituent party in the LDE Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa (CFIA). Apart from this coordinating role and its engagement in research, the ASCL's position in the LDE alliance has become very prominent and visible through hosting and offering two LDE minors to third-year Bachelor students; the ASCL in this respect occupies a unique position in the LDE alliance.

Marleen Dekker:

'Multi-disciplinarity is at the heart of African Studies: combining different disciplinary perspectives is essential to understand historical and contemporary developments on the continent. Importantly, such developments are always situated in a particular socioeconomic, cultural, and historical political context, the area-study playing field. The LDE alliance allows Africanists to further expand the disciplinary horizon, by including perspectives on



Prof. Marleen Dekker

businesses and business models (EUR) as well as science, technology, and innovation (TUD), and how these play out on the continent, including from the perspective of its inhabitants as well as other actors. Moreover, the collaboration pushes us to find a common language, joint approaches and methodologies, and new ways of communicating that in themselves are exemplary of co-creation and understanding real-life global challenges and opportunities'.

International Centre for Frugal Innovation

The LDE Centre for Frugal Innovation in Africa (CFIA) was established in 2013 with ASCL researcher Dr André Leliveld, Dr Peter Knorringa from the International Institute for Social Studies (ISS/EUR), and Prof. Cees van Beers of the Faculty of Technology, Policy, and Management (TPM/TUD) as associate directors. Since its inception, many researchers and lecturers from other faculties and institutes have joined CFIA, including the Leiden Faculty of Humanities, University Medical Centre, and the Centre for Science and Technology Studies, the faculties of Industrial Design and Engineering, and Civil Engineering at TUD, as well as the Institute for Housing and Urban Development Studies International, and Rotterdam School of Management at EUR. In Africa, the centre works together with researchers and lecturers from numerous countries, including Kenya (where CFIA also has an office), Uganda, South Africa, and Ghana. CFIA was renamed the International Centre for Frugal Innovation (ICFI) in 2021 to emphasise and stimulate intercontinental research and education on frugal innovation, and to acknowledge that, for a better understanding of innovation in African societies in general, a global perspective is needed.

International Centre
for Frugal Innovation
Leiden-Delft-Erasmus Universities

Peter Knorringa:

'It is a great experience to collaborate with the ASCL on education and research related to frugality. From EUR, we bring know-how on innovative business models and impact analysis, and it is wonderful to work together with ASCL staff with complementary know-how about the cultural, social, economic, and political context in various countries in Africa.'



Prof. Peter Knorringa (EUR)

Cees van Beers:

'Working together with the ASCL in ICFI and the LDE Minor Frugal innovation for Sustainable Global Development is a great pleasure for me. It is their efficient and professional way of organising and supporting all teaching modules in the minor which facilitates and benefits the knowledge transfer to the students.'



Prof. Cees van Beers (TUD)

Library, documentation, and information

Key Figures in 2021

	2021	2020
Number of visitors	1,404	± 1,900
Loans	3,604	3,537
New items	3,829	4,121
Titles in ASCL collection	215,425	212,289
Titles in Connecting-Africa	86,379	79,433

Significant achievements in 2021

The most significant achievements for the ASCL Library in 2021 were a book acquisition trip to Rwanda; new descriptions of the archival, film, and photo collections; and the development of a policy plan for the ASCL Library 2022-2026.

Collection development, acquisitions, and cataloguing**Cataloguing and acquisition**

In 2021, a total of 2,924 books were processed via the acquisition module in the ALMA library system. In total 3,829 library materials were catalogued, including films, novels, and poetry books – and 401 electronic documents.

