



New Directions sub-Saharan Africa 2024

Conference Schedule

Rethinking policy and practice for English in complex linguistic landscapes

Strand 1 Moving the Needle: Influencing assessment policy to serve multilingual communities

Strand 2 The Now Narrative of Africa: English and modern African identities

Strand 3 Linguistic chameleons: Multilingualism and plurilingualism opportunities and challenges

Strand 4 Technology and language assessment and learning in Africa: A double-edged sword

24 Sep

Day 1: Tuesday

JW Marriott

15.00 –
17.00 **Registration**

17.00 – **Opening plenary and discussion: The writhing of words: Writing the Kenyan experience in English and other languages**
19.00 Wanjiru Koinange, Writer of The Havoc of Choice and co-founder of Book Bunk, Kenya

From 19.00 **Welcome reception**

25 Sep

Day 2: Wednesday

JW Marriott

08.00 –
09.00 **Registration**

09.00 – **Opening ceremony**





09.45				
09.45 – 10.30	Plenary 2: Ubuntu translanguaging and the teaching of English in multilingual contexts Prof Leketi Makalela, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa			
10.30 – 11.45	Panel 1: English in a multilingual world: (re)imagining linguistic identities and inclusive practices Chair Dr Harry Kuchah Kuchah, University of Birmingham			
11.45 – 15.00	Parallel sessions			
	Plenary Room	Mara 1	Mara 2	Talek 2 & 3
11.45 – 12.15	A snapshot in time or a fixed guarantee? An exploration of the issues surrounding validity periods for language test scores - Emma Bruce, Karen Dunn, British Council Tony Clark, Cambridge University Press and Assessment	No session	Leveraging multilingualism and plurilingualism in teaching and learning in South African Universities: A Case of the University of Free State - Clayton Hazvinei Vhumbunu Department of Political Studies and Governance, University of Free State (UFS), Bloemfontein; South Africa	Adaptation of Digital Assessment Methods in an ESL Classroom: Implication on Learners Performance - Mariam Olugbodi Kwara State University, Maletе-Nigeria
12.15 – 13.30	Lunch break			
13.30 – 14.00	Role of assessment redefined in achieving reform: lessons learned from Sudan. - Yasir Elhag, Education Consultant Amna Ibrahim, British Council	Digital Divide: Navigating the Impact of Technology on Language and Cultural Identity in African Children - Makumbe, Caroline Simangaliso Brouwer, Charlene Gichanga, Margaret Author 1 - Ms. Caroline Simangaliso Makumbe - Independent Child Protection	Spotlight 1: Changes in demands for English Education - Alan Addison British Council	Spotlight 2: British Council Primary English Test: Promoting a Sense of Progress and Achievement in Young Learners – Jaber Ahmad, British Council



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		Specialist Author 2 - Ms. Charlene Brouwer - Brouwer Productions Author 3 - Dr. Margaret Gichanga - Independent Researcher		
14.00 – 14.30	Spotlight 3: Teaching for All - Inclusive education - Glenn Allies, British Council, South Africa	Spotlight 4: British Council research in SSA – Steve Copeland, British Council, United Kingdom	No session	Challenges and Opportunities for Technology and Language Learning in sub-Saharan Africa - Stephen Nsyengula Mbeya University of Science and Technology
14.30 – 15.00	No session	What English means to the modern day context of Rwanda - Joyce Kirabo Mount Kigali University Rwanda	Embracing Plurilingualism: Navigating the Tension Between English Dominance and African Languages Preservation in Audiovisual Translation Preferences - Helena Kruger-Roux University of Pretoria	Exploring the Potential of Offline Mobile Apps for Enhancing English Language Learning and Assessment in Sub-Saharan African Classrooms - Jeketule Soko, Timothy Gachanga The Open University of Kenya
15.00 – 15.30	Tea and coffee break			
15.30 – 16.15	Plenary 3: Comprehensive Learning Systems: implications for practice Prof Barry O’Sullivan, British Council			
16.15 – 17.30	Panel 2: Influencing assessment policy to serve multilingual communities Chair: Prof Barry O’Sullivan, British Council			
17.30 – 18.00	Closing			
From 19.00	Networking dinner Nairobi Street Kitchen			





26 Sep

Day 3: Thursday

JW Marriott

09.00 – 09.15	Welcome			
09.15 – 10.00	Plenary 4: Emerging Trends in Language Assessment in Kenya: Innovations and Implications David Njengere, Kenya National Examinations Council			
10.00 – 12.30	Parallel and Spotlight sessions			
	Plenary Room	Mara 1	Mara 2	Talek 2 & 3
10.00 – 10.30	Valuing linguistic diversity in Sub-Saharan Africa: A multilingual Approach to Education in Zimbabwe - Fundile Nkala Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education Zimbabwe	Mitigating the Digital Disparities: The Intersection of Technology and Language Assessment in Sub-Saharan Africa. - Kholofelo Maruma UNISA	Spotlight 5: Assessing teachers in a challenging context - Building Learning foundations (Rwanda) - Glenn Allies British Council South Africa	Workshop: Smart testing solutions: evaluating the potential of adaptive assessment for enhanced language proficiency - Ben Festus, Adekunle Adewale Uthman Federal Polytechnic Ede
10.30 – 11.00	Perspectives on Linguistic Challenges in the Implementation of Competency-Based Assessment among Kenyan Primary School Teachers - Simon Wachira Wahiu Tangaza University	No session	Empowering Multilingual Learners: Utilising Formative Assessment for Effective Learning - Hazel Watling British Council	
11.00 – 11.30	Tea and Coffee break			
11.30 – 12.00	Bridging the Gap: Aligning KCSE English Reading Comprehension with TOEFL Strategies - Merceline	Navigating the digital divide to democratize mobile-assisted language learning in sub-Saharan Africa - Mispa Mua Mbi	Translanguaging as a Bridge: Rethinking English Language Assessment in Multilingual	Workshop: Dynamic teaching and learning in a multilingual environment - Amy Newsome, British Council



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	Ochieng, Annah Kariuki Kenyatta University	CAMELTA African ELTA	Kenyan Education Caroline Kimathi United States International University-AFRICA	
12.00 – 12.30	No session	Blog-assisted language learning for enhancing proficiency in essay writing among national technical award level 4 students in Mwanza, Tanzania - Simon Matondo Tutorial Assistant	Multilingualism and Assessment: Benefits and Challenges for the Now African Child Enobong Imaha Pegasus Schools British Council Teacher Research Grant Project Teacher Registration Council of Nigeria University of Uyo	
12:30 - 13:00	Spotlight 6: Bias for best test delivery and enhancing test fairness; local considerations as part of a global rollout - Emma Bruce, British Council, Tony Clark, Cambridge University Press & Assessment	Spotlight 7: Effective productive skills assessments in educational institutions - Keshav Sreedharan British Council, Uganda Tim Hood British Council	No session	No session
13:00- 14:00	Lunch break			
14.00 – 15.15	Panel 3: Technology, language assessment, and learning in Africa: a double-edged sword? Chair: Julian Parry, British Council Chair: Julian Parry, British Council			
15.15 – 15.30	Closing ceremony			

