



African Climate and Environment Center  
Future African Savannas

# ANNUAL PHOTO REPORT

## 2024



Global Centres  
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service





# Table of Contents

Breakfast meeting with the business sector in Nairobi

**1**

AFAS Summer School 2024 - week 1

**2**

AFAS Summer School 2024 - week 2

**3**

AFAS Book Launch at the GSSC

**4**

AFAS at the DAAD Global Centres Conference

**5**

Mazingira Day in Nairobi

**6**

Stakeholder workshop in Nairobi

**7**

Students & alumni activities

**8**

UoN student excursion

**12**

UFHB student excursion

**13**



@Waruisapix

## “NBS FOR BUSINESS” BREAKFAST BUSINESS MEETING IN NAIROBI

- Date: July 22, 2024
- Location: Movenpick Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya

Similar to last year’s meeting, AFAS organized a breakfast meeting with a focus on the business sector where the goal was to contribute cutting-edge research and innovative ideas through industry linkage in the SPPI’s within the African savannas as well as connecting AFAS students to stakeholders for tailored master education. The workshop held an open-dialogue session aimed at facilitating the exchange of knowledge and experience from stakeholders working to implement Nature-based Solutions (NBS) in Kenya.



@Waruisapix

# Nbs FOR BUSINESS

**22 JULY 2024**

Explore Business Opportunities with Us!

### About Us

Advancing sustainability and business opportunities in the African savannas through AFAS research and private sector collaborations.

### Our Focus:

- Science-Policy and Practice
- Nature-Based Solutions
- African Savannas

### Contact Us

Email: [info@afas.africa](mailto:info@afas.africa)  
 Contact number: +254 71 1465836  
 Website: [www.afas.africa](http://www.afas.africa)

[AFAS CC](#)  
[AFAS CC](#)  
[www.linkedin.com/company/afas-africa](https://www.linkedin.com/company/afas-africa)





@AFAS

## Programme

The students were welcomed by the programme manager of the DAAD Global Centres on the first day of the summer school followed by a lecture on Remote Sensing Data in Climate Change Research and a guided visit to the Bonn Botanical Garden. During the course of the week, the students attended several interesting lectures and trainings at the Global South Studies Center (GSSC) and at the Center for Development Research (ZEF) in Bonn and Cologne.



@AFAS

# AFAS SUMMER SCHOOL 2024

## WEEK 1

- Date: August 26 - September 01, 2024
- Location: Bonn, Cologne Germany

The Summer School brought together 23 AFAS and 3 TRAJECTS (Transnational Centre for Just Transitions in Energy, Climate & Sustainability) fellows. They took part in an intensive two-week programme on interdisciplinary approaches for Nature-based Solutions to tackle climate change in the African Savannas.



@AFAS

The week concluded with an excursion to three different locations in the outskirts of Bonn, where they witnessed examples on NbS in Germany to connect theoretical knowledge with real-world applications for climate resilience.

Saturday was a relaxing day, with a boat trip to Königswinter and a hike to Drachenfels.



# AFAS SUMMER SCHOOL 2024

## WEEK 2

- Date: September 02 - 07, 2024
- Location: Bonn, Cologne Germany

The second week began at the GSSC with a workshop on entrepreneurship. The following day featured the highly anticipated visit to the UN campus, where participants attended sessions with the UNCCD and UNU-EHS.

The programme also featured a guided visit to the Museum Koenig and two days organized by the African partner universities: Nairobi Day and Abidjan Day.



@AFAS

## Outcomes

The Summer School provided a dynamic and enriching experience for the participants. It blended rigorous academic sessions with practical insights and hands-on learning. The programme fostered interdisciplinary approaches and global perspectives on climate resilience and sustainability, and aimed to empower participants to tackle pressing environmental challenges with innovative solutions.



@AFAS

The end of the AFAS Summer School began with an address by the Vice-Rector of the University of Bonn Prof. Dr. Birgit Ulrike Münch (see bottom-right photo) who highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary research and global collaboration. This was followed by a lecture on Water Resources and Management and a workshop on “Just Energy Transitions” by the Academic Coordinator of TRAJECTS.



