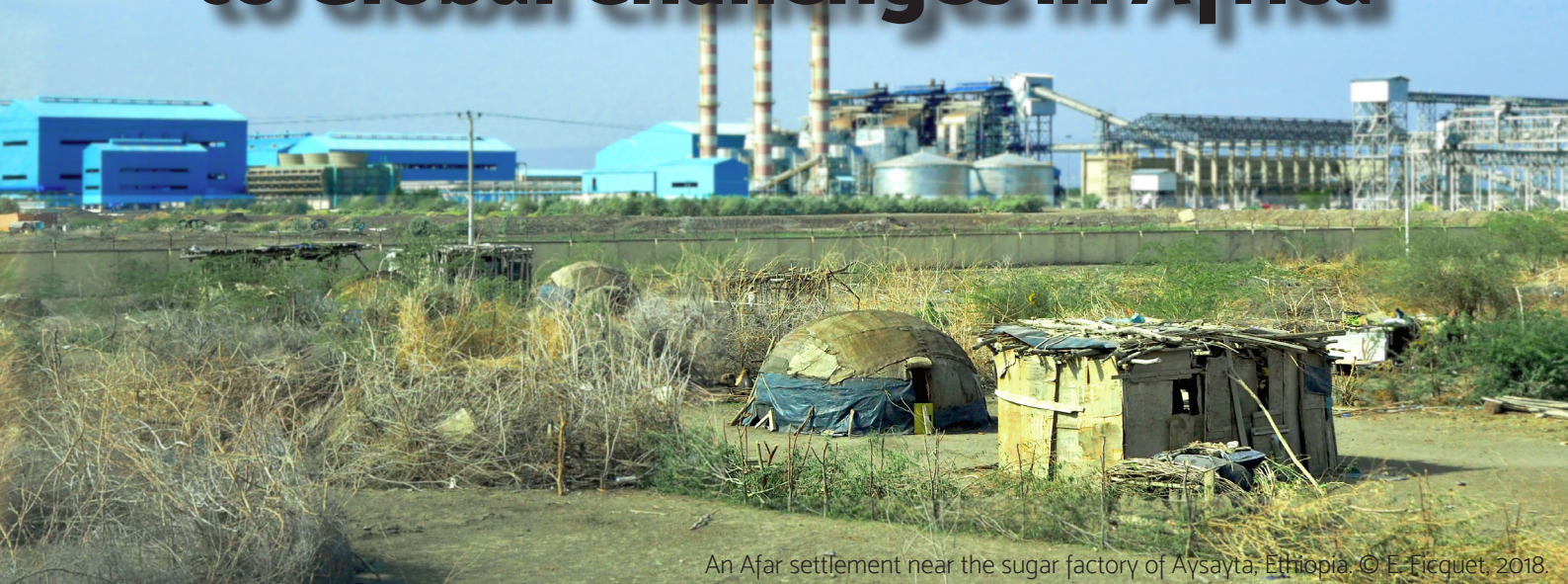


Contribution of Area Studies to Global Challenges in Africa



An Afar settlement near the sugar factory of Aysayta, Ethiopia. © E. Ficquet, 2018.

Dates: 3 - 4 December, 2018

Venue: BULAC, Room RJ 24

65 rue des Grands Moulins 75013 Paris

Registration mandatory at ffj@ehess.fr

Building on the success of the first France-Japan Area Studies Forum held in Kyoto on 1–3 December 2017, the 2nd joint conference will be held in Paris on 3–4 December 2018.

Kyoto University and EHESS signed a Memorandum of Understanding for Academic Cooperation and Exchange in May 2015. Since then, there has been an active exchange of individual scholars between the two institutions. The France-Japan Area Studies Forum was the first opportunity to interact with each other on an institutional level. With common perspective on strengthening partnership, the Forum was held under the two themes: “New Spatiality on Asian and African Area Studies” and “Voices for The Future: African Area Studies in a Globalizing World.” The Forum aimed to re-conceptualize ideas about “spatiality” or “area,” in order to understand better the globalizing forces that shape contemporary issues in Africa. Knowledge and insights relating to a wide range of global issues were shared at this conference attended by over 100 participants.

