SHANGHAI CONFERENCE ON AFRICA AND ASIA

Africa-Asia Connections: Bridging Past, Present, and Future

NOVEMBER 16TH & 17TH, 2017

HARVARD CENTER SHANGHAI
SHANGHAI, CHINA
Welcome from the Harvard University Center for African Studies

Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

On behalf of the Harvard Center for African Studies, it is my distinct honor to welcome you to the inaugural conference of the Africa-Asia Initiative in Shanghai.

The Harvard Center for African Studies aims first and foremost to broaden public and scholarly awareness about African experiences and perspectives. This symposium serves as a forum through which we might create a three-way conversation between academics, policymakers, and the private sector. Going beyond the traditional remit for African studies, which is a focus on the humanities and social sciences, this conference introduces topics on health, science, technology, and industry. In so doing, we propose a new interdisciplinary paradigm that applies lessons from these varied fields to create a holistic agenda for Africa’s development.

The continent will face enormous challenges over the next century. Its population will double to reach 2.4 billion people by 2050. Even now, forty percent of these individuals are under fifteen years old. Providing them reliable access to resources is – and will be – a challenge, for while Africa contains sixty percent of the world’s arable land, its rate of hunger exceeds that of the rest of the world.

But by working with partners from the Global South, Africa can turn these challenges into opportunities. Indeed, the rich legacy of African-Asian partnerships for development precedes today’s relationship. The momentous gathering at Bandung in 1955 set the stage for Afro-Asian solidarity: leaders from countries like Ghana and Egypt collaborated with their Indonesian and Indian counterparts. We see these connections beyond the political realm, with Japanese automakers dominating African markets, South Korean missionaries spreading Christianity throughout the continent, and Indian pilots helping to inaugurate Ghana’s air force.

This symposium provides a timely platform with which to examine these relationships and apply lessons from the past to the future. It occurs in Shanghai at a time when China’s forays into infrastructure, trade, and energy in Africa have eclipsed those of any other single country. That it has expanded its Special Economic Zone (SEZ) model to Africa exemplifies the relevance of the Chinese development story to the continent’s future. The contemporary economic ties between Africa and China form a central node in the Africa-Asia relationship.

Moreover, hosting this conference at Harvard Center Shanghai allows us to meet our mandate to bring Africa to the world. This conference will result in a policy brief that reflects on Africa’s relationship with Asia and how the two can collaborate more deeply as development partners.

Indeed, Shanghai is only the first step. We are eager to explore collaborations with other Asian and African cities, where we might continue this dialogue in the years to come. Ultimately, our goal is to bridge past, present, and future in ways that shape Africa’s coming century.

Yours sincerely,

Emmanuel Akyeampong
Oppenheimer Faculty Director, Harvard Center for African Studies,
Convenor, 2017 Shanghai Conference on Africa and Asia
Message from the Harvard University Africa-Asia Initiative

Dear Distinguished Colleagues,

On behalf of the Harvard Center for African Studies, the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, the Harvard University Asia Center, the East Asian Legal Studies Program, and our partners across campus, we welcome you to the 2017 Africa-Asia Conference.

The legacy of the vibrant movement of ideas, capital, and people between these two continents has set the stage for today’s political, economic, and social exchanges. Billions of dollars flow annually from China to resource-rich African partners. Indian migrants established communities across East Africa long ago, while Nigerian traders have recently begun to expand their trade footprint across South Asia. Meanwhile, South Korean and Japanese foreign assistance plays a vital role in public health and infrastructure on the continent. In an increasingly multipolar world, South-South collaboration along these axes will assume even greater importance.

Despite these rich linkages, the relationship between Africa and Asia remains poorly understood by scholars, policymakers, and businesspeople alike. As such, the Africa-Asia Initiative aims to explore issues related to three central themes: “Migration, Aid, and Trade”; “Environment, Science, Infrastructure, and Industry”; and “Partnerships in Public Health.” These connections bespeak the breadth of the relationship and the ways it evolves in the 21st century.

Our goal is to widely disseminate knowledge around these topics. As such, this initiative aims to:

• Host international conferences that explore these themes, the first in Shanghai (2017) and the second, focused on partnerships in public health, in Johannesburg (2018)
• Identify rare and unpublished materials across the Harvard library and museum system related to the Africa-Asia relationship
• Facilitate the exchange of ideas within the Harvard community through faculty roundtables each semester

This cross-disciplinary collaboration involves a broad array of institutions at Harvard, along with external partnerships with the African Development Bank, the African Academy of Sciences, and the African Export-Import Bank.

We hope this initiative will serve the greater goal of expanding interest and knowledge around these vital partnerships.

Yours sincerely,

Emmanuel Akyeampong
Oppenheimer Faculty Director, Harvard Center for African Studies

Michael Szonyi
Director, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, Harvard University

Karen Thornber
Victor and William Fung Director, Harvard University Asia Center

William Alford
Director, East Asian Legal Studies Program, Harvard University
Day One - Thursday, 16th November 2017

Harvard Shanghai Center, 5th Floor, HSBC Building, No. 8 Century Avenue, Pudong New Area, Shanghai

8:00-8:45 AM: Registration and Breakfast
Lounge, 5th Floor

9:00-9:30 AM: Welcome Remarks
Presentation Space, 5th Floor

Welcome Speakers:
Karen Thornber, Victor and William Fung Director, Harvard University Asia Center and Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and of Comparative Literature

Michael Szonyi, Director, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University and Professor of Chinese History

Emmanuel Akyeampong, Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Harvard Center for African Studies and Ellen Gurney Professor of History and of African and African American Studies

9:45-11:45 AM: Opening Keynote Lectures
Presentation Space, 5th Floor


Keynote Speaker: Justin Yifu Lin, Director of the Center for New Structural Economics, and Dean of the Institute for South-South Cooperation and Development; former Vice President and Chief Economist, World Bank (2008-2012)

Session Chair: Hakeem Belo-Osagie, Chair of the Harvard University Africa Advisory Board

Opening Keynote Two: “The Political Economy of Dignity: Lessons for Africa from China’s Economic Experiment”

Keynote Speaker: Celestin Monga, Vice-President of the African Development Bank Group; and former Managing Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Session Chair: H.E. Ambassador Edward Boateng, Ambassador of the Republic of Ghana to the People’s Republic of China

12:00-1:00 PM: Lunch
Lounge, 5th Floor

1:00-3:00 PM: Panel One - Broad Perspectives: India, Japan, and China in Africa
Presentation Space, 5th Floor
Session Objective: This panel will discuss Africa’s relevance from the perspective of these three major Asian countries. Panelists will provide framing questions on issues that extend over the longue durée of these relationships, particularly related to economic development. This session will emphasize two broad trends, the first from the perspective of the state and its relationship with official development assistance (ODA), and the second in the realm of foreign direct investment (FDI) to Africa from private investors in these three countries.

