



## SFA Network - Newsletter

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*The Sustainable Futures in Africa team is pleased to share with you, our dear network members, partners, institutions and communities, our latest newsletter for May 2020. We hope it will find you well during these challenging times of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has brought about unprecedented changes in the way we work and communicate.*

May 31st, 2020

[www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com](http://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com)<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com>

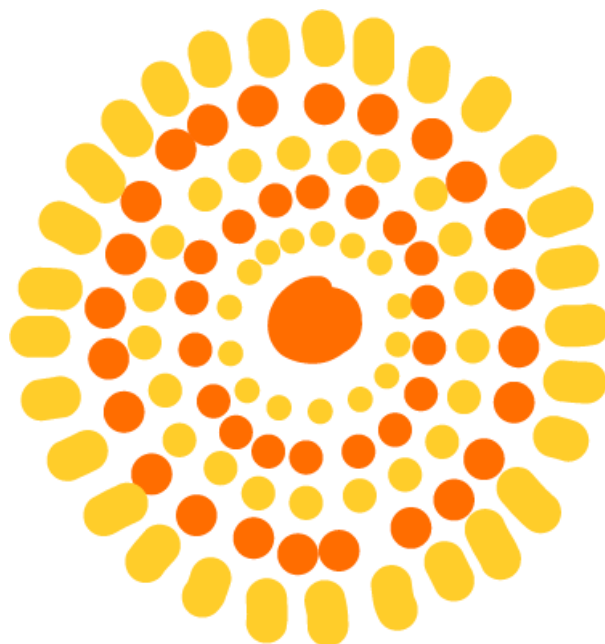
## In This Issue



In this issue, you find information about:

- **TOGETHER - SFA Short Video in response to the pandemic**
- **Hubs updates and initiatives to address COVID-19 challenges**
- **Project Development and Submitted Funding Applications**
- **SFA members Publications, Presentations and Resources**
- **New SFA members**
- **Funding and engagement opportunities**

## Message from SFA Co-Directors



So much has changed since our last newsletter! This time a little over two months ago we had planned our 4th annual symposium in Malawi and had to make the very hard decision to postpone the event due to concerns about the COVID-19 pandemic. Today, we are all navigating new working conditions, new local and global challenges, and new layers of understanding of the interconnectivity and of the vulnerabilities of the world. Although the past two months seem like a long time for many of us (with many of us confined to our homes), it is in fact a very short time, under very difficult circumstances, to come to terms with such significant changes and challenges. But, on the up-side, we have discovered many opportunities to improve our network and our lives. It has given us time to reflect, reconsider and innovate the way we work.

We are proud to say that the SFA family has proven vibrant, proactive, supportive and generous in this time. Both locally in our own regions, and internationally, connecting across hubs, our members have been designing and leading responses to the immediate crisis, and exploring new approaches to the intermediate future of our work and engagement. This newsletter represents just some of these activities.

A dear friend and new SFA member in Scotland, Jo Sharp, sent this quote recently by Alice Walker: "Look closely at the present you are constructing, it should look like the future you are dreaming." This resonates strongly for us as I hope it will for you.

*- Mia Perry and Deepa Pullanikkatil*

## TOGETHER

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*We are please to share with you this collaborative and creative engagement video entitled: "Together".*

*To further explore **public engagement** and to share SFA Network perspectives on and lived experiences of COVID-19, network members collaborated to create this short video. It will be launched on SFA social media (Twitter and website<sup>2</sup>) over the next few days. Stay tuned and **share widely**.*

*Thanks to all members who participated, as well as to Alasdair Currie, digital designer from Multiplied by<sup>3</sup> who curated the work - This was a positive experience and we hope you'll enjoy watching it!*

- Mia, Deepa, Zoe, Vanessa and Elson

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<https://sway.office.com/d8LtbF4zIueZlr1C#content=8Mt9MGTVRzckl9>

## Botswana Hub

### Hub Updates

The Botswana hub allocated resources (appropriate IT items) to enable Goitse, the Research Administrator, to continue her work with the hub members and across hubs while at home. The hub is also actively responding to funding opportunities including:

1. COVID-19 Response Small Grants (resilience in wildlife community grant)
2. COVID-19 rapid response application for Scottish Funding Council (SFC) -GCRF fund in collaboration with the Universities of Glasgow, Malawi, Uganda and Nigeria.