Gifts

Gifts are a welcome addition to the collection of the ASCL Library and fill gaps in forgotten corners. In 2021, the library received significant book donations from:

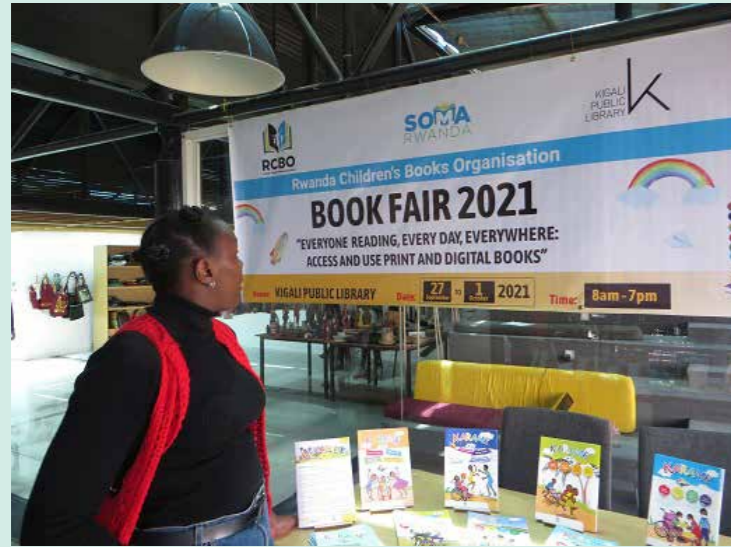
- Corlien Varkevisser (1937-2017, >100 books on health in Africa)
- Bill Kinsey (on Tanzania)
- P.C.M. Driessens (on geography and history)
- Raoul Snelder (on Côte d'Ivoire)
- Jan Jansen (encyclopaedia, comic books, Mali)
- Liesbeth Feikema (on Gabon)
- Gerrie ter Haar (on religion and politics)

Other donations were made by Mark Blaisse, Bouha Mohamed Bouha, Riadh Busaidy, Oda van Cranenburgh, Sjaak van der Geest, Sjoerd Kompier, Inge Ligtvoet, Gerard Persoon, along with others.

Library acquisition trip to Rwanda in times of COVID-19

Staff of the ASCL Library undertake acquisition trips to African countries every year. These trips are essential and ensure the diversity of the collection. Currently, about fifty per cent of the new acquisitions come from Africa. In 2021 the ASCL team was able to travel to Rwanda, a country never visited before by ASCL Library staff. The library collection up till then had only around 180 books and journals published in Rwanda. This was very limited in comparison to the roughly 1200 publications on Rwanda that the collection owns (published in Western countries). With this trip in September 2021, the ASCL Library managed to triple the Rwanda-published collection. In fact, the team returned with around 600 items, comprised of books, journals, a collection of newspapers, and several films on DVD.

Usually, an acquisition trip is undertaken to coincide with a book fair. This time, the ASCL team had not anticipated visiting a book fair when they travelled to Kigali, due to COVID-19 restric-



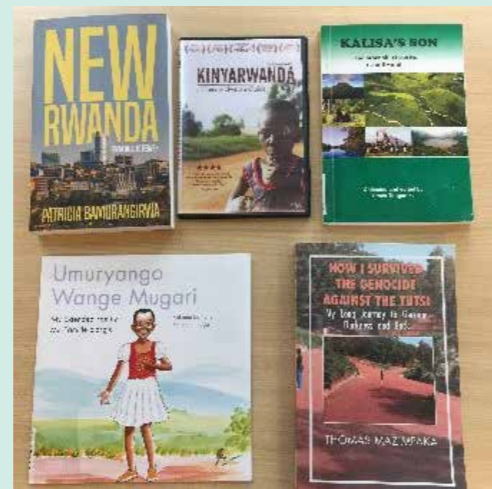
The Rwandan Children's Book Fair.

tions. However, on a visit to the Public Library, they discovered a children's book fair, which had been organised by the Rwanda Children's Books Organisation (RCBO), being held on the top floor of the building. The team was able to purchase a number of beautifully illustrated books meant for children learning to read or which were meant to be read aloud to them (in Kinyarwanda, English, or French). Among the books were several prize-winning titles, for instance, 'Na Melisa arashoboye' (a book dealing with people with disabilities), written, illustrated, and designed by Jean De Dieu Munyurangabo from Kibondo Publishers, which won the prize for Best Inclusive Book.

