



AGMCP Memorabilia

By

Oluwatosin Owolabi Lajuwomi

(Nigeria)

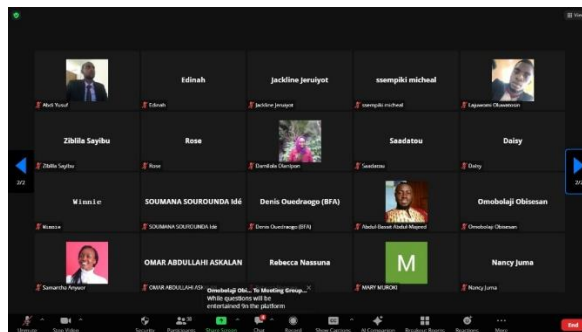
Oluwatosin Owolabi Lajuwomi is a citizen of Nigeria. He is a Master Fellow of the Africa Graduate Mentorship and Coaching Programme. He had his first degree in Political Science. He is currently a Master student at the Pan African University Institute of Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences, Cameroon, specializing in Governance. His research areas are political economy, international relations, and regional integration, with special interest in economic development and illicit financial flows (IFFs). He genuinely believes that the Fellowship Year will direct and promote him to develop into an influential researcher who would support sustainable development in Africa and better know-how to communicate research results through publications. Lajuwomi is being mentored by Dr Etse Dzakpa.



- **January Report**

The January webinar was the first webinar I attended in AGMCP; it was held on Tuesday, 30 January 2024. It is an inception webinar for mentors and mentees. It covered program goal setting, research themes, mentor introductions, deliverables, reading materials, and a Q&A session. Led by Dr. Olawale Emmanuel Olayide, Chief Coach and Mentor of the Africa Graduate Mentorship and Coaching Programme (AGMCP), and attended by other mentors, the meeting systematically addressed each agenda item.

The program's origins, stemming from the 2017 Interconnections Conference in Bonn, Germany, and its connection to Dr. Olayide's personal research experiences were explained. Clear expectations and deliverables were outlined for the cohort, including participation in meetings/webinars/courses, quarterly evaluations, conference abstract submissions, participation in the Circularity Africa Conference, and manuscript submission (journal article, book chapter, or policy brief) for publication, as well as the submission of fellowship reports.



Two assignments were given in January. The first was changing the WhatsApp display name, and the second was creating an orchid account, research gate account, and LinkedIn account to be shared on the AGMCP WhatsApp group.

- **February Report**

The February meeting was held on WhatsApp on February 13, 2024. It was a question-and-answer session. The same month, another meeting took place on February 27, 2024. The topics for the meeting were CAADP, post-malabo processes, and food systems in Africa. This meeting was moderated by Dr. Olawale Olayide, IMAGES initiative, and the Guest speakers are Dr. Augustin Yamdjeu and Dr. John Ulimwengu, IFPRI.

The session provided an overview of food systems, categorizing their drivers by socioeconomic and ecological/geological factors and exploring the reciprocal relationship between food systems and their outcomes. The presentation highlighted Africa's lagging progress toward sustainable development goals (SDGs), particularly in resource management, research and development, finance, productivity, and food utilization. The need to identify strategic intervention points, define clear objectives, and engage key stakeholders to drive behavioural change was underscored.

Africa Graduate Mentorship and Coaching Programme (AGMCP)
Webinar Series February 2024

Date: Tuesday, 27 February 2024 **Time:** 2:00 pm WAT (Lagos time)
Zoom Meeting ID: 813 1146 1233 **Passcode:** 013779

Topic:
CAADP, Post Malabo Processes, and Food Systems in Africa



Dr Augustin Wambo Yamdjeu
 Director, Knowledge Systems
 AKADEMIYA2063
 Rwanda



Dr John M. Ulimwengu
 Senior Research Fellow
 International Food Policy
 Research Institute (IFPRI)
 Washington D.C. USA