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<sup>2</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/06/01/together/>

<sup>3</sup><https://multipliedby.com/>

3. Currently the hub is working on a proposal on SFA Community Radios COVID-19 response, which would reduce communication gap between remote rural communities and larger communities in Botswana during crisis periods.

### Embracing the "New Normal"

The new normal demands that the hub keeps practicing the WHO COVID-19 health interventions: social distancing, washing of hands, sanitizing, mandatory wearing of masks for all. In that context, the hub intends to team up with health and technical stakeholders to respond to COVID-19 calls for proposals aimed at providing support to rural communities. Read Hub Director Prof O. MmaB Modise's post about how the hub is embracing the new normal<sup>4</sup>.

### Eswatini Hub (new!)

**Our family is growing!** The Kingdom of Eswatini is the sixth country to join SFA network. The Kingdom is unique in various aspects; it is landlocked; the majority of the population is indigenous emaSwatis; it is known for its culture tourism and ecotourism including many wildlife parks; and it is dependent on its agriculture sector, boasting a national livestock herd of 600,000. This is significant for a country of a population of 1.1 million. Every year in the month of May, the country hosts an international music festival (MTN Bushfire) which was labeled by the BBC to be the "Top African Music Festival". The challenges faced by the country include the spread of invasive alien species, climate change and variability impacts such as prolonged droughts and erratic rainfall, HIV/AIDS and income inequality.

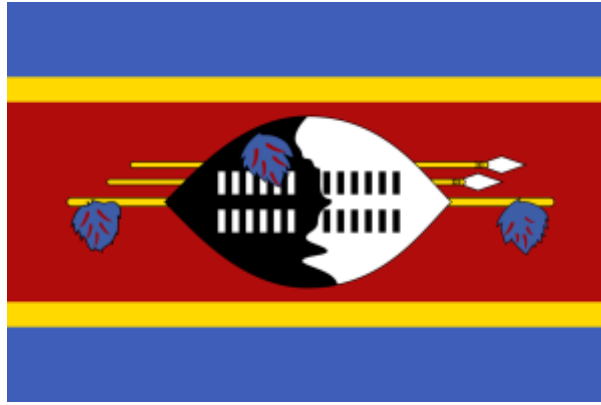
Eswatini was a natural addition to the SFA family facilitated by our Co-Director, Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil, who is based in Mbabane, Eswatini. The partners who have shown interest to form the SFA Eswatini hub are:

- The Department of Environment Science in the University of Eswatini (UNESWA);
- The Eswatini Environment Authority (EEA);
- The National Disaster Management Agency of Eswatini (NDMA);
- The Coordinating Assembly of Non-Governmental Organizations (CANGO – representing over 100 NGOs).

We anticipate some interesting research collaborations of a multi-disciplinary nature unique to the setting of a small landlocked Kingdom, coming from Eswatini.

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<sup>4</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/07/embracing-the-new-normal/>



## Malawi Hub

### Message from the Hub Director

The year has begun with a pandemic caused by coronavirus. It has unsettled the whole world order and has changed the manner in which we do business. However, the Malawi hub is dealing with this pandemic in a calculated manner. The message is to stay safe and engage in positive activities, which include:

Abundance, a hub partner, has made Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and distributed it in Mbando village to those that need it most. Furthermore, Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil conducted a webinar for the hub on ecosystem services. It clearly emphasized that ecosystems, if properly managed, can provide for us many opportunities in the face of coronavirus. ArtGlo has done substantial work in using art to disseminate various health messages #TipeweCorona<sup>5</sup>. Mzimba Vocational School has interacted with communities around Mzimba to become self-sufficient in food using organic manure.

The University of Mzuzu, the University of Livingstonia and Church and Society have undertaken substantial research. A proposal around household solid waste management has been submitted for funding by Dr Rochelle Holm from Mzuzu University.

The Malawi hub has shown resilience in the face of coronavirus. Our ambition is to grow even more and become great together with the international SFA family.

- Dr Boyson H. Z. Moyo

### A visit to Tikondwe Freedom Gardens

In early March, 2020, Miss Dora Nyirenda, the hub Research Administrator, visited Tikondwe Freedom Gardens for the final preparations of the community engagement workshop that was to take place during the SFA Symposium in Malawi. One of the planned activities was tree planting and the chosen tree species were *Acacia* spp. Although the workshop was postponed, community members planted the 30 tree seedlings in TFG.