Panel Chair: Michael Szonyi, Director, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University and Professor of Chinese History

Panel Members:

Scarlett Cornelissen, Stellenbosch University – “Japan’s Economic Cooperation in Africa Against a Changing Development Landscape”

Aparajita Biswas, Director, Center for African Studies at the University of Mumbai – “Changing Dynamics in Contemporary India-African Relations”

Austin M. Strange, Harvard University – “Aid, China, and Growth: Evidence from a New Global Development Finance Dataset”

Discussant: Naohiro Kitano, Director of the Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute (JICA-RI)

3:15-5:15 PM: Panel Two - Infrastructure, Trade, and Industry

Presentation Space, 5th Floor

Session Objective: This session will focus on the major infrastructure deficit in Africa and its impacts on trade and industry. The continent’s dearth of viable infrastructure makes cross-border trade, industry, manufacturing, and investment costlier. As such, panelists will address existing African-Asian infrastructural partnerships and the potential for new synergies to emerge in the coming decades.

Panel Chair: Dr. Suguru Miyazaki, Senior Representative and Expert on Development Policy, Japan International Cooperation Agency – China Office

Panel Members:

Takashi Kitahara, former Japanese Ambassador to Senegal (2013-2017), and former executive of Mitsui and Co., Ltd. in Africa

Yuan Wang, Oxford University – “Chinese-Funded and Constructed Railway Projects in Sub-Saharan African States”

Veda Vaidyanathan, ICS-Harvard Yenching Institute – “The Role of Entrepreneurs and Corporates in India’s Evolving Africa Policy”


Discussant: Lin Wang, Fellow, CBN Research Institute; Journalist, China Business News

5:30-6:30 PM: Evening Cocktail Reception

The Foyer
Session Objective: Our two dinnertime speakers will offer autobiographical perspectives on the potential of African-Asian partnerships. They have accumulated an array of rich experiences over the course of their esteemed careers as investors in Africa. As such, they will address the obstacles and challenges that emerge across business cultures, systems of ethics, modes of governance, and etiquette practices. These insights will allow us to better understand the complexities of the African-Asian relationship.

Speakers:

Helen Hai, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador for African Industrialization and CEO of Made in Africa Initiative
Robert Gumede, Founder, Guma Group

Day Two - Friday, 17TH November 2017
Harvard Shanghai Center, 5th Floor, HSBC Building, No. 8 Century Avenue, Pudong New Area, Shanghai

8:00-8:45 AM: Breakfast
Lounge, 5TH Floor

9:00-10:30 AM: Panel Three – Migration and Economic Opportunity
Presentation Space, 5TH Floor

Session Objective: Emphasizing the legacy of African, Indian, and Chinese diasporic communities, this panel will examine the ways in which this history of Afro-Asian migration impacts today’s movement across borders. It relates African-Asian migration since the era of European colonization to recent developments in land acquisition and the globalized networks of traders and businesspeople within the Global South.

Panel Chair: Ruth Okediji, Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Professor of Law, Harvard Law School

Panel Members:
Ned Bertz, University of Hawai`i – “Partitioning the Indian Ocean: Migration and Exchange between Africa and Asia in the Age of Decolonization”

Jing Jing Liu, University of Toronto – “Risk, Trust, and Ethics: West African Economic Migrants in Yiwu, China”

Emmanuel Akyeampong, Harvard University – “Land, Chinese Immigrants, and Socio-economic Development in Africa”

Discussant: Zizhu Zhang, Associate, Blackpeak Group

10:30-11:00 AM: Coffee Break
Lounge, 5TH Floor
11:00 am-12:30 PM: Panel Four – Trading and Industrial Diasporas

*Presentation Space, 5th Floor*

**Session Objective:** This panel will highlight the contemporary emergence of industrial diasporas out of the longstanding presence of trading diasporas across Africa and Asia. From the Dyula merchants of the trans-Saharan commercial network to the Indian moneylenders of 17th century Zanzibar, both continents have witnessed the exchange of people, ideas, and capital vis-à-vis trade. This panel juxtaposes these historical movements with those of today’s industrial pioneers, who travel between Africa and Asia in search of attractive investment opportunities.

**Panel Chair:** Michael Szonyi, Director, Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University and Professor of Chinese History

**Panel Members:**

- Lloyd G. Amoah, University of Ghana – “Accra’s Chinese Traders – Possibilities, Strains, and Transcontinental Pursuit of Profit and Spaces”
- Liang Xu, Peking University – “Factory, Family, and the Making of an Industrial Frontier in Africa”
- Akiyo Aminaka, Institute of Developing Economies – “Developmentalism Flew over the Ideologies: Reproducing ‘Kibbutz’ in Africa”

**Discussant:** Dabing Chen, Chairman, the Chenshia Group

12:30-1:30 PM: Lunch

*Lounge, 5th Floor*

1:30-3:30 PM: Panel Five – Migration, Trade, and Health in the Africa-Asian Relationship

*Presentation Space, 5th Floor*

**Session Objective:** This session will discuss the ways in which the movement of people, goods, and medical practices intersect along the African-Asian axis. Some panelists will highlight the trans-local phenomena that surface when Africans and Asians establish communities and transact goods. Others will discuss the partnerships between African and Asian medical practitioners that have resulted in new models for improved public health delivery. Ultimately, this session examines the myriad social dynamics that arise out of collaborations in trade, health, and other areas of economic development.