@Yesim Pacal\_ZEF

# BOOK LAUNCH: AGRICULTURAL INTENSIFICATION, ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION, CONFLICT AND CO-EXISTENCE AT LAKE NAIVASHA, KENYA

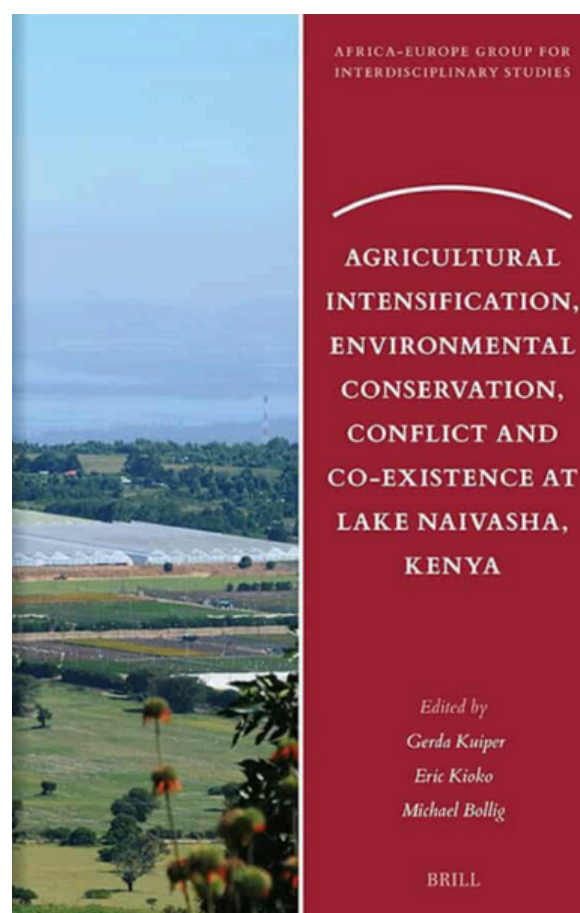
- Date: August 28, 2024
- Location: Global South Studies Center (GSSC), Cologne, Germany

The book launch was organized by the Global South Studies Center, the CRC-TRR 228 „Future Rural Africa“, and AFAS, and was part of the AFAS summer school programme. The event featured a Q&A session with several editors and chapter authors, followed by engaging discussions led by the volume editors Gerda Kuiper, Eric Kioko, and Michael Bollig.

## About the book:

The interdisciplinary volume brings together 15 chapters by 29 contributors, providing a comprehensive analysis of the century-long socio-ecological transformation of Lake Naivasha and its surrounding.

Lake Naivasha, Kenya, is singular in its diversity. Major processes of agricultural intensification, biodiversity conservation efforts, and natural-resource extraction have simultaneously manifested themselves in this one location. In addition, the Naivasha area has become a hotspot for research in the past decades.



@AFAS



# AFAS AT THE DAAD GLOBAL CENTRES CONFERENCE 2024

## IMAGINARIES OF CLIMATE FUTURES – CROSS REGIONAL INSIGHTS TO GET FROM KNOWLEDGE TO ACTION

- Date: September 10 - 12, 2024
- Location: Tagungswerk, Berlin

For the second edition of the DAAD Global Centres Conference in Berlin, a group of AFAS staff, fellows, alumni and stakeholders, participated in panel discussions, presentations on research findings and policy dialogues.



@DAAD/Stefan Zeitz



@DAAD/Stefan Zeitz

**Outcomes:** The conference concluded with a reflective session, where rapporteurs from each Global Centre, summarized key insights and actionable steps moving forward. The closing remarks underscored the critical importance of collaboration in addressing global challenges and celebrated the active contributions from AFAS and other centres.



@DAAD/Stefan Zeitz



# MAZINGIRA DAY (ENVIRONMENTAL DAY) IN NAIROBI

- Date: October 09 - 10, 2024
- Location: Parklands City Park & City Park Forest, Nairobi



@AFAS

The Mazingira Day (Environmental Day) in Nairobi was organized by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) Kenya, in collaboration with AFAS and Safaricom Kenya. The event brought together powerful discussions on the reduction of food loss and waste, sustainable waste management, environmental protection, and climate action in Kenya and across Africa. It also served as a key milestone toward the Africa Solutions Forum (ASF) 2024 in Kigali, Rwanda.

## Highlights



@AFAS

- **Corporate & Institutional Contributions:** Strengthening sustainability through collaboration.
- **Awareness & Capacity Building:** Experts shared insights on climate action.
- **Recognitions & Awards:** Celebrating contributions to environmental protection.
- **Clean-Ups & Tree Planting:** Community efforts to tackle pollution and reforest.
- **Innovation Exhibits & Demos:** Showcasing NbS, renewable energy and sustainable practices.
- **Garbage Monster Challenge:** A symbolic initiative by Children Environmental Rescue (CER) to raise awareness of the harmful effects of environmental pollution.

