



IPORA

is an international transdisciplinary research network, created to study the major challenges facing the African continent and to find concrete solutions



Interdisciplinary
Policy-Oriented
Research on Africa



Newsletter #4

April 2026

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EDITORIAL

This April Newsletter is a special one. It is entirely dedicated to the IPORA General Assembly and Scientific Conference 2026, held from 31 March to 3 April at Addis Ababa University.

As one of the major annual moments in the life of the network, this conference brought together researchers, academic leaders, students, post-doctoral fellows, institutional partners and invited participants from across Africa and Europe. Over four days, the programme reflected the breadth of IPORA's interdisciplinary agenda, with discussions spanning global health inequities, food and nutrition security, atmospheric pollution, urbanization, social equity, interdisciplinarity, and the relationship between research and public policy. It also featured several highlights, including the round table on strengthening Africa-Europe academic partnerships, the launch of the Ethiopian Atlas for Food Security and Nutrition, and the keynote lecture by Prof. Jeffrey Sachs.

This edition was also a strong reminder that IPORA is not only a framework for collaborative research, but also a space for training through research. The conference gave visibility to the work of the many Master's students, PhD candidates and post-doctoral fellows

supported across the network, whose projects contribute directly to the scientific vitality and long-term development of IPORA. This dimension is central to the network's ambition and was clearly reflected throughout the event.

This special issue brings together selected photos from the conference, media coverage, recordings of the hybrid sessions, key quotes collected during the event, the full programme, and a short retrospective video. It is designed as a way to revisit the richness of the exchanges in Addis Ababa and to make the conference's key moments and resources more easily accessible over time. This edition also marks the official launch of the new IPORA website.

We hope it will offer both participants and new readers a clear sense of the energy, diversity and collective ambition that continue to shape the IPORA network

The IPORA Editorial Team



KEY HIGHLIGHTS & SESSION RECORDINGS

31 March – 3 April 2026 | Addis Ababa University

Hybrid format

The IPORA Scientific Conference brought together researchers, institutional partners and invited speakers around Africa–Europe academic partnerships, policy-oriented research and interdisciplinary approaches to major societal challenges.

IPORA

STRENGTHENING AFRICA-EUROPE ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP (SAEAP)
for improving intersectoral governance
- 2026 -



Addis Ababa - Ethiopia
31 March - 3 April



université
BORDEAUX



Inserm



Access the session recordings

Click on each session title to access the replay

MARCH 31

Round Table: Strengthening Africa–Europe Academic Partnerships

Launch of the Ethiopian Atlas for Food Security and Nutrition

APRIL 1

Global Health Inequities & Poverty-Related Diseases (Part 1)

Global Health Inequities & Poverty-Related Diseases (Part 2)

Artificial Intelligence × IPORA?

Water, Urbanization and Health

Epistemics and Interdisciplinarity

APRIL 2

Innovations for food and nutrition security: translating evidence into effective policies and programs Part 1

Innovations for food and nutrition security: translating evidence into effective policies and programs Part 2

Atmospheric pollution

Social Equity and Informality: Interdisciplinary in action: insights from an IPORA research project in Abidjan

Keynote by Prof. Jeffrey Sachs

APRIL 3

Research to Policy: Examples from across disciplines

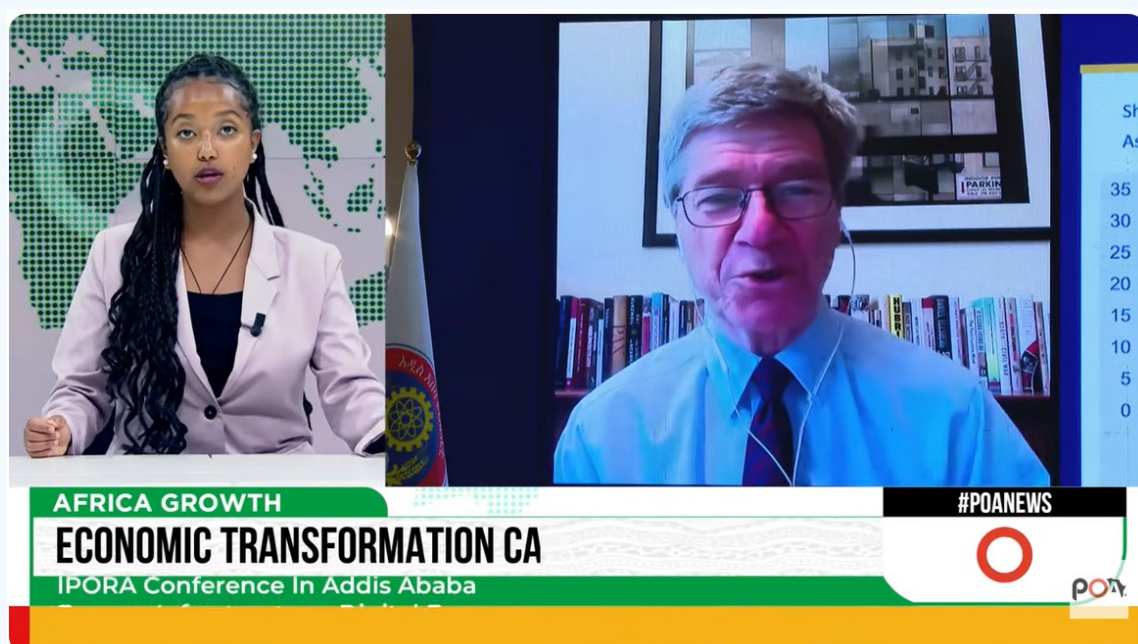
Round table: Supporting policy-oriented research