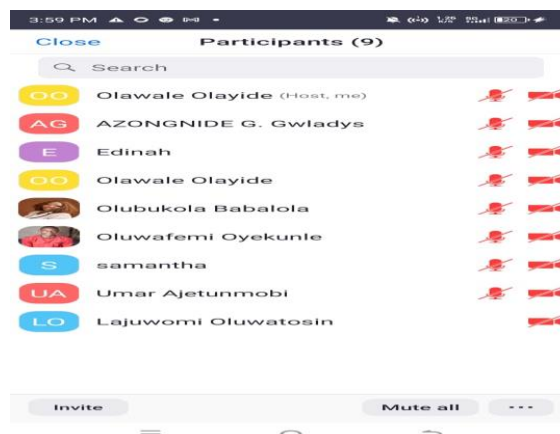


Dr Olawale Olayide
 President, IMAGES Initiative
 Nigeria

Participants (11)	
OO	Olawale Olayide (Co-host, me)
	Gboluwaga Olaomo (Host)
A-	A2063 - AUGUSTIN (Co-host)
AD	Adrien Dogo
FN	Fabiola Niyonshuti
JM	John M. Ulimwengu (IFPRI)
	Lajuwomi Oluwatosin
NJ	Nancy Juma
TN	Thelma Ntow
	Winnie
	Damilola Olanipon

- **March Report**

IMAGES Initiatives also held another meeting on March 26, 2024. This session was titled Effective mentor-mentee communication. It was held to improve the rapport between mentors and their assigned mentees. Professor Ayo Ojebode was the guest speaker, and Dr. Olawale Olayide moderated the session. An article titled “Building the Next Generation of Mentors in Africa: Principles, Practices & Impacts” was shared. The book presents well-researched findings and insights on mentorship, serving as a valuable, long-term resource for both mentors and mentees.



- **April Report**

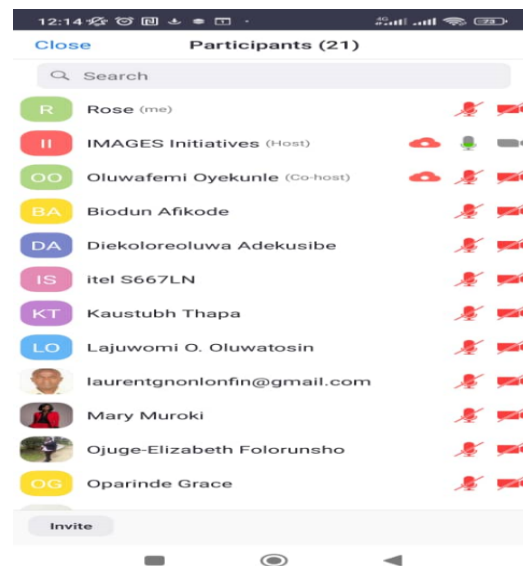
The April webinar was a training, which took place on 25th April 2024 and rolled over to May 14th, 2024. The training was on Resilience Index Measurement and Analysis (RIMA); before the training, a YouTube video link was provided, which centered on the FAO-RIMA tool for researchers in the food system. The April session was instructed by Dr. Oluwafemi Oyekunle and another staff of FAO-RIMA, while the concluding part was held on May 14th, 2024.

Dr. Oluwafemi Oyekunle explained the usefulness of RIMA as a tool and how it was simplified to assess household resilience. Using the Shiny RIMA interface, we learned about the RIMA questionnaire, data cleaning and repair manual, guidelines, and report generation. The RIMA framework has four pillars: access to basic services, assets, social safety nets, and adaptive capacity. The structured questionnaire facilitates efficient data collection for resilience measurement and informs policy recommendations. Shiny RIMA automatically generates easy-to-interpret reports, utilizing underlying regression models (not explicitly visible to the user) to analyse causal relationships at different levels of complexity. Following the session, we received supplementary materials and completed an introductory quiz, earning a completion badge.

- **May Report**

Before the conclusion of the training on shiny RIMA, there is a conference, the 5th Circularity Africa Conference; I was able to attend day 3 of the conference via Zoom on the 9th of 2024. The 5th Circularity Africa Conference session showcased three initiatives: a waste

management project using off-take strategies, a robotics program for children introducing coding through robotics toys, and the use of modelling and simulation to improve agriculture, health, and meteorology, alongside expanding solar energy access in communities. Discussions focused on the scalability and impact of the waste management project, while the robotics and modelling initiatives highlighted their current implementation and future potential.