**Panel Chair:** Karen Thornber, Victor and William Fung Director, Harvard University Asia Center and Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and of Comparative Literature

**Panel Members:**

- Feng Cheng, Tsinghua University – “China’s Engagement with Development Assistance for Africa in Health”
Session Objective: In this concluding session, panelists will offer a roadmap for the prospects and challenges of the African-Asian relationship. This panel will gather insights from policymakers and entrepreneurs who will reflect on how our study of the past and present will equip us to create a robust agenda for Africa’s development in the future.

Panel Chair: Emmanuel Akyeampong, Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Harvard Center for African Studies and Ellen Gurney Professor of History and of African and African American Studies

Panel Members:

Qian Zhen, Senior Research Fellow at the Center for African Studies, The International Institute for Strategic Studies at the Central Party School.

Naohiro Kitano, Director of Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute (JICA-RI)

Hippolyte Fofack, Chief Economist and Director of Research, African Export-Import Bank – “Asia in Africa’s Economic Development”

Comment:

Robert Gumede, Founder, Guma Group

Helen Hai, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador for African Industrialization and CEO of Made in Africa Initiative

5:15-5:45 PM: Closing Remarks and Next Steps

Closing Speakers:

Karen Thornber, Victor and William Fung Director, Harvard University Asia Center and Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and of Comparative Literature

Emmanuel Akyeampong, Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Harvard Center for African Studies and Ellen Gurney Professor of History and of African and African American Studies
Biographies

Welcome Speakers

Karen Thornber, Victor and William Fung Director of the Harvard University Asia Center and Professor of East Asian Languages and Civilizations and of Comparative Literature

Karen Thornber is a cultural historian and scholar of literature whose primary research focuses are the literatures and cultures of East Asia and more recently the Indian Ocean Rim, the environmental humanities and social sciences, and the medical and health humanities and social sciences. Her publications include two multiple international award-winning scholarly monographs – Empire of Texts in Motion: Chinese, Korean, and Taiwanese Transculturations of Japanese Literature (Harvard 2009) and Ecoambiguity: Environmental Crises and East Asian Literatures (Michigan 2012), and she has recently finished a new book: Global Healing: Literature, Advocacy, Care, which draws on literature, film, and other cultural products from six continents and several dozen languages. Thornber is co-editor of two books - The Poetics of Aging in the Japanese Narrative Arts (2015) and Global Indigeneities and the Environment (2016) - as well as of several special journal issues on comparative Asian literatures, world literature, and global health. Thornber is also an award-winning translator of Japanese atomic-bomb poet Tōge Sankichi’s Genbaku shishu (Chicago 2012), and she has published more than seventy articles/book chapters on comparative and world literatures, environmental and medical/health humanities and social sciences, diaspora, gender, indigeneities, transculturation (adaptation, translation, intertextuality, interpretation), and trauma, as well as the literatures and cultures of China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and the Indian Ocean Rim (South and Southeast Asia, the Middle East, and Africa). Her current projects focus on inequality and environmental and health crises across Asia.

In the years prior to directing the Asia Center, Professor Thornber served as Chair of Comparative Literature, Chair of Regional Studies East Asia, Director of Graduate Studies in Comparative Literature, and Director of Graduate Studies in Regional Studies East Asia. She was Conference Chair of the 2016 American Comparative Literature Association Annual Meeting, which, with 3,500 speakers, remains the largest conference ever held at Harvard. Thornber earned her Ph.D. in 2006, joined the Harvard faculty in 2007, and was promoted to full professor with tenure in 2012.

Michael Szonyi, Director of the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University and Professor of Chinese History

Michael Szonyi is Professor of Chinese History and Director of the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University. He is a social historian of late imperial and modern China. His research focuses on the local history of southeast China, from the Ming dynasty to the twenty-first century, using a combination of traditional textual sources and ethnographic-style fieldwork. His books include The Art of Being Governed: Everyday Politics in Late Imperial China (Princeton, 2017); A Companion to Chinese History (Wiley, 2017); Practicing Kinship (Stanford, 2002) and Cold War Island: Quemoy on the Front Line (Cambridge, 2008; Chinese edition National Taiwan University Press 2016). He is also co-editor, with Jennifer Rudolph, of the forthcoming The China Questions: Critical Insights into a Rising Power (Harvard, 2018), a work celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the Fairbank Center. Szonyi received his
Bachelor of Arts from the University of Toronto and his doctorate from Oxford University, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. He has also studied at National Taiwan University and Xiamen University. Professor Szonyi taught previously at McGill University and University of Toronto, where he received tenure in 2002. Szonyi came to Harvard in 2005, and was named John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Humanities in 2007 and Professor of Chinese History in 2009. He has a joint appointment in the Department of History.

Emmanuel Akyeampong, Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Harvard Center for African Studies and Ellen Gurney Professor of History and of African and African-American Studies.

Emmanuel Akyeampong is the Ellen Gurney Professor of History and of African and African American Studies and Oppenheimer Faculty Director of the Center for African Studies at Harvard University. He is a Fellow of the Ghana Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a Corresponding Fellow of the Royal Historical Society (UK). He is the author and editor of several books and articles including *Drink, Power, and Cultural Change: A Social History of Alcohol in Ghana, c.1800 to Recent Times* (1996); and *Between the Sea and the Lagoon: An Eco-Social History of the Anlo of Southeastern Ghana* (2001). He has served as co-chief editor with Henry Louis Gates, Jr., for the *Dictionary of African Biography, 6 vols.* (2012). Akyeampong has been a co-editor of the *Journal of African History, of African Diaspora* and serves on the editorial board of *African Arguments*.