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<sup>5</sup>[https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=8&v=op5K9s8\\_7No&feature=emb\\_logo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=8&v=op5K9s8_7No&feature=emb_logo)





*1 - Acacia tree that has been planted*



*2 - Community members involved in tree planting*

## Webinar

Amidst the lockdown enforced in Malawi, the hub was privileged to engage in a Webinar led by Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil on Ecosystem-Based Disaster Risk Reduction at the end of April, 2020. The aim of the webinar was to educate and inform members about ecosystems and how protecting them has disaster risk reduction benefits. You can access the blog post here<sup>6</sup>, and you are invited to get in touch with Dr Pullanikkatil if you would like her to host a similar webinar for your hub or organisation.



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<sup>6</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinfrica.com/2020/05/25/webinar-on-ecosystem-services-malawi-hub/>

### Energy Project: Cooking up a Sustainable Solution to Malawi's Energy Crisis

There is a vital need for sustainable and clean cooking technologies in Malawi as nearly the entire population depends on charcoal and firewood as fuel. This has resulted in rapid deforestation thereby damaging agricultural activities with children and women engaged in the difficult labour of firewood collection. Read more on this in a blog post<sup>7</sup> by Deepa Pullanikkatil and Dave Gerow. This project has began in January 2020 and is currently ongoing.

### Mzimba Christian Vocational School tackling COVID-19

MCVS held a community engagement activity on March 18th. During the event, participants had the opportunity to visit maize crops grown without the use of chemical fertilizer.

MCVS team also sourced some relief food items to share with those in need during this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 pandemic. Participants also received from well-wishers some sanitary gloves which can be distributed within their respective villages in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19 through hand contact during funerals.



3 - Field visit during MCVS Community Engagement event



4 - Cartons of relief food

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<sup>7</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/01/31/cooking-up-a-sustainable-solution-to-malawis-energy-crisis/>





*5 - Cartons of sanitary gloves*

### Managing hub work

Workers in different institutions, organizations and government offices have been asked to work in shifts to implement physical distancing. Working from home has been both a challenge and an eye opener. Members miss the physical interactions with their workmates. Reliable access to mobile phone networks is an issue for some members and impedes collaborative work in many instances. Some people usually depend on institution networks as they are more stable and faster, therefore adding another layer of complexity in relation to working from home. On a brighter note, restricted movements or partial lockdown have enabled the team to learn and adapt faster to both ways of working with the respective tools and platforms available.

### Tribute to Chief Mbando

Mbando village is known to many in the SFA as the village where Abundance works. It is situated in Machinga District, southern Malawi. The village is named after Chief Mbando, whose ancestors settled down in that area generations ago. Chief Mbando had been supporting Abundance's activities since its start in 2016. He was known by team Abundance as a cheerful, supportive and caring leader who always had the welfare of his village in his mind above all. Sadly, he passed away on 1st of May 2020, leaving the village devastated by the loss. Abundance honoured him by naming the eLearning Center "Chief Mbando Memorial eLearning Center".



6 - The late Chief Mbando (on left) with Abundance's Community Coordinator Moses Phulusa (on right)

## Nigeria Hub

### Hub Updates

Before the lockdown, the hub held a meeting where members from First-Technical University, Ibadan and Obafemi Awolowo University (OAU) met at the Faculty of Agriculture at OAU, to strategize on the way forward to achieve the goals of the hub and the global network.

Prof Sola Ajayi, Nigeria hub Director, was invited to be a panelist in an e-Policy Seminar on Building Resilience in Food Systems and Agriculture Value Chain: *Agricultural Policy Responses to COVID-19 Pandemic in Africa* held by the African Development Institute<sup>8</sup> (ADI). You can access Prof Ajayi's think piece here<sup>9</sup>.



7 - Nigeria Hub meeting

### Hub's initiatives to address COVID-19 impacts

A local team consisting of 13 people across disciplines in the country came together in a Whatsapp group to collaborate on a ELRHA's Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises call for proposals in March 2020 on the on-going response to COVID-19 pandemic. Unfortunately the team could not proceed further due to the issued guidance that the proposal response must be on targeted issues around IDPs and refugees, but the initiative led to the articulation of the proposal submitted, jointly

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<sup>8</sup><https://www.afdb.org/en/knowledge/african-development-institute/global-community-practice-g-cop/building-resilience-food-systems-and-agricultural-value-chains-agricultural-policy-responses-covid-19-africa>

<sup>9</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/31/think-piece-building-resilience-in-africas-food-systems-and-agricultural-value-chains/>

with the other SFA Hubs, to the SFC-GCRF internal funding of the University of Glasgow and to the AHRC Urgency Pilot Grant.