Then the second/conclusion training on shiny RIMA was held 14th May

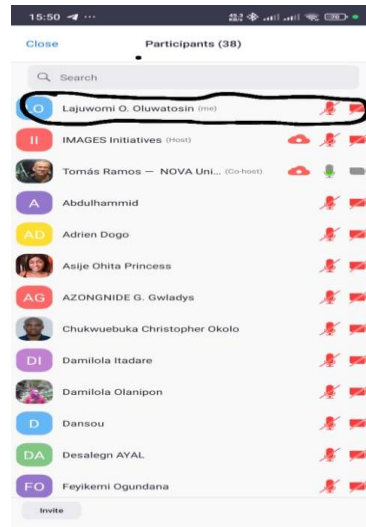
- **July Report**

The July AGMCP training was held on July 16th, 2024. It focused primarily on research paper publications and impacts. The guest speaker was Professor Tomas Ramos from the Centre for Environmental and Sustainability Research in Portugal.

Professor Ramos's presentation addressed various types of research and relevant academic journals, highlighting the qualities editors look for a clear focus, societal impact, and specialized knowledge. Professor Ramos also discussed the motivations for publication beyond academic requirements such as degrees, funding, and promotions. Key aspects emphasized included ethical standards, novelty, readability, significance, and strong methodology.

Professor Ramos stressed the importance of journal selection based on factors such as type, readership, and scope, using metrics like impact factor. Additionally, they covered manuscript formatting options, including conference papers, full articles, short papers, and review papers. The significance of rigorous evaluation and seeking feedback from faculty was also highlighted. Journal-specific submission guidelines were discussed, with a caution against the unacknowledged use of AI in manuscript generation, emphasizing the ethical implications and

the potential for rejection. Finally, in response to a question, the speaker explained the use of the PRISMA model for systematic reviews.



- **August Report**

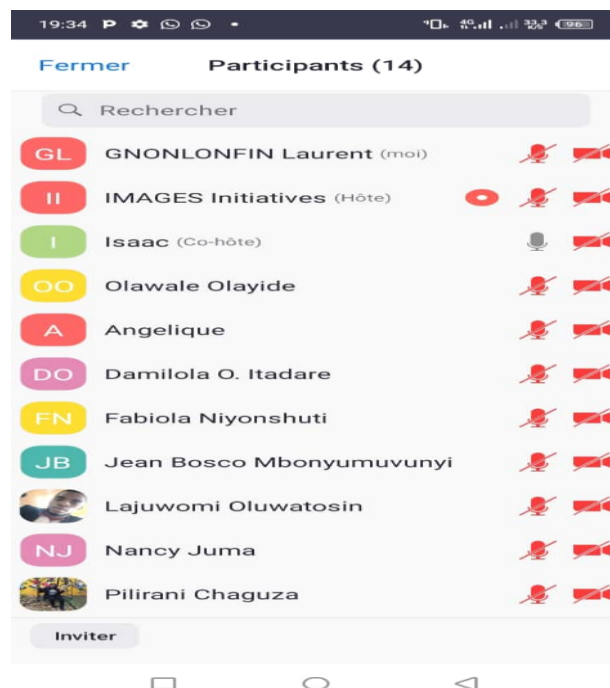
The August webinar, led by Mr. Isaac Oritogun, focused on Data Analytics training. Before the session on August 27th, participants had to watch the previous webinar edition on Data Collection and Analytics, which served as a prerequisite for the upcoming training on August 27, 2024. The August training is the first session by Mr. Isaac Oritogun. The training began with an overview of diverse data collection methods, including interviews, questionnaires, and online surveys, explaining the strengths of each approach and their relevance to our research. To apply these concepts practically, we concentrated on modern online survey techniques. We were introduced to data collection and analysis tools, with a particular focus on ODK, and engaged in interactive discussions about user-friendly online platforms such as Google Forms and KoboToolbox. The session included a step-by-step guide to registering for and using KoboCollect, covering the interface features and best practices for designing questionnaires that accurately reflect our research models and objectives.

There was an assignment given.

1. We are to come up with a topic. My topic is “State Response to Protest in Nigeria: Balancing Security and Democratic Rights.”
2. Developed questionnaire
3. I Used the Kobo toolbox to gather data

- **September Report**

The second training session on Data Analytics is held on October 5th, 2024. The tag is “Hands-on training on Data Analytics.” In this training, we look at an Introduction to social research, data collection, and quantitative data analysis using software packages. The two software packages used for the training are Excel and SPSS. A brief overview was provided of how the collected data would appear within the data collection software, emphasizing the importance of data cleaning, formatting, and subsequent transfer to the analytical software. We then received training on using the analytical software, including setting up the necessary variables for effective data analysis.