Apart from visiting the main bookshops Caritas and Ikirezi, the team also went to the bookshop on the site of the Kigali Geno-

cide Memorial, and bought about twenty books and DVDs. They also visited several institutions, among which the University of Rwanda, the University of Kigali, Kigali Independent University (ULK), the University of Lay Adventists of Kigali (UNILAK), the National Institute of Statistics, and the Catholic NGO Caritas. Here they received much appreciated back copies of the 'Cahiers du Bureau social urbain', which give a wealth of information on social life in Rwanda from the end of the 1980s until 2002.

The 1994 genocide in Rwanda is still dominant among the titles on display in Rwanda's bookshops: titles categorised under academic studies, local histories, testimonies, autobiographies of survivors, and documentaries, testify that this traumatic event is still prominent in the minds of Rwandan people. Other favourite topics are religion (Christianity and Islam), politics, history, society, economics, as well as literature (prose, poetry, drama), and motivational literature.



Spotlights on the collection

In the course of 2021, nine *Library Highlights* on the ASCL website drew attention to new books and films in the library. These were:

- Children's books on COVID-19
- Afar history from within
- African insects
- The basilicas of Ethiopia. An architectural history



- Guerrilla radios in Southern Africa
- *A Sin of Omission*, a novel by Marguerite Poland
- New films on Congolese society by Dieudo Hamadi
- Nigerian books on languages and linguistics
- Collection republished historical newspapers from Somalia (1961-1987)



Information services, indexing, and abstracting

The *Library Alert Service on African Studies* (LASA) had 324 subscribers by the end of 2021. When subscribing to the alert service, people receive updates whenever new publications on a certain country or topic (or combination) are published. This helps to stay abreast of interesting information and e-books in the current ocean of information.

For over a decade, ASCL Library staff contributed to the *Journal of Religion in Africa* by supplying abstracts of journal articles on religion in Africa. Due to a variety of factors, this contribution ended in 2021.



The Ambassador of Egypt, H.E. Hatem Elsayed Mohamed Kamaleldin, visited the ASCL Library in September 2021.

Web dossiers

In 2021, three ASCL Library web dossiers counted more than 10,000 unique pageviews, and six library web dossiers were among the ten most popular web pages of the ASCL. This popularity is easily explained. ASCL web dossiers group the information on a current topic and make the information available in context. Every web dossier made by the library staff of ASCL 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 2021, five web dossiers were produced:

- **Children's rights in Africa.** To mark the conferring by Leiden University of an honorary doctorate on human and child rights activist Graça Machel on 8 February, a web dossier was compiled on children's rights in Africa. The dossier was introduced by Ton Liefwaard, Professor of Children's Rights at Leiden University.
- **Indian Ocean slave trade.** Rijksmuseum curator Maria Holtrop wrote the introduction to the web dossier on the Indian Ocean slave trade, compiled for the occasion of the exhibition on slavery at the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam.
- **The Arab Spring in Africa: ten years after.** On the tenth anniversary of the 'Arab Spring' (starting in Tunisia in 2010-11), the ASCL Library compiled a web dossier on the history of the Arab Spring and its impact on the African continent. The dossier was introduced by Dr Abeer Abazeed.
- **Early African press.** For the two seminars on early African press organised by the ASCL in October and November 2021, the ASCL Library compiled a web dossier with a focus on pre-independence African newspapers. The introduction to the dossier was written by Ursula Oberst, who also started to document early African newspapers in Wikidata.



- **African feminism.** On the occasion of the 2021 Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture on 9 December, a web dossier on African feminism was published. The lecture was given by Nanjala Nyabola, an independent writer and researcher based in Nairobi, Kenya. The introduction to the dossier was written by ASCL PhD candidate Loes Oudenhuijsen.
- **COVID-19 in Africa.** This 'growing' web dossier, initiated in December 2020, was regularly updated with new scientific publications, and now contains over 200 titles, many of which are available Open Access. On the occasion of the NVAS Africa Day 2021 'Entrepreneurial responses to COVID-19 in Africa', an introduction by co-organiser Maud van Merrienboer was added. Also an extensive overview of relevant web resources has been included.