**Outcomes:** The session simplified in friendly terms complex climate and pollution concepts, promoting best environmental practices for climate change mitigation through music, art, and community dialogues. It also engaged primary school children to foster broader community involvement, ensuring inclusivity in climate action.



# STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP IN NAIROBI

## TRANSFERRING SCIENCE INTO PRACTICE

- Date: November 18, 2024
- Location: Movenpick Hotel, Westlands, Nairobi

Our annual AFAS stakeholder workshop took place in Nairobi. The event brought together the AFAS SPPI network, connecting students, alumni, and stakeholders to bridge the gap between science and practice. Among the main objectives were to discuss and take forward project findings; brainstorm areas for future research to support livelihoods, business and climate resilience; and establish a mechanism for networking.



@Waruisapix



@Waruisapix



@Waruisapix

**Outcomes:** The workshop emphasized the importance of Nature-based Solutions to address climate challenges. Alumni from the first master's cohort showcased their research to stakeholders, sparking vibrant discussions, knowledge sharing, and new ideas to take their projects forward.



@AFAS

## STUDENTS & ALUMNI ACTIVITIES

### Global Youth Environmental Assembly 2024

- Date: February 17 - 18, 2024
- Location: UNEP Headquarters, Nairobi

AFAS master student Zerihune Wube Emiru at the Global Youth Environmental Assembly.

### ARUA NISANSA Research Forum

- Date: March 13 - 14, 2024
- Location: Graduate School of Business conference centre, Cape Town, South Africa

AFAS alumnus Claire Anulisa Adhiambo at the forum, her poster was awarded first place among 17 posters.



@AFAS

### CITES Youth Leadership Program

- Date: April 22 - 25, 2024
- Location: Singapore

AFAS alumnus Nouhou Zoungana at the CITES Youth Leadership Program, he was nominated for his attendance by the CITES Management Authority for Burkina Faso.



@AFAS



## United Nations Civil Society Conference 2024

- Date: May 09 - 10, 2024
- Location: Nairobi, Kenya

AFAS master student Zerihune Wube Emiru at the United Nations Civil Society Conference.



@AFAS

## Climate Justice Camp 2024

- Date: October 08 - 12, 2024
- Location: Arusha, Tanzania

AFAS master student Zerihune Wube Emiru at the Climate Justice Camp 2024: Youth Leadership for a Better and Greener Future.



@AFAS

## GLF Africa 2024: Greening the African Horizon

- Date: September 17, 2024
- Location: Nairobi, Kenya

AFAS alumni Adrian Leitoro and Claire Adhiambo and AFAS master students Cynthia Akinyi, Thomas Alhassan, Elvis Ogot and, Chepchumba Cheserek at the Global Landscapes Forum (GLF) Africa 2024.



@AFAS



@AFAS

## Economic Development Assembly

- Date: October 09 - 10, 2024
- Location: Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

AFAS master students Theophilus Dumenyo, Bruno Diara, Withney Zodan, Jonathan Magala, Farida Bonkougou, Kevin Kouassi, Elvire Dossa, Kabir Adelakun and Nancy Karikari at the Economic Development Assembly.

## One Planet Fellowship Knowledge Exchange

- Date: October 17 - 18, 2024
- Location: Nairobi, Kenya

AFAS alumnus Claire Anulisa Adhiambo and AFAS master students Elvis Ogot Shikanda and Cynthia Akinyi Onyolo.



@AFAS

## 16th Conference of the Parties (COP16) UNCCD

- Date: December 02 - 13, 2024
- Location: Riyadh, Saudi Arabia



@AFAS

AFAS master student Theophilus Delali Dumenyo at the COP16 of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD).





@AFAS

## World Climate Research Program (WCRP) Open Science Conference

- Date: December 04 - 06, 2024
- Location: Kampala, Uganda

AFAS master student Annet Margaret Nabirye at the International Conference on Geographical Science for Resilient Communities, Ecosystems and Livelihoods under Global Environmental Change.

## Launch of The Farmers' Resource Guide

- Date: December 09, 2024
- Location: Nairobi, Kenya

AFAS master students Julius Toba Malika, Naomi Adi James, Ann Wanjiru Njuguna, Elvis Ogot Shikanda, Cynthia Akinyi Onyolo and , Zerihune Wube Emiru at the Launch of The Farmers' Resource Guide: "Achieving Food Production Without Toxic Pesticides".