**Keynote: Justin Yifu Lin,** Director of the Center for New Structural Economics, and Dean of the Institute for South-South Cooperation and Development; former Vice President and Chief Economist, World Bank (2008-2012)

Justin Yifu Lin is Director of New Structural Economics, Dean of the Institute of South-South Cooperation and Development and honorary dean, National School of Development at Peking University. He is also Council of State Council and Vice Chairman of the All-China Federation of Industry and Commerce. He was the Senior Vice President and Chief Economist of the World Bank from 2008-2012. Prior to this, Mr. Lin served for 15 years as Founding Director and Professor of the China Centre for Economic Research (CCER) at Peking University. He is the author of 32 books including: *Going Beyond AIDS: Development Cooperation for Structural Transformation; Beating the Odds: Jumpstarting Developing Countries; and Against the Consensus: Reflections on the Great Recession.* He is a member of the Standing Committee, Chinese People’s Political Consultation Conference (CPPCC), and Vice Chairman of Economic Committee for the CPPCC.

He received honorary doctoral degrees from Universite D’Auvergne, Fordham University, Nottingham University, City University of Hong Kong, London School of Economics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, University of British Colombia, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Open University of Hong Kong, and Macao University of Science and Technology. Most recently, he was awarded the Professional Achievement Award by the University of Chicago Alumni Association and is a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy and a Fellow of the World Academy of Sciences for the Advancement of Science in Developing Countries.
Chair: Hakeem Belo-Osagie, Chair of Advisory Board, Harvard University Center for African Studies

Hakeem Belo-Osagie is a well-respected Nigerian entrepreneur with a track record of leading and backing highly successful private investments in various sectors of the Nigerian economy. Mr. Belo-Osagie chairs the board of Vitol Nigeria, the Nigerian subsidiary of Vitol Group and Chocolate City Group, a leading entertainment company in Nigeria. He is also the main stakeholder in and chair of the Board of Duval Properties Ltd., a real estate company engaged in a mixed use development in Abuja, Nigeria. He is a member of both the global board of advisers for the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR), and the International Advisory Council of the Brookings Institute. Mr. Belo-Osagie has a master’s in Politics, Philosophy, and Economics from Oxford University; a law degree from Cambridge University; and an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School.

Opening Keynote Two: “The Political Economy of Dignity: Lessons for Africa from China’s Economic Experiment”

Keynote: Celestin Monga, Vice-President of the African Development Bank Group and former Managing Director of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

Célestin Monga is the Vice-President and Chief Economist of the African Development Bank Group. He has held various board and senior executive positions in academia, financial services, and international development institutions, serving most recently as Managing Director at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and Senior Economic Adviser-Director at the World Bank. Prior to these assignments, he was Manager in the Bank Nationale de Paris Group, a member of the Board of Directors of the Sloan School of Management’s Fellows Program at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and taught economics at Boston University and the University of Bordeaux. He currently also serves as a pro bono Visiting Professor of Economics at the University of Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne and Peking University. Dr. Monga has published extensively on various dimensions of economic and political development. His books have been translated into several languages and are widely used as teaching tools in academic institutions around the world. His most recent works include Beating the Odds: Jump-Starting Developing Countries (Princeton University Press, 2017), with Justin Yifu Lin; the two-volume Oxford Handbook of Africa and Economics (2015), co-edited with J.Y. Lin; and Nihilism and Negritude: Ways of Living in Africa (Harvard University Press, 2016). Dr. Monga holds graduate degrees from MIT, Harvard University, the Universities of Paris and Pau.

Session Chair: H.E. Ambassador Edward Boateng, Ambassador of the Republic of Ghana to the People’s Republic of China

Ambassador Edward Boateng was nominated as Ghana’s Ambassador to the People’s Republic of China in January 2016 by H.E. President Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana. He presented his credentials to President Xi Jinping, President of the People’s Republic of China on 12 July 2017.

Prior to his diplomatic appointment, Edward Boateng was the Group CEO of Global Media Alliance (GMA). He established the organization in South Africa in 1998. Currently, GMA is one of the leading private media companies in Ghana, with over 350 employees across its various companies. Ambassador Boateng introduced channels like e.tv, eNCA, and SABC Africa (the first 24-hour African News channels). He also worked with
Anthony Bourdain to produce various food programs in Ghana, Namibia and other countries.

Ambasador Boateng was part of the leadership that established the concept of commercial malls and movie cinemas in Nigeria and Ghana from 2006-2008, and conceptualized the first presidential debate in Ghana in 2000.

President John Kufuor appointed him Chairman of the Millennium Development Authority (MiDA) from August 2006–December 2008 in consultation with the US government. In years prior, he has held positions at Turner International and the Coca-Cola Company, and has advised past presidents of Nigeria, Ghana, and Mozambique.

He holds a bachelor’s degree from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, and an MBA from Clark-Atlanta University. He also holds a post-graduate diploma from Yale University.

**Panel One – Broad Perspectives: India, Japan, and China in Africa**

**Scarlett Cornelissen**, Stellenbosch University – “Japan’s Economic Cooperation in Africa against a Changing Development Landscape”

Scarlett Cornelissen is Professor in the Department of Political Science at Stellenbosch University. She holds a Ph.D. from the University of Glasgow, and postgraduate and bachelor’s degrees from Stellenbosch University and the University of Cape Town. She has been Katherine Hampson Bessell Fellow with the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, and Leibniz Professor at Leipzig University. She has also held research appointments at Kyoto University and Japan’s Institute of Developing Economies. Scarlett conducts research on broad aspects of Africa in the world, with one of her interests being Africa-Asia relations, specifically Japan’s diplomacy, aid, and industry in Africa. Recent books include *Africa and International Relations in the Twenty-First Century* (Palgrave, paperback edition published 2015) and *Research Companion to Regionalisms* (2011). She is co-editor of the Review of International Studies and serves on the editorial boards of the Journal of Modern African Studies, International Relations, and Chatham House’s International Affairs.

