

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Epistemic Justice in Practice

Gendered Knowledge in Global North–South Development Partnerships

21–22 October 2026

Makerere University · Kampala, Uganda

Day 1 | Who defines authoritative knowledge?

Time	Session	Location	Responsible Person/Session Chair
08:00–09:00	Registration, tea, name badges, speaker arrival and technical checks		Ushers
09:00–10:00	Formal opening ceremony • Anthems • Opening remarks, Assoc. Prof. Ruth Nsibirano, AG Director Institute of Gender & Development Studies Cultural ensemble Interlude • Remarks: Dr Irma Erlingsdóttir, Director GRÓ GEST Programme • Remarks: Katrín Einarsdóttir, Head of Mission, Embassy of Iceland in Kampala • Opening speech, Professor Barnabas Nawangwe, Vice Chancellor Makerere University		Assoc. Prof. Ruth Nsibirano
10:10	Official group photograph		
10:15–10:55	Keynote by Prof. Josephine Ahikire <i>Living Epistemic Justice and Scratching Beyond the Surface</i>		Dr Victoria Flavia Namuggala
10:55 – 11:45	Panel discussion: Prof. Tabitha Mulyampiti, Ms Hilda J. Twongyeirwe, & Dr Thomas Brorsen Smidt 15 min discussion 15 min Q&A		Dr Daphine Agaba Kabagambe
11:45–12:45	Thematic Session 1: Donor power and the governance of knowledge • Resty Nabaggala — Whose Knowledge Counts? Epistemic Injustice in Donor-Funded Gender Equality Programming • Nabukenya Sophia — Whose Knowledge Counts? Epistemic Justice and the Politics of Gender Programme Design: A Case of the She Leads Programme Uganda • Laureen Karayi — Beyond Resourcing: Flexible Funding as a Pathway to Epistemic Justice and Women's Leadership in Fragile and Conflict-Affected Settings		Dr. Gloria E. Swilla
12:45–13:00	Networking and transition to lunch		
13:00–14:00	Lunch		
14:00–15:00	Thematic Session 2: From participation to authority: Whose knowledge becomes evidence? • Bisharo Ali Hussein — Barriers to Recognizing Locally Produced Knowledge in Gender Equality Policy and Programme Design: Reflections from East Africa • Dr. Gloria E. Swilla — Recognizing Local and Gendered Knowledge as Expertise in Tanzanian Mental Health Practice • Mercy Chaluma — Whose Knowledge Counts? Negotiating Epistemic Authority Between Donor Gender Frameworks and Community Savings Groups in Malawi — From Beneficiaries to Voices: A Practical Approach to Epistemic Justice Communication		Everlyne Mumo
15:00–15:30	Afternoon tea break		
15:30–16:15	Plenary session		Dr Thomas B. Smidt

Day 2 | Translating knowledge into institutions and practice

Time	Session	Responsible Person/Chair
08:30–09:00	Welcome back and rapporteur’s synthesis of Day 1	Dr Amon Ashaba Mwiine and Ms Elizabeth Atuheire
09:00–10:00	Keynote by Prof. Tamara Shefer + Q&A <i>Watery decolonial feminist thinking and praxis towards epistemic justice in North-South research</i>	Dr Evelyn Lutwama-Rukundo
10:00–10:20	Coffee and networking break	
10:20–11:20	Thematic Session 3: Rethinking gender, sexuality and bodily autonomy through local knowledge • Bijal Dipak Lal — Autonomy Defined by Whom? Rethinking Sexual Autonomy for Women with Intellectual Disabilities in the Tanzanian Context • Everlyne Nthenya Mumo — When Adaptation Becomes Knowledge: From Contextual Adaptation to Knowledge Production in Gender-Transformative HIV Prevention Practice in Mombasa, Kenya • Amanya Aklam — “I Am Not a Woman. I Don’t Use Pampers”: Slum Masculinities and Menstrual Hygiene Management in Uganda’s Informal Settlements	Resty Nabaggala
11:20–11:35	Short break + tea	
11:45–12:45	Thematic Session 4A: Climate adaptation, vulnerability and the authority of local knowledge • Christian Samuel Katwesigye — Who Defines Adaptation? Women Farmers’ Knowledge and Epistemic Justice in Drought-Affected Uganda • Thelma Aretha Kalu — Rethinking Vulnerability: Young Women’s Knowledge, Agency, and Epistemic Justice in the Aftermath of Cyclone Freddy in Malawi • Stella Tereka; Jón Geir Pétursson; Patrick Byakagaba — Translating International Climate Commitments to Localised Climate Action in Lower-Income African Countries: Enablers and Barriers to the Localisation of Climate Action in Uganda	Assoc. Prof. Florence Kyoheirwe Muhanguzi
12:45–13:00	Networking and transition to lunch	
13:00–14:00	Lunch	
14:00–14:40	Thematic Session 4B: Women’s rights, land and authority in agricultural value chains • Innocent Uladi — Negotiating Women’s Land and Inheritance Rights Between Customary and Formal Justice Systems in Malawi: An Epistemic Justice Perspective • Tawonga Kwangu Msowoya — Gender, Knowledge and Epistemic Injustice in Malawi’s Coffee Sector	Dr David Mugambe Mpiima
14:40–15:40	Thematic Session 5: Colonial legacies and institutional power in gender knowledge production • Kanyago Kalagala Caroline — Shifting Blame: Epistemic Injustice and Attributing Women’s Exclusion from Waged Employment to Culture in Uganda • Tendo Mirembe Namata — Whose Knowledge Counts? Epistemic Justice, Donor-Driven NGOisation and Ugandan Rural Marginalized Women’s Rights Amidst Global Funding Cuts and Shifts • Brenda Apeta — Beyond Knowledge Transfer: Centering African Epistemologies in Global Gender Training Partnerships	Dr Anna Ninsiima
15:40–15:55	Tea	
15:55–16:55	Formal closing ceremony and next steps • Remarks by Dr Irma Erlingsdóttir, Director GRÓ GEST Programme • Remarks by Prof. Julius Kikooma, Director, Graduate Training • Remarks by Prof. Sarah N. Ssali, First Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic Affairs • Anthems and Departure	