

Building Trusted Decision Intelligence for Disaster Risk Reduction in Africa: Lessons from the ITIKI Case Study

Organiser:

Africa Science and Technology Advisory Group (Af-STAG)
and Periperi U Network



Speaker:

Prof Muthoni Masinde

WEBINAR DATE:

30 July 2026

TIME:

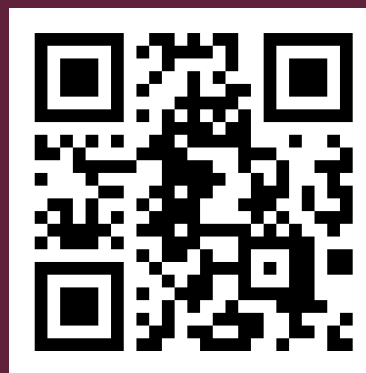
2:00 PM SAST

WEBINAR SUMMARY

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is increasingly recognised as a transformative technology for disaster risk reduction (DRR), yet its effectiveness depends on the quality, relevance and trustworthiness of the evidence on which decisions are based. Across Africa, persistent challenges related to data availability, institutional capacity and the integration of Indigenous Knowledge continue to limit the adoption and impact of AI-enabled decision support. Drawing on over two decades of research and operational experience, this presentation examines these challenges through the ITIKI case study, an African-developed approach that combines AI, Indigenous Knowledge, community observations and environmental data to generate trusted decision intelligence for DRR. The presentation reviews the current landscape of AI and emerging technologies in African DRR, discusses key barriers to implementation, and reflects on practical lessons for scaling locally grounded, evidence-based solutions. It concludes with recommendations for strengthening disaster resilience by building trusted community intelligence systems that complement scientific and technological advances.

SPEAKER BIO

Prof. Muthoni Masinde is Professor and Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment and Information Technology at the Central University of Technology, Free State, South Africa, and Founder of ITIKI Africa, a Pan-African Community Intelligence Infrastructure. She is internationally recognised for pioneering Africa's Community Intelligence approach, integrating Artificial Intelligence, Indigenous Knowledge and citizen science to strengthen disaster risk reduction and climate resilience. Her work has been recognised by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), featured by BBC, CNN, Reuters and The New York Times, and she serves as an international expert evaluator for the European Commission, the Mozilla Foundation and ICIPE.



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