The hub is currently responding to a GCRF funding call on 'Conflict Intersections' Global Partnership Development awards and is also leading an application to the COVID-19 Africa Rapid Grant Fund of South Africa's National Research Foundation (NRF) through Obafemi Awolowo University.

## Scotland Hub

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*[Access Scotland Hub Director Dr Brian Barrett's message to the network here<sup>10</sup>.](#)*

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### Hub Updates

The end of February and beginning of March was quite hectic, with members of the Scottish hub getting ready for the Malawian Symposium, and launching the Critical Resource for Ethical International Partnerships<sup>11</sup>. Although the team was aware that the COVID-19 context was rapidly evolving, all were confident and excited to depart for Malawi the following week. However, on March 6th, the decision was made to postpone the symposium to safeguard the SFA Network members, as well as the communities were intending to engage with.



Amidst the lockdown, activities quickly shifted to cancelling flights, negotiating with hotels in Malawi, requesting flight vouchers, reconciling budgets, etc. In parallel some hub members engaged in project development towards COVID-19 rapid response funding opportunities and to make up for the lost opportunity for the hubs to meet in Malawi, the Scotland hub planned the SFA Project Development activity where each hub was invited to initiate the co-creation of a research strategy, request an updated research profile from its members and start working on project designs.

In April and May, the Scottish hub members have worked with the wider network to develop initiatives in response to funding schemes focusing on COVID-19 (SFC-GRCF and AHRC - see section below). The Scottish hub members also submitted, on May 26th, three proposals to the SFC-GRCF 2020-2021 funding cycle.

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<sup>10</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/12/lockdown-week-8/>

<sup>11</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/03/19/a-critical-resource-for-ethical-international-partnerships/>

## Participatory Futures (new project)

“Participatory Futures” is a new project, funded by GCRF UKRI (PI Perry) to directly address the challenge of Equitable Access to Sustainable Development as identified by the UKRI GCRF strategy, and the Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals) as an essential component of this issue. The 12 month project (start date – June 1st, 2020) will engage with members across the SFA Network. SDG 17 is gravely underrepresented in development-related research and yet critically underpins and determines the impact and sustainability of outcomes. This project seeks to re-examine 5 GCRF-related projects to evaluate the way partnerships have been conceptualised and practiced across diverse research contexts. The research provides a unique opportunity to stand back from an individual project to look at themes, practices and processes that are common to a body of work and will allow us to learn from them.

## New Members

Welcome to the new Scotland hub members.

Jude Robinson<sup>12</sup>: Professor of Health and Wellbeing and the Deputy Head of the College of Social Sciences at the University of Glasgow. She has particular interest in the health of women and their children living on low incomes. Her expertise centres on (feminist) research methodologies, visual methods and material culture, gendered inequalities, issues around social justice, alternative moralities and ‘othering’, one health and the health of women, children and their families.

Nicol Keith<sup>13</sup>: Professor of Molecular Oncology and the Institute of Cancer Sciences Director of Research Impact at the University of Glasgow. He is motivated by what’s around the corner and the societal impact of research.

Queralt Capsada-Munsech<sup>14</sup>: Lecturer in Education & Social Inclusion at the School of Education at the University of Glasgow. Queralt’s main research interests are educational inequalities, social stratification and youth transitions from education to the labour market.

Alasdair Currie<sup>15</sup>: Alasdair is head of Multiplied By: a Creative and Communications agency based in Glasgow. He is the designer of the SFA logo and website and provides support to the network for its communication and engagement with the general public. Alasdair has a strong track record in supporting the third and education sectors and enjoys supporting organisations that seek to make a positive contribution to society.

Raihana Ferdous<sup>16</sup>: Energy geographer working as a postdoctoral research associate. Her research is concerned with the development of sustainable energy and technology and their shaping of the human and more than human worlds. She is working in collaboration with Dr Perry and is based in the School of Education of the University of Glasgow.

Zoe Strachan<sup>17</sup>: Reader in Creative Writing at the University of Glasgow with a PhD in Scottish Literature. Zoë is interested in collaborative interdisciplinary projects that involve the use of arts-based methodologies as a research strategy, or storytelling and other arts activities for communication, intervention and dissemination.

