



africa
uninet

AUSTRIAN-AFRICAN
RESEARCH NETWORK

4th Africa-UniNet General Assembly

University of Saïda Dr. Moulay Tahar, Algeria, 28–30 September 2026

funded by

 Federal Ministry
Women, Science
and Research
Republic of Austria



THE FIRST DAY

28 September 2026

Morning



08:15 – 09:45 **University Tour**

Room: Auditorium

09:45 – 10:00 **Registration and Welcome Coffe**

Moderator: **HANAÂ BERREZOU**G, University of Saïda

10:00 – 10:45 **Official Welcome Addresses and Opening Remarks**

FETHALLAH OUAHBI TEBBOUNE, Rector of University of Saïda

Governor of Saïda Province

Kamel Baddari, Algerian Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Video message from **EVA-MARIA HOLZLEITNER**, Austrian Federal Minister for Women, Science and Research

WOLFGANG SPADINGER, Ambassador of the Republic of Austria to Algeria

JAKOB CALICE, Managing Director, OeAD

HUBERT HASENAUER, President of Africa-UniNet, BOKU University

10:45 – 11:45 **Keynote Address: Translating Science into Practice – Key Stakeholder Categories within the Science-Policy Interface**

PAUL T. YILLIA, The Energy Nexus Network, Sierra Leone

11:45 – 13:15 **Round of Introductions: REPRESENTATIVES** of Africa-UniNet Member Institutions, Participating Institutions and Algerian Universities

Presentation: The Algerian Higher Education System

NOUREDDINE HALLA, Vice-Rector of External Relations, University of Saïda

13:45 – 13:30 **Group Picture**

Room: Library

13:30 – 14:30 **Lunch**

THE FIRST DAY

28 September 2026

Afternoon



From Funding to Future Cooperation

Room: Auditorium

Moderator: **BELACHEW GEBREWOLD**, MCI Management Center Innsbruck, Austria
14:30 – 16:00 **Plenary Session 1: Science Diplomacy and Sustainable Partnerships**
Science Diplomacy 2.0: Trust, Open Knowledge, and Multilateral Action for Global Public Goods. **VERONIKA WITTMANN**, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

SALDAE and Its Impact – Supporting the Internationalisation of Algerian Universities through Erasmus+ Cooperation. **MOUNYA BELHOCINE**, Université de Bejaia, Algeria

From Scholarship to Leadership and Long-lasting Cooperation: Academic Mobility as a Catalyst for Sustainable Africa–Austria Partnerships. **BENEDICT MUTUA**, Technical University of Kenya

Global Partnerships in Higher Education and Research: Opportunities and Impact. **JULIA LICHTKOPPLER**, OeAD, Austria

Room: Library

Moderator: **GERHARD VOLZ**, OeAD, Austria
16:00 – 17:30 **Institutional Exchange Fair and Poster Exhibition**
Including Coffee

This interactive session invites participants to visit table-based stations hosted by representatives from each university, allowing for focused conversations, information sharing, and visual insights into ongoing work. In two rotating rounds, all institutions will have the chance to both present and circulate, with dedicated information tables also available for the funding opportunities introduced earlier.

At the same time, a poster exhibition will take place in the room, showcasing the results of ongoing Africa-UniNet projects. Project partners will be available at their posters, giving participants the opportunity to visit, discuss scientific achievements, and exchange ideas. In addition, the University of Saïda will present posters highlighting its own projects and research achievements.

THE SECOND DAY

29 September 2026

Morning



Perspectives from Research and Practice

Room: Auditorium

- Moderator: **DEBORAH ODEJIMI**, Igbinedion University, Nigeria
- 08:30 – 10:00 **Plenary Session 2: Open Knowledge and Innovation in Higher Education and Research**
- National Commission for Free and Open-Source Software (CNLL): Vision and Contributions.** **KARIM DJOUANI**, CNLL Member, Algeria
- AI-Ready Data: From Policy via FAIR Data Sharing to Trustworthy Data Visiting.** **ANDREAS RAUBER**, TU Wien, Austria
- Open Knowledge and Collaborative Innovation: Reimagining African Higher Education through International Partnerships.** **KWABENA SARFO SARFO-KANTANKAH**, University of Cape Coast, Ghana
- Sharing Algeria's Experience with Program 1275: Integrating Innovation and Entrepreneurship into Higher Education.** **YASSINE BENZAI**, University of Saida

10:00 – 10:30 **Coffee Break**

THE SECOND DAY

29 September 2026

Morning



Room: Library

10:30 – 12:00 **Parallel Sessions**

Parallel Session 1: Shaping Sustainable Spaces and Environments

Moderator: ZIPPORAH GICHANA, Kisii University, Kenya

Harnessing Ensemble Machine Learning for Evapotranspiration Prediction Under Climate Stress: A Case Study from Semi-Arid Algeria. SHERIF ABUELMAGD, Suez University, Egypt

Mercury Contamination and Biochar-Based Biosorption Potential in Artisanal and Small-Scale Gold Mining in Uganda. MARY THERESE KAGGWA, Kyambogo University, Uganda

Integrating Remote Sensing and In Situ Data for Wetland Ecosystem Health Assessment within the Pressure–State–Response (PSR) Framework in Lake Tana Biosphere Reserve (LTBR), Ethiopia. DANIEL AYALEW MENGISTU, Bahir Dar University, Ethiopia

Co-Habitation, Urban Ecologies, and Spatial Practice in Tamale, Ghana. BAERBEL MUELLER, University of Applied Arts Vienna, Austria

A Review of Built Environments and Urban Spaces Frameworks for Resilient Urban Development in Mombasa, Kenya. MARIFA ALI MWAKUMANYA, Pwani University, Kenya

