May 13 - 15
Pan-African Digital Assembly on COVID-19
Co-Creating Response and Recovery
Information Pack v1.2

#pADA
To survive this crisis, to rebuild our societies, and to safeguard our communities in its aftermath demands that we **unlock our collective problem-solving potential, our resources, and our shared humanity.**

i4Policy Open Letter on COVID-19
COVID-19 is the harbinger of an infodemic and an economic contagion, first threatening our health, then our trust in institutions and each other, and our ability to exchange, trade and eat. It will take contributions from everyone to avoid the worst.

But, **if we act collectively**, this crisis could perhaps serve some good. It could serve as a catalyst for collaboratively rebuilding our societies with greater resilience for the crises ahead. It could inspire us to accelerate our digital transformation, addressing the wide chasm between the connected and unconnected. It could bring us closer together, even as we keep ourselves physically apart.

**We invite you to join us.** Let’s activate our collective intelligence to design the most effective response and recovery to the crisis. together.
Together, with community innovation hubs across 48+ African countries and the most important organizations in the digital ecosystem, we are convening a virtual forum, the pan-African Digital Assembly (#pADA).

We will host entrepreneurs, artists and ordinary people together with the most important thinkers of our generation and we will work hand-in-hand to design collective solutions for our collective challenges.
pan-African Digital Assembly

- Hear from leading experts and stakeholders to guide our collective responses.
- Highlight the important actions already taken.
- 3 days of virtual co-creation, bringing together ordinary people and experts from 48+ countries.
- Engage over 10,000 entrepreneurs and creatives across the continent.
- Develop concrete proposals to support our communities on COVID-19 response and recovery.
190+ community partners already joined
Timeline of Actions

Ecosystem Survey
Launch a robust pan-African survey to understand the response, resilience and vulnerabilities of startups, SMEs and hubs across Africa.

Publish Joint Report
Publish a joint report with partners on the survey results, together with a range of policy solutions and proposals to frame the #pADA.

Publish log of the #pADA
Publish a log of the online co-creation activities, and upload videos from the webinars.

Publish the final Action Agenda
Publish the final co-created Action Agenda after open consultation, and inputs from partners.

Open Letter on COVID-19
Published covid19.i4policy.org

Train Facilitators & Moderators
We will train our community partners to get them ready to host their community of entrepreneurs and creatives in the co-creation activities.

Pan-African Digital Assembly
Three day #pADA featuring virtual World Cafe, webinars with our continent's leaders, and virtual co-creation using our open tools.

Publish a draft Action Agenda for Consultation
We will publish a draft Action Agenda for open, public consultation on our iConsult platform.
### Session Overview

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1 Afternoon // 13 May</th>
<th>Day 2 Afternoon // 14 May</th>
<th>Day 3 Afternoon // 15 May</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>09:00 - 12:00 (GMT)</strong></td>
<td><strong>09:00 - 10:45 (GMT)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Entrepreneur Forum</strong></td>
<td><strong>Public Health Information</strong></td>
<td><strong>Accelerating the Digital Revolution</strong></td>
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<td>We will organize a massive, coordinated focus group session with more than 1,000 entrepreneurs from more than 40 countries in Africa separated into roundtables groups to discuss the current situation and to elevate the most pressing issues and solutions. Community innovation leaders will serve as the hosts for this session.</td>
<td>The coronavirus pandemic is a public health crisis without precedent in living memory. This session will explore the status of the pandemic in Africa, the future outlook from the perspective of the Continent’s most important scientists and health professionals, and will discuss the appropriateness of different measures.</td>
<td>This pandemic has pushed us further into a digital world, accelerating our uptake of digital solutions: telemedicine, telework and online education are proliferating. As a result, the crisis has exposed our digital divides.</td>
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<td><strong>12:30 - 13:45 (GMT)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Role of DFIs</strong></td>
<td><strong>11:00 - 12:45 (GMT)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Opening Session: Dialogue and Development</strong></td>
<td>In the face of the economic pandemic, DFIs have a crucial role to play in supporting the mitigation of the economic shock as well as a strong economic recovery. Overview of some of the responses and measures undertaken in the framework of international solidarity.</td>
<td><strong>#DontGoViral</strong></td>
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<td>The opening session with our leaders will frame the pan-African Digital Assembly: How can we reconcile the need to respond effectively to social, economic and health emergencies, while ensuring a capacity for action in the long term?</td>
<td></td>
<td>Artists, celebrities and international institutions have come together and played a central role in the response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the fight against the infodemic of disinformation.</td>
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<td><strong>14:00 - 15:00 (GMT)</strong></td>
<td><strong>Role of innovators and youth in response, recovery and sustainable development</strong></td>
<td><strong>13:00 - 14:45 (GMT)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Launch of the Report on Entrepreneurial Ecosystems</strong></td>
<td>“Each generation must, out of relative obscurity, discover its mission, fulfill it, or betray it.” The Africa of tomorrow is being shaped before our eyes, and innovators are playing a leading role. How to make innovation a powerful engine of social change?</td>
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### Virtual Co-Creation