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<sup>12</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/people/jude-robinson/>

<sup>13</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/people/nicol-keith/>

<sup>14</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/people/queralt-capsada-munsech/>

<sup>15</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/people/aldasair-currie/>

<sup>16</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/people/raihana-ferdous/>

<sup>17</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/people/zoe-strachan/>

Kirsty Ross<sup>18</sup>: Design academic within the Innovation School at the Glasgow School of Art, teaching across the Product Design undergraduate programme. Kirsty's current research interests focus on collaborative design practice; the development of innovative design pedagogical models, projects and approaches which explore collaborative learning in academic, industry and social contexts.

Lavinia Hirsu: Lecturer in Applied Linguistics, Composition and English as a Foreign Language in the School of Education of the University of Glasgow.

Jo Sharp: Professor of Geography in the School of Geography and Sustainable Development of the University of St Andrews. Her research interests are in feminist, postcolonial, cultural and political geographies. Much of my research has been undertaken in Africa, most recently in Tanzania.

### New Normal – lessons and challenges

The lockdown has forced the Scotland hub to work from home and rely solely on online interactions. Although this brings its own challenges (diverse work schedules, family members interrupting meetings, etc.), it has also created a greater synergy between the various hub members. Especially, increasing online communications has allowed the team to demonstrate its resilience and its creativity.

## Uganda Hub

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*To read about the country's mitigation measures against COVID-19 and watch Uganda Hub Director Dr Alex Okot's video from Lira, click here<sup>19</sup>.*

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### Hub Updates

On 6th March 2020, ECOaction launched the Clean Air Project at Namirembe Infant Primary School in Kampala. In attendance were: Head teachers from the four selected primary schools, SFA Ugandan hub members, US Embassy representatives, Kampala City Council Authority (KCCA), ECOaction's team, and local leaders. During the event, the different stakeholders discussed the implementation plan, as well as how this initiative addresses SDG4, (Quality Education) and SDG13 (Climate action). See the photo essay<sup>20</sup> for more details.



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<sup>18</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/people/kirsty-ross/>

<sup>19</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/28/no-one-is-safe-until-everyone-is-safe/>

<sup>20</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/09/photo-essay-clean-air-project-launch/>



#### 8 - Stakeholders who attended the launch of the Clean Air Project.

In March, Apala Widows in Orphanage Centre (AWOC) held a community engagement event where farmers were trained and reminded about how to ensure self-sustenance for better livelihood. The NGO also hosted a group of students from the University of Agder in Norway who are studying community development. They chose to spend their internship with AWOC and work with the communities it engages with.



9 - Dr. Alex Okot talking to participants during training at Awali primary school in Apala Sub county.



10 - The Community Development Officer of Abia Sub-County welcomes and briefs the students

## Network's achievements

### Submitted proposals

#### Malawi Hub:

- Household Solid Waste Management: Threats and Opportunities in Mzuzu city, Malawi to *The Environmental Research and Education Foundation*, US (pending).

#### Scotland Hub:

- **“Pandemic Solutions: Mobilising community capacities and expertise in response to the global COVID-19 crisis”** to *the SFC-GCRF Rapid response* (internal UofG competition) to 1) access reliable information; 2) generate new income by being involved in the local response to COVID19; and 3) strengthen the capacity of the Network to work collectively by providing IT devices to hub members. (Unsuccessful)
- **“Kitchen Life: Towards Clean Cooking in Bangladesh and Malawi”** to *the SFC-GCRF Small Grants 2020-2021*. This project is an interdisciplinary research pilot on sustainable cooking and relates to energy, air pollution, and nutrition taking the ‘kitchen’ as the unit of analysis. Three interlinked aspects will be investigated: everyday cooking practices, cooking economy and cooking materials. (Pending)

