



Conference agenda

Linking borderlands research and policy in Africa
and Europe:

Tackling translation challenges

Niamey, November 29- December 4, 2017

Welcome!



Dear participants,

We are very much looking forward to our time together in Niamey. This is our preliminary agenda for the week—there is a possibility that small details might change.

We envision a conference of lively discussion and very loose sessions that allow everyone to participate. However, we have scheduled number of different formats for the conference: In sessions with paper presentations, presenters are expected to give a 15 min presentation. These sessions have a discussant who will respond to the paper on the basis of one of the identified 'dilemmas'. During roundtable discussions, each participant will be asked to present a five-minute opening statement, followed by a chaired discussion with audience participation. We also kindly ask participants to chair different sessions. We are still working on the details.

Tuesday, November 28: Participants arrive

Wednesday, November 29: Policy and practice in borderlands management

Does borderland practice reflect what we have learned from research? If not, why not?

Time	Topic	Speaker	Discussant	Chair
9 am	Welcome and introductions	LASDEL, Dr. Moussa Sissoko (Point Sud Institute in Bamako), Gregor Dobler, Mohamadou Abdoul, Georg Klute		
10 am	Overview and objectives of the conference	Mareike Schomerus		
10.30	COFFEE BREAK			
10.30 am	The dilemma: Research is expected to solve the current crisis—how could border studies achieve that?		Peter Tinti	Mohamadou Abdoul
	A brief overview of border studies	Gregor Dobler		
	From Developmentalism to Securitization and Environmentalism: Policy Changes towards the Nigeria-Niger Borderlands/	Bill Miles		
1 – 2.30 pm	LUNCH			
2.30 – 4.30 pm	The dilemma: The realities of what happens at borders is often not reflected in policies. What can research offer to sharpen the understanding of such reality?		Tilman Scherf	
	Barriers as Bridges: how local sensitivities and global security discourses converge into increased securitization of border policies in Africa	Lotje de Vries		
7 pm	Welcome Dinner at the Homeland Hotel			

Thursday, November 30: Findings and methods in borderlands research

Are they robust in the eyes of policy makers seeking evidence for policy decisions? If not, why not?

Time	Topic	Speaker	Discussant	Chair
9 am	Practitioners' roundtable: What are the greatest challenges we see?	Mohamadou Abdoul Hamadou Mounkaila Peter Tinti		Leonardo A. Villalón
10.30	COFFEE Break			
11	Researchers' roundtable: What are the greatest challenges we see?	Olivier Walther Moustapha Koné Francis Musoni Lotje de Vries		Philippe Frowd
1 – 2.30 pm	LUNCH			
4 pm	Public Event tbc			
	Border management practice and research: What we need to learn from each other	tbc	Georg Klute	LASDEL
	Free evening			

Friday, December 1: Public event

Time	Topic	Speaker	Discussant	Chair
9.30	The dilemma: How can we better understand borders through better data or different perspectives?			
	Researching borders	Georg Klute		
	Cities and Borders: A New Research Policy Partnership	Moustapha Koné, Leonardo A. Villalón and Olivier Walther		
11	COFFEE BREAK			
11.30	Border case study: Le jeu des acteurs autour de la rente frontalière	Moustapha Koné		
12.30	Establishing working groups: Possibilities of future practice/ research collaborations		Mareike Schomerus	
1.30	LUNCH			
	Participants are free to visit the National Museum			
7 pm	Group Dinner			

Saturday, December 2: Translation challenges

Why exactly is it so difficult for researchers and policymakers to communicate across their divides? What concepts, language, frameworks and interpretations can be jointly developed to overcome this divide?

Time	Topic	Speaker	Discussant	Chair
10 am	The dilemma: Researchers and practitioners use different language		Hamadou MOUNKAILA	Peter Tinti
	Understanding 'evidence' in research/ policy partnerships	Mareike Schomerus		
	Bridging the Theory-Practice Gap in Contemporary Border Studies: Issues and Theories' Potential	Serghei Golunov		
11.30	COFFEE BREAK			
12	Bridging the research-policy gap through a continuous collaborative platform	Rinku Gajera		
1 – 2.30	LUNCH			
2.30	Border case studies		Emmanuel Gregoire	
	De la ligne à l'étendue : politiques et pratiques des frontières migratoires dans l'espace saharosahélien	Julien Brachet		
	La gestion des frontières, entre politique institutionnelle et pratiques des populations. Quel modèle de gouvernance ? Cas du Sénégal et de ses voisins	Mountaga Diallo		
4 pm	COFFEE BREAK			
4.30 pm	Working groups			
	Free evening			

Sunday, December 3: Securing borders? Theory and practice

9 am	Border realities: Agenda 2063 and the Future of Border Jumping in Africa: A View from the Zimbabwe-South Africa Border	Francis Musoni	Gregor Dobler	
	Non-state actors and the fate of open borders in the SADC	Innocent Moyo		
10.30	COFFEE BREAK			
11 am	Security interventions			
	Vacuity of Regulations: An Anatomy of Nigeria's Border Securitization Policy, 2015-2017	Faleye, Olukadoye	Innocent Moyo	
	The Politics of International Border Management in West Africa - INTERPOL and the 'Policed Border' Intervention in Côte d'Ivoire	Tilman Scherf		
12.30	Roundtable/ Group discussion: What is the impact of security policies on day-to-day border management?	Philippe M. Frowd Faleye, Olukadoye Tilman Scherf		Mareike Schomerus
1.30 – 2.30	Lunch			
	National Museum is open from 3.30 – 5.30			
7 pm	FAREWELL DINNER at LASDEL			

Monday, December 4: Priorities for practice in Europe and Africa

Time	Topic	Speaker	Discussant	Chair
9 am	The dilemma: Different priorities in Africa and Europe		Peter Tinti	
	European approaches for African borders	Mohamadou Abdoul		
	Cross-border Co-operation in West Africa: A Relational and Policy Approach	Leena Hoffmann and Lawali Dambo		
10.30	COFFEE BREAK			
11 – 11.45	Preparing the visit to the commission		Bill Miles	
11.45 – 12.15	Introduction to 'African Border Disorders'		Bill Miles/ Olivier Walther	
12.15 – 12.45	Discussion from working groups: Emerging research topics		Gregor Dobler	
12.45 – 1.30	Wrap-up		Mareike Schomerus	
1.30 – 2.30	Lunch			
2.30 pm	Departure for visit to the Bilateral Commission for Niger-Nigeria Cooperation			
3 pm	Meeting with the Deputy Secretary General of the Bilateral Commission for Niger-Nigeria Cooperation Madame Touré Aminata Djibrilla Maïga			
5 pm	Return to hotel			
	Participants depart			

Participants

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