ASCL Library Policy Plan 2022-2026

A new library policy plan was drafted by library staff members, accepted by the Board of the ASCL, and has now been put into practice. The plans can be sketched briefly as follows. The identity of the Library of the African Studies Centre Leiden will gradually shift over the next 5 years (2022-2026) to a library that is more in keeping with its special Africa character, with a focus on special collections. In other words, there will be more focus on primary sources, books produced in Africa, and hard-to-find materials. Much attention will be paid to bringing these sources to the attention of various user groups, both locally and nationally. Finally, the library sees itself as an active partner in making freely accessible sources more widely accessible, also beyond just research and education.

ASCL Library in education and outreach

ASCL Library staff was involved in a number of events, e.g. the SCOLMA (UK Libraries) conference on *Publishing, Collecting & Accessing African-language Materials* (14 June), in which Jos Damen gave a talk on Somali language books in Leiden. Several introductory tours were given in and around the ASCL Library by Marijke den Hartog, Ella Verkaik-Steenvoorden, Edith de Roos, and other staff members. Some examples:

- a walk in Leiden about African history in Leiden for students of the LDE Minor 'African Dynamics';
- a lecture for Leiden University students in History and African Studies (with Walter Gam Nkwil) on African archives, by Gerard van de Bruinhorst;
- An introduction to primary sources in the library for students of Leiden University College in The Hague who were taking an academic writing course, by Germa Seuren and Heleen Smits. The



Several staff members were involved in tours and visits related to the ASCL Library.

focus was on primary sources about African international relations and helping the students find sources for their research.

Finally, ASCL staff (both librarians and researchers) adapted the Data Management Protocol of Leiden University to an ASCL Data Management Protocol, which was approved by the ASCL Executive Board.

Archival Collections and more

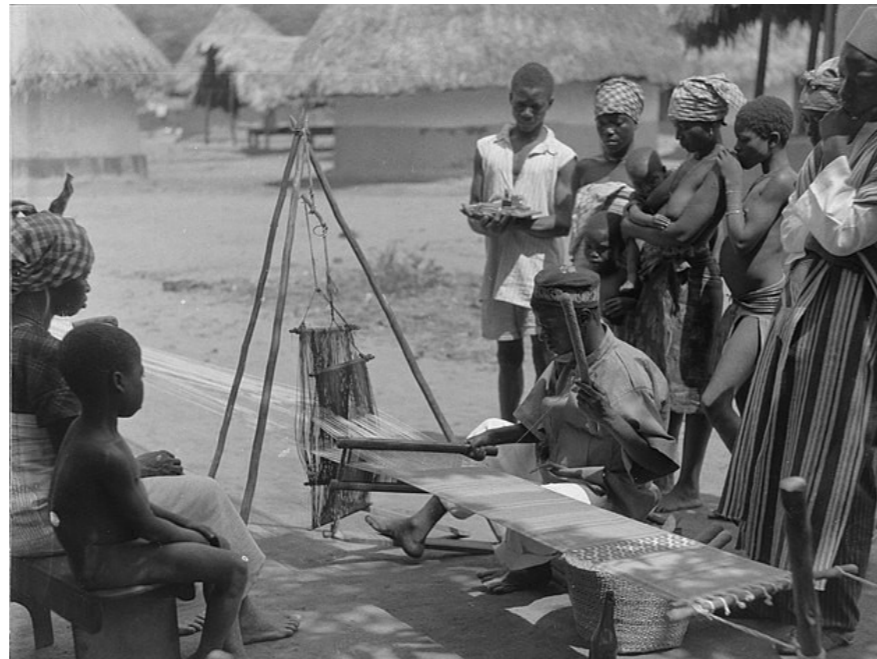
The ASCL Library hosts several Africa archives. Six new extensive archival descriptions were made in 2021. The Tanzania archive of Deborah Bryceson was described by intern Cameron Stone. Sjoerd Kompier made five descriptions, comprising the archives of Sjoerd Hofstra (on Sierra Leone), Ulrica 'Juul' Rijnsdorp (also on Sierra Leone), Georges Smets (on Rwanda-Burundi), Albert Trouwborst (on Burundi), and Frans J. Verstraelen and Gerdien Gilhuis (on

Ghana, Zambia, and religion). Student assistant Roos Schepers made catalogue records of more than 120 rare films from Africa, which are now available in the ASCL Library. Finally, the ASCL is very grateful to Monica Härnqvist for finalising the cataloguing of the former KIT collection at the ASCL.