- “Bringing young people back into agriculture: South-South synergies and transferability between youth initiatives” to the *SFC-GCRF Small Grants 2020-2021*. This project seeks to understand and evaluate youth programs developed in Kenya and Colombia aimed at bringing back young people into agriculture. (Pending)
- **“Sustainability and Equity through infrastructure: Sustainable Futures in Africa network’s development & digital capacity”** to the *SFC-GCRF Small Grants 2020-2021*. This project will address an urgent gap in the network’s capacity to progress in a sustainable and equitable way through the provision and development of essential resources and capacities in information communication technology (ICT) and research development support to enhance the impacts and efficacy of this growing network. (Pending)
- **“Plastic arts and EcoAction through education – Masters Studentship”** to the *SFC-GCRF Small Grants 2020-2021*. This project addresses plastic waste pollution through participatory research methodologies to look at the implications of social arts and pedagogies that cross the Global North and South. The studentship will support Reagan Kandole, Ugandan artist and director of EcoAction. (Pending)
- **“Whose crisis?: The global COVID-19 crisis from the perspective of communities in Africa”** to the *AHRC – urgency pilot grant*. This project aims to co-curate representations and develop understandings of the social and cultural crisis generated by the pandemic in Africa and inform and contribute to global responses. Through stories, performances, cultural products and practices, this project will document and communicate experiences of living with COVID-19 in vastly different contexts (Full application to be submitted).

## Publications and Presentations

### Blog posts

No one is safe until everyone is safe<sup>21</sup> (*Dalton Otim and Dr Alex Okot*)

The Twin COVID-CLIMATE Crisis<sup>22</sup> (*Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil*)

Webinar - Ecosystem Based Disaster Risk Reduction<sup>23</sup> (*Dora Nyirenda*)

Exhibition Video - Future Experiences: Sustainable Development & The Global South<sup>24</sup> (*Prof Nicol Keith*)

Lockdown – week 8<sup>25</sup> (*Dr Brian Barrett*)

Embracing the New Normal<sup>26</sup> (*Prof O. MmaB Modise*)

Critical Resource for Ethical International Partnerships<sup>27</sup> (*Dr Mia Perry and Prof Jo Sharp*)

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<sup>21</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/28/no-one-is-safe-until-everyone-is-safe/>

<sup>22</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/26/the-twin-covid-climate-crisis/>

<sup>23</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/25/webinar-on-ecosystem-services-malawi-hub/>

<sup>24</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/20/exhibition-video-future-experiences-sustainable-development-the-global-south/>

<sup>25</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/12/lockdown-week-8/>

<sup>26</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/07/embracing-the-new-normal/>

<sup>27</sup><https://www.intdevalliance.scot/member-services/member-blogs/critical-resource-ethical-international-partnerships>

A drive to remember: ECOaction at work in the Covid-19 lockdown<sup>28</sup> (*Reagan Kandole*)

Covid-19 and appreciating public and green spaces<sup>29</sup> (*Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil*)

Covid-19 and being Nimble<sup>30</sup> (*Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil*)

Translation into arts<sup>31</sup> (*Reagan Kandole*)

Corona<sup>32</sup> (*Tom Ketlogetswe*)

Photo essay - Clean Air Project Launch<sup>33</sup> (*Reagan Kandole*)

Pluriversal literacies: Affect and relationality in vulnerable times<sup>34</sup> (*Vanessa Duclos*)

Covid-19 and rethinking the unsustainable 'Normal'<sup>35</sup> (*Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil*)

Waste management in small urban context - Malawi<sup>36</sup> (*Dora Nyirenda*)

### Academic publications

Mia Perry. 2020. Pluriversal Literacies: Affect and Relationality in Vulnerable Times. *International Literacy Association – Reading Research Quarterly*. 0(0). pp 1-17 | doi:10.1002/rrq.312<sup>37</sup>

### Presentations (Webinars)

"Ecosystem Based Disaster Risk Reduction" hosted by **LUANAR** (Lilongwe, Malawi) attended by the Malawi Hub members. Speaker: *Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil*

"Rethinking Sustainability and Development in times of COVID-19" hosted by **Morning Star Home Science College** (Kerala, India) in Collaboration with **Sustainable Futures in Africa** attended by over 700 participants. Speakers: *Dr Deepa Pullanikkatil* and *Dr Mia Perry*

### Resource

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<sup>28</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/03/a-drive-to-remember-ecoaction-at-work-in-the-covid-19-lockdown/>

<sup>29</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/05/02/covid-19-and-appreciating-public-and-green-spaces/>

<sup>30</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/19/covid-19-and-being-nimble/>

<sup>31</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/14/translation-into-arts/>

<sup>32</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/14/corona/>

<sup>33</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/09/photo-essay-clean-air-project-launch/>

<sup>34</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/08/pluriversal-literacies-affect-and-relationality-in-vulnerable-times/>