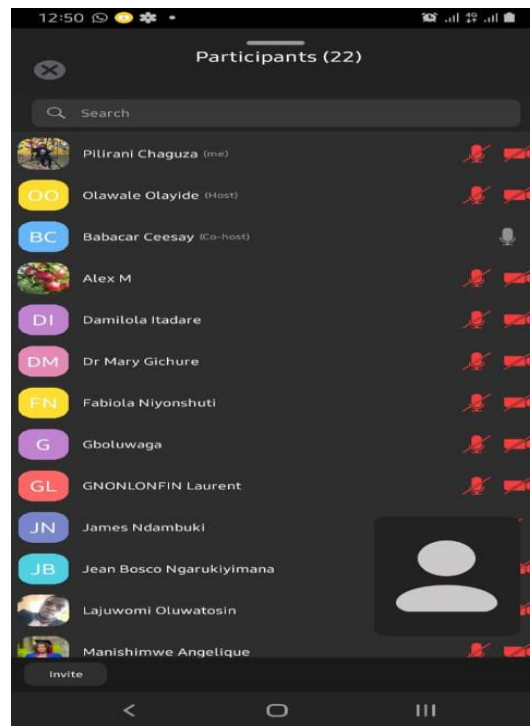


- **October Report**

The October webinar was on data visualization, instructed by Mr. Babacar Ceesay. During this training, we used three different software for data visualization: eAtlas, QGIS, and fast mapping, and we were also taught how to download shape files for countries on GADM.

The Data visualization hold twice 19th & 26th of October, 2024. The first session focused on the practical application of the eAtlas app. We learned how it displays sector-specific data for various African countries, using different software to create simplified visualizations. This included demonstrations of the interface, data analytics, overlays, legends, indicators, and map creation. We then practiced importing our own shapefiles (or downloading them from GADM, specifying region, national, state level, etc.). A key step involved using the 'join and assemble'

function to merge shapefiles with data, aligning data columns with shapefile classifications. Finally, we used symbology to color-code and visualize the data on the map. The fast-mapping entails having the data, which is readily used by the tool to generate a map according to specifications. In the first session, we were given an assignment to use QGIS and fast mapping to visualize the population of our various countries, which will be submitted in the next session. The second was a question and Answer. , which I did and presented during the second session.

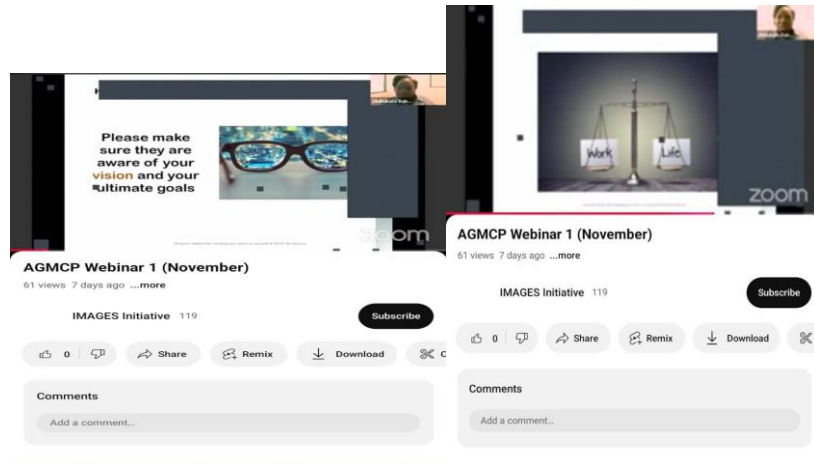


- **November Report**

The November webinar, " Research Leadership and Work-Life Balance," was held on November 26, 2024. I could not attend because I was traveling back to school the day it was scheduled. However, I watched the recording posted on the WhatsApp group by Dr. Olayide. Professor Olubukola Oluranti Babalola was the guest speaker for this session.

Professor Babalola emphasized that leadership involves vision and effective delegation, especially with limited resources. She stressed the importance of leaders supporting team members individually, fostering collaboration, and clear communication at all levels. Achieving work-life balance, indicated by happiness and the absence of depression, requires prioritization, teamwork, and self-care. While perfection isn't achievable, optimal balance is attainable through strong time management, emotional intelligence, and self-compassion –

including taking breaks and delegating tasks. The Q&A covered handling perfectionists and difficult individuals.



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Dr. Etse Yawo Dzakpa

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Etse Yawo Dzakpa".

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Oluwatosin Owolabi Lajuwomi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oluwatosin Owolabi Lajuwomi".