For the 2nd joint conference, the following two themes have been selected as priority issues for both universities. The discussions that will ensue as a result of this forum will not only provide opportunities to enhance academic partnership between Kyoto University and EHESS, but also encourage researchers to explore new ways to advance African studies globally.

Program

Rethinking the Interdisciplinary Frontier of African Studies

Monday 3 December, 2018

10:10- 10:30

Opening & Introductory Speech

Eloi Ficquet, Associate Professor, EHESS

Masayoshi Shigeta, Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Workshop “Cahiers d’études africaines - Interdisciplinary and Long-term Perspectives on African Landscapes”

10:30-12:30

Session 1: Crossing Earth Sciences and Human Sciences Studies on the Evolution and the Current Transformations of the Lower Awash Basin, Afar Region, Ethiopia.

Eloi Ficquet, Associate Professor, EHESS

Cécile Doubre, Researcher, Strasbourg University

Session 2: Environmental Changes and Rural Dynamics in West Africa

Catherine Mering, Professor, Paris Diderot University

Tidiane Sané, Ziguinchor, Researcher-Lecturer, Ziguinchor University, Senegal

Discussant: **Shuichi Oyama**, Associate Professor, Kyoto University

12:30-14:30: Lunch Break

Roundtable “Urbanization and Mobility in African Cities”

14:30-16:15

Kae Amo, Researcher, Fondation France-Japon, EHESS

Yumiko Yamamoto, Associate researcher, Fondation France-Japon, EHESS

Comments: **Beatriz Fernandez**, Associate Professor, EHESS

Comments: **Daisuke Mizoguchi**, Resident Director, Nairobi Research Station, JSPS

Discussant: **Motoki Takahashi**, Professor, Kyoto University

16:15-16:45: Coffee Break

Roundtable on Current Trends and Debates on Humanitarian Studies in Africa

16:45-18:30

Presentation of Activities of the French Red Cross Foundation

Virginie Troit, FCRF

Vincent Léger, FCRF.

Presentation of the Journal Alternatives Humanitaires / Humanitarian Alternatives

Boris Martin, Editor in chief of the journal

Presentation of the Supplementary Issue of African Studies Monographs, 53, 2017 on “Localization of Humanitarian Assistance Frameworks for East African Pastoralists”

Akira Takada, Associate Professor, Kyoto University

Contribution of Area Studies to Global Challenges in Africa

Tuesday 4 December, 2018

Africa is facing many serious challenges that require us to analyze multiple factors cutting across national and regional boundaries. The aim of this symposium is to grasp and examine the globalizing forces that shape contemporary issues in Africa from the perspective of area studies. We have selected three global challenges faced by African society today: the environmental and ecological impacts on local livelihoods by global climate change and large-scale resource development (environmental challenges), the influence of external/international organizations and NGOs on local communities through developmental aids (developmental challenges), and the influence of rapid social changes on cultural diversity in relation to inheritance of knowledge, technologies, languages and values (cultural challenges). These challenges are seen either as “failures” of African society in adopting to modern institutions or as necessities to return to “indigenous” values and livelihoods. Instead of falling into extreme dualism, each presenter aims at examining cultural dynamics and social practices as constant processes of negotiations between African society and modern interventions.

Panel 1: Environmental Challenges

10:00- 10:10

Opening Speech

Romain Huret, Vice-president, EHESS

10:10 – 12:00

Gen Yamakoshi, Associate Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Masayoshi Shigeta, Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Hiroki Sato, Assistant Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Hajanirina Rakotomanana, Professor, University of Antananarivo, Madagascar

Kaoru Kitajima, Professor, Graduate School of Agriculture

Rhett Harrison, Senior Research Fellow, World Agroforestry Centre, Zambia

Discussant: **Frédéric Joulian**, Associate Professor, EHESS, CNE

12:00-13:30: Lunch Break

Panel 2: Developmental Challenges

13:30 – 15:00

Motoki Takahashi, Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Shuichi Oyama, Associate Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Morie Kaneko, Associate Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Discussant: **Kae Amo**, Researcher, Fondation France-Japan, EHESS

15:00-15:30: Coffee Break

Panel 3: Cultural Challenges

15:30 – 17:00

Akira Takada, Associate Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Misa Hirano, Associate Professor, Center for African Area Studies

Discussant: **Eloi Ficquet**, Associate Professor, EHESS.