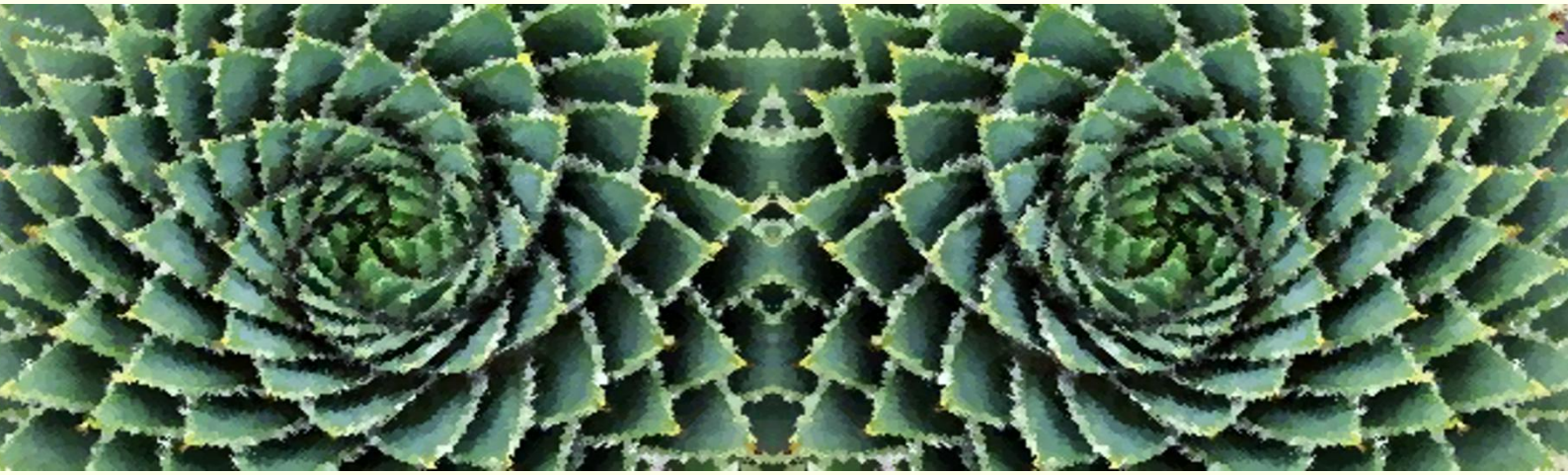

Pre-Congress Workshop

African Research Network

30 Aug | 3 pm CEST / CAT, Clovis amphitheater, Congress Center Reims & online

Information and Registration: see here

Agenda

Time	Session	Title / Topic	Speaker
15:00	Welcome		
15:05	**Impulse Lecture:** Drug Discovery Inspired by African Natural Products		*Prof. Fidèle Ntie-Kang, University of Buea, Cameroon*
15:25	**SHORT LECTURE SESSION 1**		
	SL1	Harnessing African Microbial Diversity for TB Drug Discovery: Collaborative Opportunities with the University of Illinois at Chicago	*Enock Mpofu, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA*
	SL2	Effect of Drying Techniques and Ascorbic Acid Pretreatment on Volatile Composition and Physicochemical Stability of Siphonochilus aethiopicus	*Siphosanele Moyo, Agricultural Research Council, South Africa*
	SL3	Assessing the Safety of Selected South African Medicinal Plants Through In Vitro and In Vivo Toxicity Assays	*Kevine Kanama, Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa*
16:10	**COFFEE BREAK**		
16:40	**Award Winner Pitch:** ARN Entrepreneurs in Natural Products Research Pitch Competition 2026: *IMAFAM – Biofortified Multigrain Nutrition Solution for Infants and Lactating Mothers*		*M.O. Oyedeji Amusa, IMAFAM Team, Uganda*
16:45	**FLASH TALKS**		
	FL1	How do Rural Communities Use Plants to Manage Livestock? Evidence from Amathole District in Eastern Cape, South Africa	*Xoli Bawa, North-West University, South Africa*
	FL2	Biological Activities of Vachellia nilotica (L.) (Acacia nilotica) and Ziziphus mucronata Willd. Leaf Extracts	*Nokwethemba Msimango, Agricultural Research Council, South Africa*
	FL3	Triterpenoids from Loeseneriella africana Exhibit Potent Activity Against Chloroquine-Resistant Plasmodium falciparum	*Daniel Anokwah, University of Cape Coast, Ghana*
	FL4	Nutri-Medicinal Properties of Some Plants Used During Pregnancy in Bloemfontein, South Africa	*Idah Manduna, Central University of Technology, South Africa*
	FL5	Agroforestry Including Medicinal Plant Species: A Sustainable Strategy for Climate Resilience, Ethical Supply Chains and Community Well-being	*Enass Salih, University of Helsinki, Finland*

Time	Session	Title / Topic	Speaker
17:05	**SHORT LECTURE SESSION 2**		
	SL4	Bones, Plants, and Heritage: Traditional Bone Setting Practices in Uganda	*Godwin Anywar, Makerere University, Uganda*
	SL5	Phytochemical Profiling of Lonchocarpus eriocalyx Harms and its Hemoglobin S Polymerization Inhibition and Antiplasmodial Activity	*Godfrey Sambayi, University of Antwerp, Belgium*
	SL6	A South African Medicinal Plant Buxus natalensis (Oliv.) Hutch (Buxaceae) Induces Apoptosis in Cancer Cells via Caspase-p53-BCL-2-Dependent Pathway	*Tshepiso Makhafola, Central University of Technology, South Africa*
	SL7	African Medicinal Plant Research: A Bibliometric Landscape, Translational Barriers, and a Roadmap for the Future	*Alvaro Viljoen, Tshwane University of Technology, South Africa*
18:00	**End of Event**		

Note:
SL1 – SL7 = Short Lectures (10 min + discussion, on-site participation required).
FL1 – FL5 = Flash Talks (3 min pre-recorded video to be submitted until 14 Aug 2026, remote participation, +1 min live discussion).