Wikipedia and Wikidata

Much work has been done in 2021 to include more information on Africa on both Wikipedia and Wikidata:

- Ursula Oberst supplied Wikidata with Africa information: on African universities, research journals, and Somali books.
- A new product, [Library Weekly](#), was started in 2021. Library Weekly shines a spotlight on African people and events. Inspired by the SciHiBlog, the service is based on information retrieved from Wikipedia and Wikidata, and is completed with selected titles from the ASCL Library Catalogue.
- Hans Muller, Wikipedian in Residence at the ASCL, uploaded several thousands of photographs of Africa to Wikimedia Commons. In 2021, he uploaded photos from the collections of Fred van der Kraaij, Angeline van Achterberg, and Wouter van Beek.
- The activities of the African Studies Centre for Wikipedia, Wikidata, and Wikimedia Commons didn't go unnoticed. In 2021, attention to these activities was paid in newspapers (*De Telegraaf*), radio (NPO1), and television (EenVandaag).
- Intern Cameron Stone and student assistant Roos Schepers prepared the upload of 400 photographs of Sierra Leone 1934–1936 by Sjoerd Hofstra to [Wikimedia Commons](#), in addition to an earlier batch of 100 photographs from the same collection. The photos were digitised by Andrea Stultiens from the original lantern slides.



A weaving man in Panguama, Sierra Leone, c. 1936. Photo: Sjoerd Hofstra.

Special Events



LeidenASA

In 2021, LeidenASA tried to continue with the Africa 2020 programme as best as it could during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Africa Knows! conference that kicked off at the beginning of December 2020 continued until 24 February 2021. [The Africa Knows! website](#) will remain accessible and presents all panels reports, videos, podcasts and keynote speeches.

The Africa 2020 events 'HANDS! Festival on African Sign Languages and Deaf Studies' and 'Somali Day - Culture and politics through the lens of Somali literature and orature' were held fully online.

The upcoming end of the current funding cycle of LeidenASA and the launch of the new strategic plan of Leiden University, in which Africa features prominently, kickstarted a discussion about the future of this network. Do we wish to continue as just a network, or do members see a more substantial role for LeidenASA? To help us with this thought process, a new steering group was re-established at the end of 2021. LeidenASA ended the year 2021 with a successful and interesting Annual Meeting around the theme 'Decolonising academic education and research'.

The recording of this Annual Meeting can be watched via [YouTube](#).

Somali Day

Within the framework of Africa 2020, the ASCL, its Library, and LeidenASA organised a virtual Somali Day on 29 June. The complex region of the Horn of Africa is praised for its (oral) literature, and the organisation used this field to discuss themes including political culture, religious discourse, and identity formation. With speakers from the Somali region, the Somali diaspora, and various experts on Somali literature, poetry, and orature, vivid discussions were held and ideas exchanged. The ASCL Library presented the collection of books purchased from the region, attesting to the remarkably large number of texts in the Somali language on Somali literature, culture, and history.

The recording of Somali Day can be watched via [YouTube](#).



Announcement poster for the Somali Day.

Poetry night with Antjie Krog and De Klimaatdichters (the Climate Poets)

In close cooperation with Zuid-Afrikahuis and the Leiden University Centre for the Arts in Society (LUCAS), the ASCL and its Library organised a poetry night in the ASCL Library. South African poet, author, and academic Antjie Krog recited poems from her work 'Broze Aarde' (2020) together with 'climate poets' Moya De Feyter and Saskia Stehouwer, while the latter two also read from their own work, all in the context of climate change. This resulted in a very fruitful debate between artists and scientists about how poetry can articulate both the beauty of nature as well as a deep concern about the Earth's future. The event was moderated by Margriet van der Waal (University of Amsterdam), professor by special appointment of South African literature, culture, and history.

The recording of this poetry night can be watched via [YouTube](#).



South African poet Antjie Krog read from her own work together with De Klimaatdichters.



The Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture was given by Nanjala Nyabola in December 2021.

Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture 2021

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 of religion and morality. With the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture, the ASCL wishes to honour his memory and encourage work in his spirit. Every year, Prof. Gerrie ter Haar, Stephen Ellis' widow, is the guest of honour.

After the online edition starring Prof. Jonathan Jansen in 2020, the somewhat less strict COVID-19 measures gave us the opportunity to organise a hybrid event and to invite Kenyan independent researcher Nanjala Nyabola to give the 7th Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture on 9 December. Nyabola's lecture focused on a possible theoretical framework for African women's work and African feminism as a political science method. In an impressive way, Nanjala demonstrated how African feminism is deployed as a political method to situate contemporary African politics in the digital age, arguing that African feminism as a political method is a valuable addition to the toolkit of studying African societies, and indeed societies around the world.

The recording of the Stephen Ellis Annual Lecture 2021 can be watched via [YouTube](#).

Event Overview

28 January 2021

ASCL Seminar: Regulating copper mining: a history of environmental management in Zambia (1964–2018)

Speaker: Dr Jennifer Chansa

25 February 2021

ASCL Seminar: Religious engineering – a practice approach to (religious) projects of social transformation

Speaker: Prof. Eva Spies

11 March 2021

ASCL Seminar: Opening Sub-Saharan Africa's demographic window: age structure and the timing of African development

Speaker: Prof. Richard Cincotta

22 April 2021

ASCL Seminar: Migration in a Soap Operatic Key: the work of Malagasy world expansion

Speaker: Jennifer Cole

27–29 April 2021

AEGIS CRG 'Africa in the World' Seminar Series: Trust and Trust Making in Africa's Global Connections

25 May 2021

Book presentation: Femmes du Mali-Sud. Changements de vie entre la tradition et la développement: un tissage de mémoires et d'images, 1980 – 2012

27 May 2021

ASCL Seminar: The Army and Politics in Zimbabwe: Mujuru the Liberation Fighter and Kingmaker

Speaker: Dr Miles Tendi

03 June 2021

Positioning the Fertility Decline Between Numbers and Narratives in Eritrea (1991–2020)

Speaker: Dr Valentina Fusari

17 June 2021

ASCL Seminar: Retrieving lost paths in the rainforest after population collapse in Congo rainforest from 400 CE

Speaker: Prof. Koen Bostoen

22 June 2021

The kingdom of the Barolong, kgosi Tau, and smallpox in 18th-century Southern Africa

Speaker: Dr Ettore Morelli

24–25 June 2021

Workshop: Travelling Islam – the circulation of ideas in Africa

25 June 2021

CRG Seminar: The promise and pitfalls of mHealth in Africa

29 June 2021

Somali Day. Culture and politics through the lens of Somali literature and orature

05 July 2021 to 07 July 2021

'Africa in the World' Seminar Series: Trust and Trust Making in Africa's Global Connections: COVID-19 Politics and Diplomacy

22 July 2021

Intergenerational Educational Mobility in Sub-Saharan Africa

Speaker: Dr Seife Dendir

17 September 2021

Seminar: Language, education and identity in Africa

Speaker: Dr Bert van Pinxteren

07 October 2021

ASCL Seminar: Doing fieldwork in the archive: print culture, publics and popular genres in colonial Lagos

Speaker: Prof. Karin Barber

25 October 2021

Seminar: Banana Pseudo Stems - commercialising biodegradable paper and sanitary towels

Speaker: Dr Jacqueline Kisato

28 October 2021

ASCL Seminar: Regionalism Reconsidered: Economic inequalities and territorial oppositions in African politics

Speaker: Prof. Catherine Boone

10 November 2021

Poëzieavond: Antjie Krog en De Klimaatdichters

11 November 2021

ASCL Seminar: Imagining the world - Swahili-language print media in early twentieth-century Tanzania

Speaker: Prof. Emma Hunter

15 November 2021 to 17 November 2021

Seminar Series 'Trust and Trust Making in Africa's Global Connections', Part III: Global business and charity networks

09 December 2021

Stephen Ellis Annual Research Lecture by Nanjala Nyabola: African Feminism as Method

Speaker: Nanjala Nyabola

ASCL in the Media



Dr Harry Wels was interviewed by NU.nl on COVID-19 in South Africa, November 2021.