Parallel Session 2: Shaping Sustainable Futures through Health and Technology

Moderator: EIDRUN MÖRTL, Medical University of Graz, Austria

Engaging Patients in Drug Development for Leishmaniasis. ASTRID ERBER, Medical University of Vienna, Austria, Infectious Diseases Data Observatory (IDDO), Oxford, UK

Fermentation as a Tool for Nutritional Sustainability: Microbiological and Chemical Insights from Nigerian Traditional Foods. OLUSOLA ABIOLA LADOKUN, Lead City University, Nigeria

Sustainable Energy is More than Only a Study Program. CHRISTOF SUMEREDER, FH Joanneum University of Applied Sciences, Austria

Shaping Sustainable Futures through Innovation: Pilot Community-Owned Renewable Energy Mini-Grids in Rural Lesotho, LEBOLI ZAK THAMAE, National University of Lesotho

The Avenue to Green in Organic Electronics. MIHAI IRIMIA-VLADU, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

12:00 – 13:30 **Lunch**

THE SECOND DAY

29 September 2026

Afternoon



Africa-UniNet General Assembly Meeting | Network Administration

Room: Auditorium

13:30 – 15:00 **General Assembly Meeting**

15:00 – 15:30 **Coffee Break**

15:00 – 17:00 **Continuation of General Assembly Meeting**

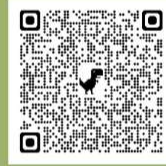
17:00 – 17:30 **Wrap up and Closing Remarks**

africa
uninet
austrian-african
RESEARCH NETWORK



**africa
uninet**
austrian-african
research network

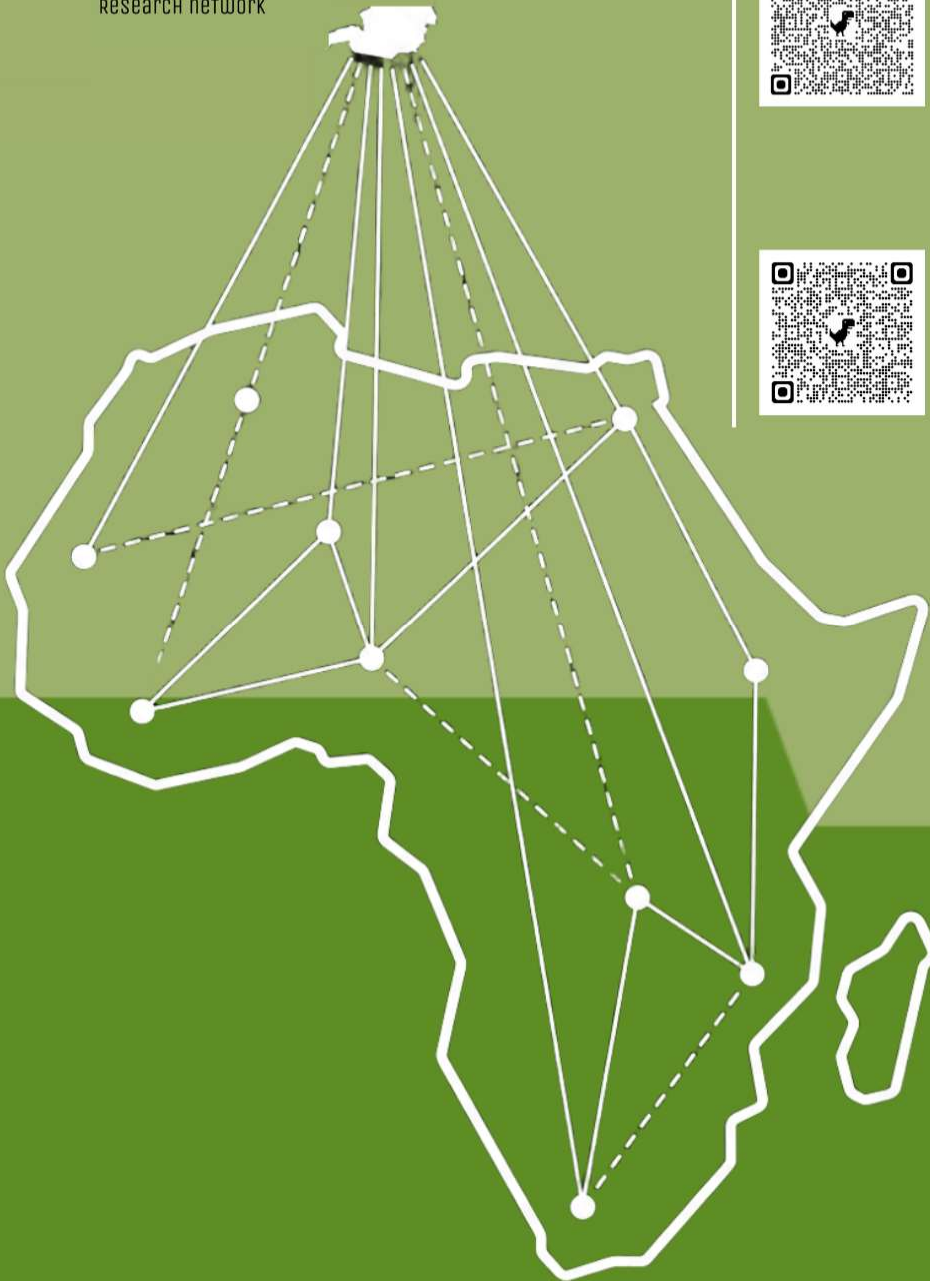
Scan me



For the Event Booklet



For the Programme



Sincere acknowledgement to the following sponsors
for their valuable contribution and support:

