

Media Briefing



13-16 September 2015

World Social Science Forum 2015

Transforming global relations for a just world



WSS Forum 2015 Theme



"Transforming global relations for a just world"

- Thematic continuity from WSSF I ("One Planet – Worlds Apart") on global inequalities and foregrounds, the lens of distributive justice
- Speaks to the 'Knowledge Divides' highlighted in the 2nd World Social Science Report
- Encompasses the potential role of digital technologies in challenging traditional hierarchies in politics, science, and the media that is addressed in WSSF II.

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WSS Forum 2015 Organisation



EXCO – Consisting of reps from ISSC, HSRC & CODESRIA
Consortium Partners Committee – 16 member organisations engaged
Program Committee – 11 members & **Scientific Advisory Committee** – 27 members

Dr	Ebrima Sall	CODESRIA
Dr	Adebayo Olukoshi	UN - African Institute from Economic Development and Planning (IDEP)
Prof.	Jayati Ghosh	IDEAS/ Jawaharlal Nehru University
Dr	Temba Masilela	Human Sciences Research Council
Prof.	Gary Minkley	University of Forte Hare
Dr	Saleem Badat	Rhodes University
Prof.	Christof Heyns	Institute for International and Comparative Law in Africa (Univ. of Pretoria)
Prof.	Bagele Chilisa	University of Botswana
Prof.	Peter Baguma	Makereke University
Prof.	Pempelani Mufune	University of Namibia
Prof.	Mahmood Mamdani	Columbia University
Prof.	Sulyemane Bachir Diagne	Columbia University
Prof.	Partha Chatterjee	Columbia University
Dr.	Wen Tiejun	Renmin University, Beijing
Prof.	Ursula Oswald Spring	National University of Mexico
Prof.	John Urry	Lancaster University
Prof.	Esther Wiesenfeld	Universidad Central de Venezuela
Prof.	Bénédicte Fauvarque-Cosson	University Panthéon-Assas
Prof.	Bob Deacon	University of Sheffield
Prof.	Habibul Khondker	Zayed University
Prof.	Raquel Sosa Elízaga	National Autonomous University of Mexico
Dr	Jonas Knetsch	University of La Reunion
Prof.	Sakhela Bhuhlungu	University of Pretoria
Prof.	Olive Shisana	Human Sciences Research Council
Prof.	Amina Mama	University of California-Davis
Prof.	Elisa Reis	Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Prof.	Isabel Ortiz	International Labour Organisation

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Sub-Themes



1. History, Trends and Patterns of Global Inequality
2. Theorising and Measuring Inequality
3. Drivers, Catalysts, and Determinants of Inequality in the Global system
4. Nature, Dimensions, Types, and Sites of Inequality
5. Inequality, Poverty and Citizenship
6. Ethics, Social Policy and Inequality
7. Policies, Experiences, and Experiments in Combating Inequality; and
8. Challenges and Opportunities for Overcoming Global Inequality

WSS Forum 2015 Program Design



91 Planned Sessions:

- **5** Plenary Sessions
- **86** Concurrent Sessions
 - *27 Parallel Track Session*
 - *32 Satellite Sessions*
 - *27 Round table-, Debate-, Symposia Sessions*
- **89** Session Chairpersons
- **135** Oral abstract presentations
- **135** Panelists
- **200** Poster abstract presentations
- **25+** Exhibits

	No of Sessions	No. Spk / Ses	No. Speakers	Ses Co/Chairs	Convenors
Plenary sessions	5	3	15	8	
Track 1	9	5	45	18	
Track 2	9	5	45	18	
Track 3	9	5	45	18	
Satellite Sessions	32	Tba	Tba	Self organised	
Roundtables Sessions	9	5	45		9
Debate Sessions	9	5	45		9
Symposia	9	5	45		9
	91		285	62	27
			374		

Session descriptions
Invited speaker sessions
Abstract driven sessions
Abstract driven sessions
Abstract driven sessions
Panel of commercial sessions - by application and paid for
Panel of experts deliberating - selected by the programme committee
Panel of 2 or more people discussing opposing views - selected by the programme committee
Educational sessions - selected by the programme committee

(Excluding rapporteurs & poster presenters)

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WSS Forum 2015 Program Outline