**Aparajita Biswas**, Director, Center for African Studies at the University of Mumbai – “Changing Dynamics in Contemporary India-African Relations”

Professor Aparajita Biswas, currently the director at the Centre for African Studies at the University of Mumbai, is one of the leading Indian experts on African economic and political affairs. She has held fellowships at the Beijing Normal University in China; Nanyang Technological University in Singapore; Wurzburg University in Poland; and BRICS Policy Centre in Brazil. She has delivered several lectures as a guest lecturer at the University of Nairobi, Addis Ababa University, and the University of South Africa. With over 30 years of research experience, Professor Biswas has authored, co-authored, and edited numerous volumes and books including, *India and Africa’s Partnership: A Vision for the Future* (Springer, 2015); *India-Africa Enduring Partnership: Emerging Areas of Cooperation* (Gyan Books, 2013); and *East Africa-India Security Relations* (University of Nairobi Press, 2013), as well as articles across a number of internationally recognized journals. Professor Biswas has developed a niche expertise in the areas of ‘India-Africa economic relations’, ‘Emerging economies and their engagement in Africa’, ‘Energy and India-Africa engagement’ and ‘Indian Diaspora in Africa.’
Austin M. Strange, Harvard University – “Aid, China, and Growth: Evidence from a New Global Development Finance Dataset”

Austin Strange is a Ph.D. student in Harvard University’s Department of Government studying international relations. At IQSS, he works with Professor Ryan Enos on the Harvard Digital Lab for the Social Sciences (DLABSS). In addition, he is a research associate at AidData. Some of his research interests include survey experiments and the macro and micro dimensions of interstate competition. Previously Austin received a master’s degree from Zhejiang University and a bachelor’s degree from the College of William & Mary.

Naohiro Kitano, Director of the Japan International Cooperation Agency Research Institute (JICA-RI)

Dr. Naohiro Kitano is Director of the Research Institute of the Japan International Cooperation Agency. In 1983, he graduated from Civil Engineering Department, Waseda University and joined the former Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan (OECF). Prior to his current assignment, he served as Associate Professor, Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University from 2003 to 2005; Director General of the Development Assistance Department II at the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) in 2008; Director General for East and Central Asia and the Caucasus Department, JICA from 2008 to 2012; and Deputy Director of JICA Research Institute from 2012 to 2016. He studied in Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Tsinghua University, Beijing from 1981 to 1982, and obtained Ph.D. (City and Regional Planning) from Cornell University in 1997.

Panel Two – Infrastructure, Trade, and Industry

Suguru Miyazaki, Senior Representative and Expert on Development Policy, Japan International Cooperation Agency – China Office

Dr. Suguru Miyazaki is Senior Representative and Expert on Development Policy at the Japan International Cooperation Agency’s office in China. He is also a senior research fellow at Kyoto University. He was a visiting professor at the Osaka University School of International Public Policy (2007-2015), and an associate professor at the Graduate School of Economics at Kyoto University (2006-2009). He served in the East Asia Division of the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (2004-2006), and has held positions at the Asian Development Bank and the Overseas Economic Cooperation Fund of Japan.

His research interests include economic institutions, policy analysis for development programs, and environmental economics. Several academic journals have published his research in Japanese, Chinese, and English.

He earned a Ph.D. in economics from Kyoto University in 2011, and a bachelor’s degree in Asian Studies from the University of Tokyo in 1991.
H.E. Takashi Kitahara, former Ambassador of Japan to Senegal (2013-2017), and former executive of Mitsui and Co., Ltd. in Africa

Takashi Kitahara, born in 1951, graduated from Keio University Faculty of Law in 1974 and joined Mitsui & Co., Ltd., the Japanese general trading and investment firm. He experienced business in steel, aircraft, power generation, and oil & gas, among others. He also spent nine years in Paris, including three years as President of Mitsui France, and six years in London as the Head of Mitsui UK and EVP of Mitsui EMEA.

In 2013 Kitahara left Mitsui and was appointed as Japanese Ambassador to Senegal, Cabo Verde, Gambia, and Guinea-Bissau in the Embassy of Japan in Dakar. He returned to Tokyo and retired from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in March 2017.

Yuan Wang, Oxford University – “Chinese-Funded and Constructed Railway Projects in Sub-Saharan African States”

Yuan Wang is currently a pursuing a D.Phil. in politics at the University of Oxford. Her research interest is China’s economic and political engagement with Africa, especially the infrastructure sector. She has been actively publishing and managing development projects in this field since 2014. Before matriculating to Oxford, she served in the China office of the United Nations Development Program and at the Sino-Africa Centre of Excellence Foundation’s Nairobi office. She holds a Master of Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School, a Master of Science in Politics Research from Oxford, and a Bachelor of Law in international relations from Shanghai International Studies University.

Veda Vaidyanathan, ICS-Harvard Yenching Institute – “The Role of Entrepreneurs and Corporates in India’s Evolving Africa Policy”

Veda Vaidyanathan is a Ph.D. candidate at the Centre for African Studies at the University of Mumbai, India. Her research is titled “Resource Diplomacy Strategies of India and China in Africa: Investigating Energy and Food Security.” She has conducted extensive fieldwork interviewing various stakeholders in India, China, Ethiopia, USA, and the UK, and has presented papers in international and national conferences. She was initially a doctoral fellow of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) and in 2014 received the Institute of Chinese Studies-Harvard Yenching Institute (ICS-HYI) doctoral fellowship. From 2015-2016 she was a visiting fellow at the Centre for African Studies at the School of International Studies at Peking University, and from 2016-2017 she was a visiting fellow at the Harvard-Yenching Institute. She has recently submitted her doctoral thesis and is awaiting defense.


Xu Hui holds a Bachelor of Science from Tsinghua University and a Master of Science from Harvard University, both in the environmental domain. She interned with the Clinton Climate Initiative in New York City, and later worked full time at a low-carbon consulting firm and a Fortune 100 international energy company in Beijing. Xu has served as a part-time consultant to National Center for Climate Change Strategy and International Cooperation, where she participated in several South-South cooperation research projects in the domain of low carbon development. Xu is now a partner and Academic Director
Helen Hai, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador for African Industrialization and CEO of Made in Africa Initiative

Helen Hai is the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Goodwill Ambassador for industrialization in Africa. She is the CEO of the Made in Africa Initiative, which advises African government for industrialization and investment promotion. Ambassador Hai is co-Founder of C&H Garments, which is a pioneer pan-African export-oriented garments manufacturer.