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 gave expert interviews on the death of Chadian president Idriss Déby (*Trouw*, 21 April) and *VPRO Radio*, 22 April), the coup d'état in Mali (*NOS.nl*, 27 May), and the impact of mobile phones in Africa (*Algemeen Dagblad*, 1 August).

Jon Abbink was frequently asked to shed light on the ongoing conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia. He gave interviews about the ceasefire in Tigray (*NOS.nl*, 29 June), the historical roots of the conflict (*Historisch Nieuwsblad*, 1 September), and the stance of other African countries on the conflict (*Ahram Online*, 2 September). He was interviewed about the humanitarian crisis in Tigray by *Al Jazeera* (24 October), and he wrote op-eds about the conflict in several national and international media.

Radio, television and podcasts

An increasing number of ASCL researchers appeared in podcasts. Chibuike Uche, who holds the Stephen Ellis Chair for the Govern-

ance of Finance and Integrity in Africa, was interviewed about present and future business opportunities for Dutch and African entrepreneurs (*Africast*, 27 September), while Jon Abbink participated in a podcast on the history of Ethiopian Jews in Israel (*Mizrach*, 10 December).

Other (video) interviews were given by Harry Wels on the discovery of the Omicron variant of COVID-19 (*NU.nl*, 30 November) and by Jos Damen on the importance of Wikipedia (*EenVandaag*, 17 June). Akinyinka Akinyoade participated as Nigeria expert during the launch of The Kleptocracy Project, a long-term investigative collaboration between a network of journalists from countries all over Africa and *ZAM Magazine* in Pakhuis De Zwijger on 24 June.

Daily newspapers

Most of the interviews that ASCL researchers gave were published in written media. Akinyinka Akinyoade was a guest in the 'end-of-year interview' of *Nederlands Dagblad*, the other guest being Prof. Jan Pronk, former Netherlands Minister of Development Cooperation. Together they discussed the theme of 'international solidarity' in times of COVID-19. Both Marleen Dekker and Tycho van der Hoog were interviewed on the impossibility of doing fieldwork during the COVID-19 pandemic (*Mare*, 16 September); Harry Wels was cited in *MO** on riots in South Africa (20 July); and Rahmane Idrissa provided context for jihadist attacks in Niger (*Reformato-isch Dagblad*, 8 January).

A complete list of interviews with different media can be found on the [ASCL website](#).

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. Muller	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
C.A.C. Stone	Intern
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's

ASCL Publications

Dr Harry Wels	Publications manager
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INCLUDE staff

Dr A. Altaf	Coordinator
R.E. Bredeveld	Student assistant
M.C.H. Heuvels	Knowledge manager
Dr M Turolla	Knowledge manager

Staff who left the ASCL in 2021

H.O. Hassan	Student assistant, INCLUDE
Y.S.B. Noor	Student assistant, LDI
J. Scheelings	Student assistant, Education
R. Schepers	Student assistant, LDI
J. Tuyisabe	Student assistant, INCLUDE
M.C.A. van Winden	Temporary conference organiser

ASCL PhD candidates

Gaddafi Abubakar
Radio in Northern Nigeria: A History of Propaganda, 1944-1979

Rashida Adum-Atta
Food and Interreligious Coexistence in Madina

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

Jeleel Balyaminu
Natural Resource Governance and Socio-Cultural Conditions in Africa: From Policy to Practice

Nilza César
Participatory Assessment of Development of the Eduardo Mondlane University (1976-2013)

Rishuai Chen
Digital practices and transnational connectivity among African merchant migrants in China

Tinashe Chimbidzikai
(Re-)production and imagination of urban social space by Pentecostal Christian migrants in South Africa: A narrative ethnography (Cotutelle with the Georg-August University of Gottingen)

Modibo Galy Cissé
Le conflit (terrorisme-djihadisme) dans le Delta Central du fleuve Niger au Mali

Martin Luther Darko
The Quest for Health in Madina: Health seeking across Religious Boundaries