Time	Sunday, 13 September 2015													Time	Monday, 14 September 2015													Time	Tuesday, 15 September 2015													Time	Wed, 16 Sept 2015												
	Hall 1AB	Hall 2BH	Hall 2C	MR 11a	MR 11b	MR 12a	MR 12b	MR 12c	2ADE F+3A	Hall 1AB	Hall 2BH	Hall 2C	MR 11a	MR 11b	MR 12a	MR 12b	MR 12c	2ADE F+3A	###	Hall 1AB	Hall 2BH	Hall 2C	MR 11a	MR 11b	MR 12a	MR 12b	MR 12c	2ADE F+3A	###	Hall 1AB																									
08:30	Registration & Delegate Assistance													08:30	Delegate Assistance Service													###	Delegate Assistance Service																										
09:00	OPENING SESSION													09:00	PLENARY 2													###	PLENARY 3													###	PLENARY 4 - RAPPORTEURS												
10:00	Lunch Break - Exhibition													10:00	Lunch Break - Exhibition													10:00	Morning break													10:00	Morning break												
11:00	Track 1 Session 1	Track 2 Session 1	Track 3 Session 1	Satellite Session 1	Satellite Session 2	Roundtable Discussion 1	Debate 1	Symposium 1	Track 1 Session 4	Track 2 Session 4	Track 3 Session 4	Satellite Session 14	Satellite Session 15	Roundtable Discussion 4	Debate 4	Symposium 4	Track 1 Session 7	Track 2 Session 7	Track 3 Session 7	Satellite Session 27	Satellite Session 28	Roundtable Discussion 1	Debate 7	Symposium 7	Track 1 Session 7	Track 2 Session 7	Track 3 Session 7	Satellite Session 27	Satellite Session 28	Roundtable Discussion 1	Debate 7	Symposium 7	###	PLENARY 5 - CLOSING																					
12:00	Lunch Break - Exhibition													12:00	Lunch Break - Exhibition													12:00	Lunch Break - Exhibition													12:00	Lunch Break - Exhibition												
13:00	Afternoon break													13:00	Afternoon break													13:00	Afternoon break													13:00	Afternoon break												
14:00	Track 1 Session 2	Track 2 Session 2	Track 3 Session 2	Satellite Session 3	Satellite Session 4	Roundtable Discussion 2	Debate 2	Symposium 2	Track 1 Session 5	Track 2 Session 5	Track 3 Session 5	Satellite Session 16	Satellite Session 17	Roundtable Discussion 5	Debate 5	Symposium 5	Track 1 Session 8	Track 2 Session 8	Track 3 Session 8	Satellite Session 29	Satellite Session 30	Roundtable Discussion 8	Debate 8	Symposium 8	Track 1 Session 8	Track 2 Session 8	Track 3 Session 8	Satellite Session 29	Satellite Session 30	Roundtable Discussion 8	Debate 8	Symposium 8	14:00	Colour Key																					
15:00	Welcome Cocktail Reception													15:00	Welcome Cocktail Reception													15:00	Welcome Cocktail Reception													15:00	Welcome Cocktail Reception												
16:00	Track 1 Session 3	Track 2 Session 3	Track 3 Session 3	Satellite Session 5	Satellite Session 6	Roundtable Discussion 3	Debate 3	Symposium 3	Track 1 Session 6	Track 2 Session 6	Track 3 Session 6	Satellite Session 18	Satellite Session 19	Roundtable Discussion 6	Debate 6	Symposium 6	Track 1 Session 9	Track 2 Session 9	Track 3 Session 9	Satellite Session 31	Satellite Session 32	Roundtable Discussion 9	Debate 9	Symposium 9	Track 1 Session 9	Track 2 Session 9	Track 3 Session 9	Satellite Session 31	Satellite Session 32	Roundtable Discussion 9	Debate 9	Symposium 9	16:00	Pleary sessions																					
17:00	Dinner break													17:00	Dinner break													17:00	Dinner break													17:00	Dinner break												
18:00	Gala Dinner													18:00	Gala Dinner													18:00	Gala Dinner													18:00	Gala Dinner												
19:30	Hall 1AB	Hall 2B	Hall 2A	MR 11	Hall 3B	Hall 3C	MR 12AB	MR 12CC	2CDE & 3A	Hall 1AB	Hall 2B	Hall 2A	MR 11	Hall 3B	Hall 3C	MR 12AB	MR 12CC	2CDE & 3A	Hall 1AB	Hall 2B	Hall 2A	MR 11	Hall 3B	Hall 3C	MR 12AB	MR 12CC	2CDE & 3A	Hall 1AB	Hall 2B	Hall 2A	MR 11	Hall 3B	Hall 3C	MR 12AB	MR 12CC	2CDE & 3A	19:30	Gala Dinner																	

