

MILESTONES

AFRASO International Conferences

"African-Asian Encounters I-III"

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (March 2014)

"Asian-African Interactions in a Multipolar World:
New Cooperations - New Dependencies?"

Stellenbosch, South Africa (March 2015)

"Re-Thinking African-Asian Relationships:
Changing Realities – New Concepts"

Frankfurt am Main, Germany (October 2016)

"Deterritorialisation and Transregionalism:
New Perspectives on African-Asian Interactions"

AFRASO Lecture Series

Each year **AFRASO** welcomes leading, established scholars and policymakers to address timely issues of importance to Asian-African interactions and to engage the wider public.

AFRASO Network of Partners

AFRASO is developing a broad network of partner institutions worldwide. All projects are open to new partners and wish to engage in a truly transregional exchange of ideas and knowledge.

Each year **AFRASO** invites fellows from a variety of disciplines to take part in the intellectual life of Goethe University.

If you are interested in entering into collaboration with **AFRASO** and its partners, we welcome your inquiry!

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AFRICA'S ASIAN OPTIONS



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AFRASO is a collaborative research programme based at Goethe University Frankfurt focusing on the “new” interactions between African and Asian countries from an interdisciplinary, transregional and comparative perspective. This programme is jointly organized by the Centre for Interdisciplinary African Studies (ZIAF) and the Interdisciplinary Centre for East Asian Studies (IZO) and is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF). The research agenda sets out a list of topics for four years (2013-2017) and brings together more than 40 academics from six faculties and ten disciplines:

- African Linguistics
- Chinese Studies
- Economics
- English Studies
- Human Geography
- Korean Studies
- Physical Geography
- Political Science
- Social Anthropology
- Southeast Asian Studies

AFRASO produces new knowledge on the modes and implications of interactions between a wide range of public, private and non-governmental actors on both continents.

AFRASO considers the economic, political, social, and cultural dimensions of these interactions and provides a fresh look at challenges and opportunities arising for both Asian and African nations.

AFRASO addresses the debate over “area studies” and strives to contribute to an innovative re-conceptualization of area studies in this era of transregionalization.

STRUCTURE OF THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME

AFRASO is structured around four major research themes:

PLATFORM A New Cooperation, New Dependencies

“Markets on the Move”

- Parastatal companies and capitalist development: The interaction of South African and Chinese enterprises in the services sector
- “Landed markets”: Commodification, mobilization and deterritorialization of land in the context of Asian investment in African land market
- African, Asian and international actors in the Central African mining sector (Cameroon & Central African Republic)
- Postcolonial governmentality, subjectivation and agency: Translation and (re)formulation of the Bangladeshi idea of microfinance in Africa

“Transnational Civic Networks”

- Trade networks and migration between Africa and Asia
- African-Asian migration and development
- New approaches to transnational gender politics: Chinese-African collaboration
- Migration of African students to Malaysia
- South-South cooperation in higher education: Migration of Indian university lecturers to Ethiopia
- Chinese medicine in Africa

PLATFORM B New Development Concepts, New Transregional Spaces?

“Culture as a Mode of Development Policies”

- Chinese cultural policies and Confucius Institutes in Africa
- China’s influence on the perception of good governance, development and international cooperation in Africa
- New approaches to negotiating development: South Korean-African interactions
- Japanese management techniques and firm level effects on productivity: Evidence from Africa
- Asian development assistance in Senegambia
- African ownership: More than cheap talk? Japan’s foreign aid approach in Zambia

“Transregional Construction of Space”

- Indian Ocean imaginaries in East African literature and oral culture
- The Indian Ocean as memory space
- African-Asian interactions in cyberspace. Transregional scamming
- Post-terrestrial area studies? The Indian Ocean, translocal histories and maritime constructions of space