Ambassador Hai was trained as an actuary in the United Kingdom with nearly twenty years of international experience in FTSE100 companies. She has bachelor’s in actuarial science, a Master’s of Science in actuarial management from CASS Business School in London, and an EMBA from INSEAD and Tsinghua University.

Ambassador Hai was named a 2015 Global Young Leader by World Economic Forum, and she is co-chair of the Global Future Council on the Future of Consumption for World Economic Forum. She received the 2015 African Business Icon Award, and awarded as Officer of the National Order of Lion of Senegal in 2016.

She is on the committee of Global Commission on Business and Sustainable Development.

Lin Wang is a research fellow at China Business News Research Institute (CBNRI), a think tank on foreign affairs, international finance, and global energy. She is also a senior journalist at China Business News (aka. Yicai Daily), the largest financial daily in China. She is a fellow of the OBOR 100 Research Institute. She reports on China’s foreign policy and overseas investments, especially Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

Wang has studied the ‘One Belt One Road’ Initiative in countries like India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Uganda, Cameroon, South Africa, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Singapore.

She has won a series of research awards and grants for projects related to China and Africa, including the Best Annual News on China and Africa 2017 awarded by Tsinghua University; China-Africa Report Grant by Gates Foundation; the China-Africa Report Project by the University of the Witwatersrand; and the China-Africa Research Initiative Grant from SAIS, Johns Hopkins University.

She has authored Wang Lin’s Top Interviews with Global Leaders on Belt and Road (May 2017, Commercial Press). Her paper on China’s Engagements on Africa Ports was selected to be presented at the annual Conference of the China-Africa Research Initiative at Johns Hopkins University in 2016. She has appeared on talk shows on China Global Television Network (CGTN), including The Heat and China 24 on China’s global strategy on ports and railways engagements. She is also an Asia Studies Visiting Fellow of the East-West Center in Washington.

Reflections by Two Entrepreneurs on the Africa-Asia Engagement

Helen Hai, UNIDO Goodwill Ambassador for African Industrialization and CEO of Made in Africa Initiative

Helen Hai is the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Goodwill Ambassador for industrialization in Africa. She is the CEO of the Made in Africa Initiative, which advises African government for industrialization and investment promotion. Ambassador Hai is co-Founder of C&H Garments, which is a pioneer pan-African export-oriented garments manufacturer.

Ambassador Hai was trained as an actuary in the United Kingdom with nearly twenty years of international experience in FTSE100 companies. She has bachelor’s in actuarial science, a Master’s of Science in actuarial management from CASS Business School in London, and an EMBA from INSEAD and Tsinghua University.

Ambassador Hai was named a 2015 Global Young Leader by World Economic Forum, and she is co-chair of the Global Future Council on the Future of Consumption for World Economic Forum. She received the 2015 African Business Icon Award, and awarded as Officer of the National Order of Lion of Senegal in 2016.

She is on the committee of Global Commission on Business and Sustainable Development.
Robert Gumede, Founder and Executive Chairman, Guma Group

Nelspruit born, South African, pan-African, global entrepreneur and philanthropist, the 2005 Runner-Up for South African Chapter of the World Entrepreneur of the Year award, Robert Matana Gumede is the Executive Chairman of the diversified, 14,000 strong staffed, Guma Group of Companies.

Guma’s worldwide black owned conglomerate business activities include inter-alia ICT (Gijima); infrastructure development; electricity generation including renewables; real estate and retail development; water and sanitation; steel; rail; manufacturing; integrated tourism and Leisure (Tourvest); healthcare logistics; agro-business and food security; financial services; and human capital education and training.

Gumede is a philanthropist who gives away millions of dollars annually to needy projects and people for education, healthcare, housing, roads, and other initiatives through his Robert Gumede Family Keni Foundation.

Panel Three – Migration and Economic Opportunity

Ruth Okediji, Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Professor of Law at Harvard Law School

Ruth L. Okediji is a foremost authority on the role of intellectual property in social and economic development. She holds the Jeremiah Smith, Jr. Professorship of Law at Harvard Law School, where she co-directs the Berkman Klein Center for Internet and Society.

Professor Okediji’s scholarship focuses on the international regulatory environment for knowledge goods, innovation policy, and global knowledge governance. She has authored an extensive array of articles, and has commissioned papers and book chapters on the international patent system, international copyright law, technology transfer, and economic development. Most recently, she authored Copyright Law in an Age of Limitations and Exceptions (Cambridge University Press, 2017).

Her work has guided and influenced government policies in sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean, and Latin America on national strategies for the implementation of the WTO’s Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS Agreement). Okediji was appointed by United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to the 2015 – 2016 High Level Panel on Access to Medicines.

Professor Okediji is a graduate of the University of Jos and Harvard Law School.

Ned Bertz, University of Hawai’i – “Partitioning the Indian Ocean: Migration and Exchange between Africa and Asia in the Age of Decolonization”

Ned Bertz is an Associate Professor in the Department of History at the University of Hawai’i. In 2013-14 and fall 2016 he was a Visiting Faculty Member at Ambedkar University Delhi. He is the author of Diaspora and Nation in the Indian Ocean: Transnational Histories of Race and Urban Space in Tanzania (2015), which received the Kenneth W. Baldridge Prize for 2014-2016. Seeking to bridge area studies approaches and write about historical exchanges between South Asia and East Africa, Professor Bertz has spent many years conducting fieldwork in India and Tanzania, including studying Swahili, Hindi, and Gujarati. His current project researches the transnational history of the Partition of India, reframing it within longer-term processes in which new ideas about territoriality, mobility, and belonging reshaped people’s lives around the western Indian Ocean.
Panel Four – Trading and Industrial Diasporas

Lloyd G. Amoah, University of Ghana – “Accra’s Chinese Traders – Possibilities, Strains, and Transcontinental Pursuit of Profit and Spaces”

Lloyd G. Adu Amoah lectures at the Department of Political Science and is founding director of the newly established Centre for Asian Studies at the University of Ghana, Legon. He is a fellow of the African Studies Centre and the International Institute of Asian Studies (where he did his postdoctoral work) both in Leiden in the Netherlands, and the International Institute for Advanced Studies in Accra. Dr. Amoah is a member of the Ghana Studies Association, World Economics Association, Association for Heterodox Economics and the African Urban Planning Research Network.