@AFAS



# STUDENT EXCURSION

## UNIVERSITY OF NAIROBI

- Date: November
- Location: Yatta Farm and ILRI Kapiti Research Station and Wildlife Conservancy, Kenya

The student excursion from the University of Nairobi consisted of a trip to two main locations. The Bishop Masika's Yatta Farm in the Machakos County, located in an arid and semi-arid region. The visit served as a practical example of sustainable and climate-smart agriculture.

The second location was at the ILRI Kapiti Research Station located southeast from Nairobi. Here, they had the opportunity to explore various ongoing environmental research projects. The tour included a detailed look at state-of-the-art equipment used to monitor greenhouse gas emissions, an overview of the ranching and grazing management strategies employed, and a visit to a neighbouring farm that practices conservation agriculture.



@AFAS



@AFAS



@AFAS



@AFAS



# STUDENT EXCURSION

## UNIVERSITY FÉLIX HOUPHOUËT-BOIGNY

- Date: December
- Location: Various locations in Côte d'Ivoire

Students from the University Félix Houphouët-Boigny visited a climate-smart organic plantation (cocoa and vegetables farm), classified forests (with public and private management strategies), humid savannas, participated in the Annual Controlled Burning, visited different habitat types of a Guinean savanna zone and visit the Lamto Scientific Reserve.

The visits provided the students with valuable insights into NbS in agriculture, and a deeper understanding of the savanna ecosystems. They had the opportunity to compare public and private forest management approaches, observe diverse biodiversity and vegetation types, and gain hands-on experience with traditional practices like controlled burning. They also participated in discussions with local communities and reserve managers, enhancing their understanding of collaborative ecosystem management and conservation efforts.



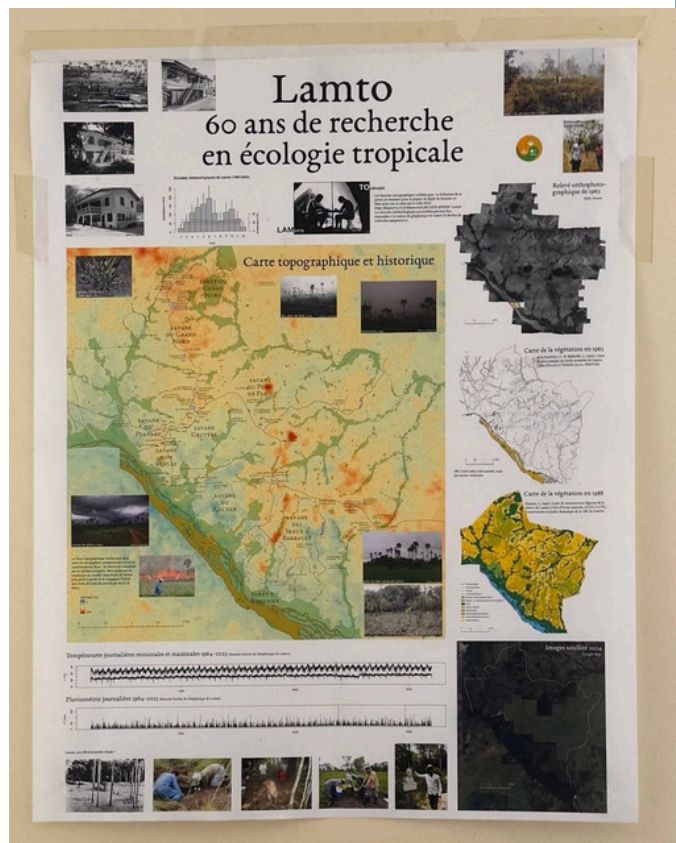
@AFAS



@AFAS



@AFAS



@AFAS





@AFAS

## MORE ABOUT US

You can find more content on our activities on our social media.



LinkedIn

[www.linkedin.com/company/afas-africa](https://www.linkedin.com/company/afas-africa)



Bluesky

[@afas.africa](https://bsky.app/profile/afas.africa)



Website

[www.afas.africa](https://www.afas.africa)



Facebook

[@AFAS.CC](https://www.facebook.com/AFAS.CC)



Email

[info@afas.africa](mailto:info@afas.africa)

AFAS is funded by the German Federal Foreign Office.

Photo Credits:

AFAS/Annet Margaret Nabirye, AFAS/Bárbara Orozco Meraz, AFAS/Christine Omuombo, AFAS/Claire Anulisa Adhiambo, AFAS/Elvis Ogot Shikanda, AFAS/Kevin Yao Kouassi, AFAS/Nouhou Zoungrana, AFAS/Theophilus Delali Dumenyo, AFAS/Zerihune Wube Emiru, @DAAD/Stefan Zeitz, @Waruisapix, @Yesim Pacal\_ZEF.