MEDIA COVERAGE

PULSE OF AFRICA

TV



ADDIS ABABA UNIVERSITY

POSTS



Addis Ababa University

2 826 abonnés

2 sem. • Modifié •



Keynote Address at the IPORA Conference – Strengthening Africa–Europe Academic Partnership (SAEAP)

Addis Ababa University is honored to announce that Professor Jeffrey D. Sachs will deliver the keynote speech at the upcoming IPORA Conference on Strengthening Africa–Europe Academic Partnership (SAEAP). His address will focus on the vital role of universities and research institutions in advancing Africa's sustainable development.

- Date: April 2, 2026
- Time: 16:00 EAT, UTC +3
- Venue: Ras Mekonnen Hall, Institute of Ethiopian Studies (IES), Addis Ababa University

Zoom Link: <https://lnkd.in/eae5vah8>

We warmly invite faculty, students, partners, and the wider academic community to join this important dialogue on the future of Africa's development.

Afficher la traduction

IPORA

STRENGTHENING AFRICA-EUROPE ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIP (SAEAP) 2026



QUOTES ON IPORA

Professor Jeffrey Sachs, Columbia University

"Policy based research is about identifying growth trajectories, identifying what the fiscal framework would look like, working with government on sector specific technology roadmaps, innovating on financial architecture, of course, doing exactly what IPORA is doing, building Africa's research capacity for these activities and linking this research activity closely with the multilateral institutions, with the

African Union, the African Development Bank, EFREXEN bank, UNECA, International Monetary Fund and others."

Alemayehu Seyoum Taffesse — Senior Research Fellow, IFPRI

"The studies presented today, and the IPORA project itself are great illustrations of what can be done, and how it has been done in terms of linking evidence through multidisciplinary, interdisciplinary research, with, policy making. So, I applaud IPORA and the presentations for these achievements."

Dr. Samuel Kifle Kidane — President, Addis Ababa University

"I also like to extend my sincere appreciation to IPORA for organizing this timely and forward-looking event. Addis Ababa University is proud to be a founding member of this consortium, which reflects our shared commitment to advancing interdisciplinary policy-oriented research that addresses the complex reality of our time. IPORA, and this conference in particular, strongly resonates with our university's strategic plan of 2024-2028."

Dr. Laurent Bouchereau — Minister-Counsellor, EU Delegation to the African Union, Addis Ababa

"I'm learning as well, listening to what you've done so far, what you are trying to do in IPORA, as an excellent platform bringing top universities together, sharing experience, learning from each other, and developing new projects based on opportunities because there is funding available and you can provide a good proposal, but also being innovative and very agile in the way you will develop focused on interdisciplinarity, which is very important, and policy relevance."

Dr. Caseley O. Stephens — Principal Officer, DESTI, African Union Commission

"In the African Union the partnerships must align with African priority sectors like case development, digital transformation, climate resilience, health and innovation. There is need to promote interdisciplinary and policy-oriented research. And all will be embedded within the Africa Institutional ecosystem, not externally driven. So ultimately, at the African Union, we envision a relationship of equal strategic partnerships where Africa is not only a beneficiary, but we are co-architecture of the global knowledge system. So that is what we do here."



PHOTOS - VIDEO





A link will soon be shared with you to access a large selection of photos from the conference



First short edit of a forthcoming retrospective video



We encourage you to connect with the IPORA LinkedIn account
and repost our publications



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For any questions regarding the newsletter
and how to share your information, please write to:
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