His research focuses on public policy formation theory; strategy in government; Africa-Asia relations; public administration and philosophy; e-governance and ICT policy in developing countries; and the political-economy of space in developing polities.

He holds a bachelor’s degree in philosophy (summa cum laude), master’s degrees in international relations and diplomacy from the University of Ghana, Legon, and a Ph.D. in Public Administration (Public Policy Analysis Concentration) from the prestigious Wuhan University in China. Dr. Amoah speaks fluent Mandarin, basic Japanese, and has travelled extensively throughout Asia. Dr. Amoah was the co-convener of the highly successful first ever Conference on Asian Studies in Africa, which was hosted by

Jing Jing Liu, University of Toronto – “Risk, Trust, and Ethics: West African Economic Migrants in Yiwu, China”

Jing Jing Liu is a Ph.D. candidate in socio-cultural anthropology at the University of Toronto. She studies migration, trade, ethics, and race at the intersection of China-Africa relations, with a focus on West African traders and economic migrants in Yiwu, China. She has a master’s degree from the London School of Economics and was a research associate at the University of Edinburgh prior to starting her Ph.D.

Zizhu Zhang, Associate, Blackpeak Group

Zizhu Zhang is an Associate at Blackpeak Group, where she works with the Greater China team on investigative due diligence and business intelligence projects.

Prior to joining Blackpeak, Zizhu was a Nairobi-based on-camera correspondent for Hong Kong’s Phoenix Satellite Television. Her reports focused on the economy and politics of Africa as well as the growing China-Africa relationship. She was a grant receiver of University of the Witwatersrand’s China-Africa reporting project in 2016. She also conducted research work for Research Solutions Africa, a Nairobi-based market research firm that advises implementations of development projects. Before that, she completed an internship with the United Nations Environment Program at its headquarters in Nairobi.

Zizhu holds a bachelor’s in international relations (Hons) from the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and a Master’s of Science in comparative politics from the London School of Economics and Political Science. She is fluent in English, Mandarin Chinese, and Cantonese.
the University of Ghana, Legon in September 2015 and attended by scholars, activists, and policymakers from five continents.

Dr. Amoah is married to Sylvia, and together with their two children, Kwame and Otwiwa, they live in Accra.

Liang Xu, Peking University – “Factory, Family, and the Making of an Industrial Frontier in Africa”

Liang Xu has recently completed his Ph.D. in African history at the History Department of Harvard University (2010-2017) and has decided to accept an Assistant Professor position in African Studies at Peking University in Beijing, China. Liang received his Bachelor of Arts in International Relations in 2005 from Peking University, where he also completed his first doctorate in International Relations in 2010. Liang's dissertation project at Harvard explores the history of labor-intensive industrialization in South Africa’s former border areas with a particular focus on ethnic Chinese garment factories and Zulu women workers. It is titled “On the Edge of Capitalism: African Local States, Chinese Family Firms, and the Transformation of Industrial Labor.” Liang’s research interests include Chinese diaspora in Africa, social and gender history of Africa, political economy of Africa, development studies, and international relations. Over the years, Liang’s research has been funded by various Harvard University grants, the Chinese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the French National Research Agency (ANR), the Government of Ghana, the Japan Sasakawa Peace Foundation, and the South African Millennium Trust.

Akiyo Aminaka, Institute of Developing Economies – “Developmentalism Flew over the Ideologies: Reproducing ‘Kibbutz’ in Africa”


Dabing Chen, Chairman, the Chenshia Group

Dabing Chen is Chairman of the Chenshia Group, a diversified group of companies based in Cape Town with involvement in mining, jewelry retail, wine production, and fine art. He is an avid collector and patron of African ethnic art, having founded the Chenshia Art Foundation to promote intercultural exchange between Africa, China, and the world. He is also a director and founding member for the Africa-China Friendship Association and the Africa-China Entrepreneurs Forum.

Chen relocated to Africa from China in 1991 and is a South African national. Prior, he worked for two state-owned enterprises focused on the import and export of chemicals, medicines, and health products.

He graduated from Hubei Provincial Foreign Trade School in 1982.
Panel Five – Migration, Trade, and Health in the Africa-Asian Relationship

**Feng Cheng,** Tsinghua University – “China’s Engagement with Development Assistance for Africa in Health”

Feng Cheng is professor and director of the Global Health Program and Research Center for Public Health at Tsinghua University. His current research focuses on Chinese health development aid and its role in improving global public health. He is a participant in the Initiative for U.S.-China Dialogue on Global Issues faculty research group on global health. He serves as a council member of International Planned Parenthood Federation and as president of the China Alliance for South-to-South Health Cooperation Research. He has authored or co-authored 70 academic books and 24 books, with years of experience working in fourteen countries.


Jingting “Lily” Kang is a Research Manager at the Sino-Africa Centre of Excellence, a China-Africa focused think tank based in Nairobi, Kenya. Born and raised in China, Lily completed her bachelor’s degree in information technology management and sociology, with a minor in actuarial science at the University of Notre Dame in Indiana, United States in 2016. She has received research grants of over US$20,000 to conduct field research on effectiveness of foreign assistance in Cambodia, examine entrepreneurship education in Switzerland, and evaluate international university partnerships for local development in rural Uganda. Experienced in data analytics and designing technology solution for enterprises, Lily has consulted billion-dollar companies in the United States as a technology consultant. In the long term, Lily aspires to facilitate trilateral collaboration between China, Africa, and Western countries.

**Muhidin Juma Shangwe,** University of Dar es Salaam – “Afro-Asian Relations: Issues on Africans in China, Chinese in Africa”

Muhidin Juma Shangwe is a Tanzanian lecturer at the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Dar es Salaam where he has taught political science since 2008. He recently completed his Ph.D. at the East China Normal University in Shanghai, where he examined China’s soft power in Africa. He has been involved in different research undertakings in the areas of democracy, civil society, and public administration in Tanzania.

