



**SUBMIT ABSTRACTS
BY
1ST APRIL 2024**

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS
INTERDISCIPLINARY CONFERENCE
2ND – 3RD JULY 2024
AFRICA MUSEUM, TERVUREN BELGIUM

Theme:
**Exploring Intersections: Decolonization,
Diasporas and the African Food System**

This hybrid conference is an initiative of the Food Bridge vzw in partnership with Diaspofood ULB, Africa Museum Tervuren, Interdisciplinary Historical Food Studies Research Group (FOST) VUB, The New Global Order (TNGO), Alefa Diaspora and others.

The conference seeks to unravel the historical, cultural, and socio-economic dynamics that shaped the current state of African food systems and its impact on the continent's development. Furthermore, it will be considering the effects of colonization, the experiences of diasporic communities, and the potential for decolonization to reshape the African food systems.

We are interested in papers and presentations that will showcase the nuanced understanding of the multifaceted relationship between decolonization, diaspora, and the African food system. The aim is to contribute to the ongoing discourse on African food system transformation by examining through diasporic lenses the relevance of (de)colonization concepts on food systems.

We invite papers and presentations from academics and experts, that offer insightful perspectives on the following sub themes and objectives:

A. Historical Analysis

- Examine the historical roots of African food systems and their transformation under the influence of colonization.
- Identify key moments, policies, and practices that have contributed to shaping the current African agriculture and culinary traditions.



Submission Instructions

- ✓ **Abstracts should not be more than 250 words**
- ✓ **Abstracts are accepted from academics, NGOs, development agencies, community activists and other experts**
- ✓ **Please include your full names, professional affiliations and contact details**
- ✓ **Abstracts should be in .doc or pdf format and sent to diasporaprojet@gmail.com
Maureen.Duru@vub.be
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- B. Diaspora Foodways
 - Investigate the roles of the African diasporas in shaping food practices within and beyond the continent.
 - Explore how diasporic communities preserve, transform, or adapt traditional African cuisines in new contexts
- C. Economic Empowerment and Entrepreneurship
 - The progression of sustainable and equitable economic development within the framework of African food systems.
 - Agrofood entrepreneurship challenges, success stories, and opportunities in Africa and its Diasporas.
- D. Food Sovereignty, community activism and sustainable agriculture
 - (De)colonization implications on local food systems and indigenous agricultural practices.
 - Examine community-led efforts to reclaim agency over food production, distribution, and consumption.
- E. Health and Nutrition
 - Examine the nexus of health, nutrition, and traditional African diets .
 - Healthy eating habits, addressing food-related health disparities, and preserving traditional knowledge of medicinal foods and herbs.
- F. Cultural preservation and innovation
 - Explore the tension between preserving traditional culinary practices and fostering innovation within African food systems.
 - Discuss the evolution of diaspora cuisine, fusion cuisines, and culinary hybridization.
- G. Food Policy and Governance
 - Analyze the role of government policies, international organizations, and financial institutions in shaping the African food system
- H. Global Perspectives
 - Present the global interconnectedness of African food systems, considering trade, cultural exchange, and diasporic networks.
 - Collaboration and mutual learning opportunities between African nations and the global community.

Conveners:

Dr Maureen Duru

Dr Sarah O'Neill



Laboratoire d'Anthropologie c
Mondes Contemporains



INTERDISCIPLINARY
HISTORICAL FOOD STUDIES
RESEARCH GROUP