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)

Joseph Fosu-Ankrah
Common Grounds: Urban Spaces, Religious Encounters and Intercommunalism in Accra's Madina, ca. 1800-2020

Julia Foudraïne
International labour solidarity: The Netherlands and South Africa during the international anti-apartheid struggle, 1971-1994

Antonio Frank
Interactions between the police and non-state policing actors in the townships of Luanda

Tycho van der Hoog
Blood, Bullets, and Bronze: The Relations Between North Korean and Southern Africa, 1960-2020

Kauthar Khamis
Beauty Practices: A Modality of Religious Co-existence Amongst Christian and Muslim Women in Madina

Alice Mapenzi Kubo
Developments in the Shea sector in Ghana and their implications for livelihoods

Peter Lindhoud
Ecumenical concern about racial differences and rapid social change in Northern Rhodesia 1924-1964

Victoria Manyá
The African Start-up Ecosystem: funding, informality and the trajectories of maturity

Koundja Mayoubila
Entrepreneuriat social et connectivité au Tchad: des frictions, aux fractures numériques et sociales, à la rupture

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

Mpalang'a-Maruv Liévain Mwangal

Musumb and its emperors (17th–21st century). Laboratory History of cities in Central Africa

Mandipa Ndlovu

Urban Governance and Bulawayo's Political Economy in Independent Zimbabwe

Belindah Okello

The Coastal Luo: Migration Labour and Empire Expansion in East Africa, 1902–2015

Penina Olum

Power balance in International Development, its influence in socio economic development in the global South

Loes Oudenhuijsen

Islam, everyday ethics, and its gendered contestations: 'wicked' women in Senegal from 1950 to the present

Kershan Vikram Pancham

Performing Bodies across gender, race and spirit borders in South Africa

Gitty Petit

Hidden knowledge in Dodoma, Tanzania: Middle class young adults and healers in relation to objects used for health purposes

Ibrahima Poudiougou

Territories of violence: ethnography of land conflicts and cultural and socio-political dynamics at Mopti (Djenné and Pays Dogon), Mali (Cotutelle with the University of Turin)

Francesca Pugliese

Working experience in the Congolese mining sector (Cotutelle with the University of Liège)

Reinder Schoonhoven

Exploring Continuities and Contestations of Ancestral Worship in Igede, Benue State, Nigeria

Caspar Swinkels

Grounded Theory of Change: opening the black box of policy implementation using qualitative process tracing

Konstantin Valkov

How skateboarding is influencing the social transformation and the construction of identity of South Africa's youth

Jacqueline de Vries

'Your custom was bad. It has been changed by Government': Control over women in colonial Kom (Cameroon)

Marie-Louise Wijne

Digital Data in Development Cooperation

Financial overview

(all numbers in € '000)	2021	2020
Income		
Total contribution Leiden University*	2,891	2,832
Projects for third parties	1,704	1,694
Other income (publications, etc.)	332	352
Total	4,927	4,878
Expenditures		
Personnel	4,517	3,853
Institutional costs	713	1,222
Inventory depreciation	-	-
Total	5,230	5,075

* Of which 2,872 from the Netherlands Ministry of Education, Culture and Sciences.



Publications by ASCL staff

Peer-reviewed journal articles and book publications

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- Abbink, G. J. (2021). Power relations in Suri: rhetoric in public speech and Action 283. In G. J. Abbink & S. LaTosky (Eds.), *Rhetoric and social relations* (pp. 283-309). Oxford, New York: Berghahn Books.
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- Kaag, M. M. A., Khan-Mohammad, G., & Schmid, S. (2021). Introduction. In M. M. A. Kaag, G. Khan-Mohammad, & S. Schmid (Eds.), *Destination Africa: contemporary Africa as a centre of global encounter* (pp. 1-28). Leiden: Brill. (Series Africa-Europe Group for Interdisciplinary Studies; 24)
- Kyei, J. R. K. O., & Berckmoes, L. H. (2021). Political vigilante groups in Ghana: violence or democracy? *Africa Spectrum*, 55(3), 321-338. doi:10.1177/0002039720970957
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