We will host an online forum throughout the 72-hour event. Rapporteurs will capture the proposals elevated from the expert sessions, and moderators will facilitate the conversations online.
Key results

10,000 + entrepreneurs engaged (with more than 2,000 SMEs surveyed)

300 + hubs signing the open letter

150 + hub leaders trained to facilitate a 1,500-person World Cafe during the #pADA

500 + artists and cultural entrepreneurs submit content to #DontGoViral

Regional and sub-regional institutions, and ministries of ICT and entrepreneurship participating with their communities

Social media reach of more than 1m

A dedicated platform for registration, online co-creation and data collection

Recordings of all webinars, and a public log of the online consultation

Report jointly published on the key issues facing the digital economy

A co-created agenda of action!
Join as a community partner to lead this event with us:

- Your organization will be listed as a partner in all our communication material as a technical and/or community partner.
- Your organization will be listed as a signatory of the Open Letter on COVID-19.
- You will have 20 slots for you and your community members to participate as attendees in the #pADA, and your logo will be featured in the report.
- You will contribute to elaborate a report on how to support innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystems in Africa.
- You can work with us to identify the needs of entrepreneurs in your country to understand how to support them during and after the crisis.
- You will participate in the co-creation of policies recommendations and advocacy to African Governments on Covid-19 response and recovery.
- You will gain access to all of the data and findings that were gathered as a result of your direct contributions

If you would like to learn more, please contact community@i4policy.org
Medicine is a social science, and politics is nothing else but medicine on a large scale.

-Rudolf Virchow (1848)
The Innovation for Policy Foundation (i4Policy) supports public policy co-creation at scale. The Foundation has developed a new ontology of policy-making, pioneering new technologies for collective decision-making.

The Foundation has facilitated policy reform processes to accelerate entrepreneurship in more than a dozen countries across Africa. Our team has trained government and ecosystem leaders in more than 20 countries, and supported a movement of more than 170 innovation hubs in 45 African countries to co-create an authentic and inclusive vision for digital transformation, the Africa Innovation Policy Manifesto.

Open source software developed by the Foundation has been deployed by the governments of Botswana, Senegal, Mali, Morocco and Nigeria, and our methodologies are setting a new standard for effective policy-making.
#DontGoViral Campaign
Crowdsourcing creative content from artists to inform communities and to build social cohesion. Launched together with UNESCO.

54m+ reached
400+ submissions
crowdsourced from 36+ countries (as of 26 April)
dontgoviral.wiki

pan-African Digital Assembly
Activating collective intelligence to design the most effective response and recovery to the crisis.

We will bring together 150+ community innovation hubs & 10,000+ entrepreneurs with leading experts to co-create response and recovery actions.
digitalassembly.africa

Open Letter on COVID-19
Facilitating the co-creation of a grassroots vision of COVID-19 from innovation community leaders across Africa.

The letter is being hosted on our open-source policy consultation software for endorsement and engagement online:
covid19.i4policy.org
They trust us
Methodology: the Innovation for Policy Process (v3.1)

The #pADA will utilize the i4Policy process, which is an iterative framework for policy-making that optimizes outcomes by elevating collective intelligence through deliberation, expert review, and inclusive participation.

**Agenda Setting**

The phase in which issues are recognized as public concerns and seriously debated by politically-relevant actors. Common interests are understood and formed, specific problem statements are defined, weighed and prioritised to establish a user-centered agenda for reform.

**Drafting**

Potential solutions are explored and developed into concrete proposals and policy instruments (laws, strategies, policies, visions, etc). Draft policy proposals are then reviewed by experts and users, with iterative feedback loops of further ideation, design, review and consultation.

**Implementation**

Policies are adopted through appropriate rule-making processes. Evaluations are then conducted throughout implementation to inform policy delivery, review performance against goals, and to support policy iteration.

**Phases**

- **Agenda Setting**
  - Empathize: Map the needs, constraints, and influence of actors to identify potential pathways for reform
  - Unite: Build a unifying big picture common interest that can mobilize a diverse coalition behind reform
  - Define: Articulate clear and concise descriptions of the specific issues or conditions to be addressed
  - Prioritise: Rank problem statements based on their impact and urgency to set the agenda

- **Drafting**
  - Ideate: Brainstorm potential solutions to address the prioritised policy agenda
  - Design: Iteratively transform the policy ideas into concrete policy propositions through co-creation
  - Review: Analyze the technical, operational, legal, financial, economic and social impacts of the policy

- **Implementation**
  - Adopt: Propose and enact the reviewed and consulted policy framework
  - Deliver: Operationalize the policy framework
  - Evaluate: Track the policy implementation transparently against its intended outcomes

**Actions**

- **Empathize**
- **Unite**
- **Define**
- **Prioritise**
- **Ideate**
- **Design**
- **Review**
- **Consult**
- **Propose**
- **Operationalize**
- **Evaluate**

*Innovation for Policy Process v3.1 (19.11.2019)*


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THE FUTURE IS CO-CREATED

community@i4policy.org
partnerships@i4policy.org
media@i4policy.org