**Zhuoyan Zhang (Claire)** is a consultant with around four years of experience in Africa and a founding member of Bain & Company’ Lagos office. Her project experiences mainly focus on strategy and organizational improvement, covering governments, e-commerce, and leading financial institutions.. Beyond consulting life, Zhuoyan has been passionately building a bridge between Africa and China as a Global Shaper of World Economic Forum. She runs a personal blog continuously featuring business insights and social stories of Africa with over 5,000 active followers. After moving back to China in 2016, she also initiated and organized offline thought leadership talk events to share with hundreds of Chinese young professionals the real Africa.
Zhuoyan holds a Master’s in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Previously, she also worked with UNEP in Nairobi.

**Pedro Machado, Indiana University – “South Asia and East Africa: A History of Commercial Engagement, c.1750 to Recent Times”**

Pedro Machado is Associate Professor in the Department of History at Indiana University, Bloomington. He holds a master’s degree in history (with distinction, 1997) from the University of New Hampshire, and a doctorate in history from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London (2005). He has previously held posts at New York University (2005-7); Long Island University (2002-3); and the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London (1999-2002). Dr. Machado also worked as a researcher on the Atlantic Slave Trade CD-Rom Project, jointly managed by the Universities of Hull, Chicago, Rochester and Wisconsin (2004), and on the Global History of Leprosy Project led by the Wellcome Unit for the History of Medicine, Oxford University (2003).

His first book, *Ocean of Trade* examined the multiple dynamics of Vâniyās, South Asian merchants with network headquarters in Diu and Daman in Gujarat in western India, connecting local and regional commercial systems in South Asia, and East and Southeast Africa with rapidly intensifying global systems of material, social, and cultural exchange from the mid-eighteenth to the first half of the nineteenth centuries. He is currently involved in a major cross-disciplinary international research project on the histories of the pearl fisheries of the Indian Ocean, and a second book project on the history of eucalyptus within the Portuguese Empire’s Atlantic and Indian Ocean spheres.

**Panel Six – Africa and Asia: The Way Forward**

**Qian Zhen, Senior Research Fellow at the Center for African Studies, The International Institute for Strategic Studies at the Central Party School.**

Qian Zhen’s disciplinary focus is political science, with particular emphasis on African governance. He is a seasoned researcher on the multifaceted dimensions of Sino-African relations and good governance, with extensive field experience in South Sudan, Ethiopia, and South Africa.

**Hippolyte Fofack, Chief Economist and Director of Research, African Export-Import Bank - “Asia in Africa’s Economic Development”**

Dr. Hippolyte Fofack is the Chief Economist and Director of Research and Knowledge Management Department at the African Export-Import Bank. In that capacity, he directs theoretical and applied economic research activities and advises the President and Executive Vice Presidents on matters relating to research, policy development, and strategic directions. Prior to joining Afreximbank he was with the World Bank Group, where he served in several capacities, including as Senior Economist and Cluster Leader and Head of the Macroeconomic and Growth Program at the World Bank Institute. Dr. Fofack has published extensively and is a member of several leading professional and scientific organizations, including the American Economic Association and the African Finance and Economic Association. He is a Fellow of the African Academy of Sciences; member of the Board of Trustees of the African Academy of Sciences; Editor-in-Chief of Contemporary Issues in African Trade and Trade Finance; Associate Editor of the Journal of African Development; and member of the Editorial Advisory Board of the Journal of African Trade.
Conference Participants

Kibrom Teweldebirhan, S.J.D. Candidate at Harvard Law School

Kibrom Teweldebirhan is an S.J.D. candidate in Harvard Law School. His doctoral project examines the relationship between labor and Chinese state owned companies in Tanzania and Zambia. He holds an LL.M. from Harvard Law School and Wuhan University School of Law and an LL.B. from the University of Asmara Faculty of Law. His interests include: international and comparative law, human rights, legal theory, and law and social change in post-colonial Africa.

Ying Xia, S.J.D. Candidate, Harvard Law School

Ying Xia is a fifth-year S.J.D. student at Harvard Law School. Before entering the S.J.D. program she obtained an LL.B. and an LL.M. from Peking University, and also an LL.M. from Harvard Law School. Her dissertation title is “Regulating Chinese Outbound Investments in East African Countries.” Her research interests include international law, political economy, law and development, and corporate governance. She has made several field trips to China, Kenya and Tanzania, where she has met and interviewed a number of government officials, entrepreneurs, and managers. She has been a pre-doctoral fellow at John Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies since 2015. Ying is working with Professor Deborah Brautigam on a comparative study of the impacts of Chinese investments on technology transfer and industrialization in African countries.
About Harvard Center Shanghai:

Initially spearheaded by Harvard Business School (HBS) and the Harvard China Fund, Harvard Center Shanghai (HCS) was inaugurated on 18 March 2010. It aims to ensure the continued flow of ideas and scholarship by building upon the fruitful relationships it has formed with Chinese universities and researchers, the Chinese government, and a range of private and public organizations. In partnership with Chinese universities and organizations, Harvard offers programming, conferences, workshops and other events at HCS.

HCS operates as a research center under the HBS Global Initiative. It works in strong partnership with HBS’s other Asia-Pacific offices in Hong Kong and Singapore, supporting faculty research and offering a full range of MBA and Executive Education student programming.

HCS occupies the entire fifth floor of the IFC-HSBC building, located at the center of Shanghai’s vibrant Pudong business district. Its location and the robust array of programming it offers testifies to HCS’s significance to the Harvard community.

Directions

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From East Yan’an Rd. Tunnel to Harvard Center Shanghai
延安东路隧道 > 银城中路 > 花园石桥路 > 陆家嘴环路 > 汇丰银行大楼（哈佛中心）
East Yan’an Rd. Tunnel > Turn right to Central Yincheng Rd.> Turn right to Huayuanshi qiao Rd. > Turn right to Lujiazuihuan Rd.> HCS

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