<sup>35</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/07/covid-19-and-rethinking-the-unsustainable-normal/>

<sup>36</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/04/03/waste-management-in-small-urban-context-malawi/>

<sup>37</sup><https://ila.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1002/rrq.312>

Critical Resource for Ethical International Partnerships<sup>38</sup> (DOI 10.17605/OSF.IO/DJTN4<sup>39</sup>)

### Funding Opportunities

**COVID-19** - The University of Glasgow has a dedicated page<sup>40</sup> on its Website gathering all COVID-19 related opportunities:

**UKRI-GCRF Conflict Intersection**<sup>41</sup> (Deadline - June 3rd)

**NRF COVID-19 Africa Rapid Grant Fund**<sup>42</sup> (Deadline - June 17th)

**British Academy Humanities and Social Sciences Tackling Global Challenges 2020**<sup>43</sup> (Deadline - July 1st)

**UKRI GCRF/Newton Fund Agile Response call to address COVID-19**<sup>44</sup> (Deadline - Open)

**UKRI Citizen Science collaboration grant**<sup>45</sup> (Deadline September 09th)

### Engagement Opportunities

**Manuscripts wanted** - *Sustainability Science*<sup>46</sup> is looking to put together a special feature to assess recent progress made in understanding synergies and trade-offs between goals and between targets. Access the announcement here<sup>47</sup> to learn more about the initiative.

**Scottish Parliament Cross Party Group (CPG) on International Development** – The SFA Network has been invited to participate in this CPG to be held on June 11th to share how the COVID-19 crisis is affecting our work and offer insight as to how NGOs and governments, both at Scottish and UK level can lend their support. To attend, register here<sup>48</sup>.

Take this survey<sup>49</sup>, from the **University of Rwanda** to share your coping strategies in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Some Inspiring SFA Statements

*“Just a quick message to send love, compassion and solidarity to you all...we need to stay safe and look after our loved ones but also listen to the signs and what this crisis is telling us and how we can respond through our work and our network”* Dr Mia Perry, Network Co-Director.

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<sup>38</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/2020/03/19/a-critical-resource-for-ethical-international-partnerships/>

<sup>39</sup><https://osf.io/djtn4/>

<sup>40</sup><https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/research/covid-19researchfundingadvice/covid19fundingcalls/>

<sup>41</sup><https://ahrc.ukri.org/funding/apply-for-funding/current-opportunities/gcrf-conflict-intersections/>

<sup>42</sup><https://www.nrf.ac.za/division/funding/covid-19-africa-rapid-grant-fund>

<sup>43</sup><https://www.thebritishacademy.ac.uk/programmes/humanities-social-sciences-tackling-global-challenges-2020>

<sup>44</sup><https://www.ukri.org/funding/funding-opportunities/ukri-gcrf-newton-fund-agile-response-call-to-address-covid-19/>

<sup>45</sup>[https://www.ukri.org/funding/funding-opportunities/involving-citizens-in-research-to-address-societal-challenges/?utm\\_source=Twitter&utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_campaign=SocialSignIn](https://www.ukri.org/funding/funding-opportunities/involving-citizens-in-research-to-address-societal-challenges/?utm_source=Twitter&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=SocialSignIn)

<sup>46</sup><https://www.springer.com/journal/11625>

<sup>47</sup><https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007%2Fs11625-020-00815-9>

<sup>48</sup><https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/cpg-int-dev-what-does-covid-19-mean-for-global-sustainable-development-tickets-106356314600>

<sup>49</sup><https://www.icpcovid.com/en/form/pfcc>

*“Let’s stay strong and connected together we shall win this war”* Reagan Kandole, ECOaction

*“Enjoy the enforced quiet rest, come out of it refreshed for another 100 years of mayhem”* Dr Masego Ayo Mpotokwane, member of the Botswana Hub.

*“This period provides us the chance of intense family interactions and engagement as we stay safe. As SFA, it’s an opportunity to reflect on the global village and sustainability”* Dr Alex Okot, Uganda Hub Director.

## Contact Us

If you want to get involved, share some good news with the Network about your organisation's work, or to share with us how the pandemic has affected you and how you plan to respond, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

### **Sustainable Futures in Africa Network**

Botswana, Eswatini, Malawi, Nigeria, Scotland and Uganda

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<sup>50</sup><https://www.sustainablefuturesinafrica.com/>