ICC Durban, 13-16 Sept 2015

- Entire facility will be used for WSS Forum 2015

Meeting space for 1,600
Conference rooms (x9)
Exhibition & poster spaces
Media & speaker centres
Registration area & offices



WSS Forum 2015 Patrons



Sir Michael Marmot (UK) - Professor of Epidemiology and Public Health (health)

Professor Thandika Mkandawire (Malawi/UK) - Professor of African Development LSE (development theory, economic policy and development and social policy in developing countries and political economy of development in Africa)

Mr George Monbiot (UK) - *Visiting Fellow, Green College, Oxford (environment)*

Ms Navanetham Pillay (South Africa) - former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (human rights)

Professor Pierre Sané (Senegal) - Secretary General of Amnesty International (human rights)

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Confirmed plenary speakers



Jayati Ghosh (India) - Professor Economic Studies and Planning, Jawaharlal Nehru University (globalization, international trade and finance, employment patterns in developing countries).

Alberto Martinelli (ISSC President) – President of the International Social Science Council, former president of the International Sociological Association and professor of Political Science and Sociology at the University of Milan.

Marcelo Neri (Brazil), Minister of Strategic Affairs & Economist (social policies, education, politics, and micro-econometrics).

Adebayo Olukoshi (Nigeria), Director United Nations African Institute for Economic Development and Planning (political economy of development).

Naledi Pandor (South Africa) - **Minister of Science and Technology.**

Olive Shisana (South Africa) - Chief Executive Officer of the HSRC, Honorary Professor at the University of Cape Town, immediate past President of International Social Science Council.

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Special Program Features



Wangari Maathai Lecture

The Partners of the WSSF 2015 Forum, unanimously agreed to honour Wangari Maathai who passed away in 2011 with a lecture held in her name. This would provide the Forum the opportunity to acknowledge her role and legacy in advocating scientific research and knowledge. As this is the first Forum to be held on African soil it is most fitting to honour one of Africa's great leaders at this event.

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Panel Discussions



BRICS and inequalities - Prof Olive Shisana & Dr Jaya Josie (HSRC)

Comparative Issues of Diversity - Prof Melissa Steyn (Wits)

Coupling and Uncoupling Difference and Inequality - Prof Elisa Reis (ISSC)

Demography and Development - Prof Clifford Odimegwu (Wits)

How Do Elites Support Social Redistribution? Prof Elisa Reis (ISSC)

Measurement of Inequalities - Prof Alberto Martinelli (ISSC)

Realising social equity and diversity through higher education and community engagement - Wanda Ward (ISSC)

Social basis of human rights - Prof Jonathan Klaaren (Wits)

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The Forum programme will include plenary presentations by world-renowned speakers, alongside presentations from scientists, civil society and business.

Key issues to be discussed?



The Forum will discuss **inequality at a sectoral level, including inequalities in health, education, agriculture, mining, energy, water resources, trade, finance, taxation, employment, labour markets, and media** amongst others.

The role of government policies and multinational companies in promoting inequality will also be discussed.

Disparities in policies on and access to resources are at the heart of societal discontent, leading to the formation of mass movements disenchanted with politicians and demanding change and a growing trend towards concomitant protest action.

Besides focusing on the challenges posed by inequality, the Forum will consider social policy and programmatic options for countries, regions and the global community to deploy in reducing inequality and bringing about an egalitarian society

The Forum programme will include plenary presentations by **world-renowned speakers, alongside presentations from scientists, civil society and business**. It will allow for scientific discussions, policy debates, symposia, and workshops on any of the areas that fall under the theme of social justice.

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Important Dates



- 1 June 2014**
 - Registrations open
 - Hotel accommodation reservations open
- 15 Oct 2014**
 - Abstract submission open
- 1 January 2015**
 - **Media registration** application & accreditation opens
 - Scholarship applications open
- 1 March 2015**
 - Abstract submissions closure
 - Scholarship applications close
- 1 June 2015**
 - Final program announced
 - Regular registration fee (early fee exp 31 May '15)
- 1 Sept 2015**
 - Pre registration closes (On-site @ WSSF, late fee)
- 13 Sept 2015**
 - WSS Forum 2015 opens
- 16 Sept 2015**
 - WSS Forum 2015 closes



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