

4th Edition of the Debt and Development Academy (DaDA IV)

Day 1 – Wednesday 1st July 2026

0800 – 0830 | Arrival and Registration

0830 – 0900 | Opening Session

Housekeeping and recap of DaDA III
John Oduk- AFRODAD

Welcome remarks
Annah Mushunje, Finance Manager, AFRODAD

Statement of solidarity
Hon Steve Baba, Treasurer, SADCOPAC

0900 – 1030 | Session 2 – Module 1:
Political Economy of Debt

Convener: AFRODAD

Facilitator: John Oduk

Purpose: This session will explore current affairs and new developments around debt and debt relief initiatives. Examine Africa's debt toolkits that forward best practices for prudential debt management, transparency and accountability and legitimate governance.

Objective: To enable participants, understand the path of fiscal sovereignty as an alternative for economic sustainability.

1030 – 1045 | Tea Break

1045 – 1215

Session 3 – Module 2:
Geopolitics:
Systemic Determinants
of Borrowing and Its
Inequitable Conditions

Convener: SID

Facilitator: Stefano Prato

Purpose: The purpose of this module is to give the participants a comprehensive understanding of the current geopolitical landscape and war economy with a deep dive into its implications on borrowing and the prevailing debt crisis in Africa.

Objective: To enlighten the participants on the impact of weakening multilateralism and split international leadership on issues of debt and development.

1215 – 1400 | Lunch Break

1400 – 1530

Session 4 – Module 3:
Debt and Development in
the era of Globalisation

Convener: AFRODAD

Facilitator: Afshin Nazir

Purpose: To examine global dominant political role of international financial institutions and 'economic-interest based forums' (G20, G-7, Paris Club) on debt and development.

Objective: To expose contemporary challenges of these institutions on debt

1530 – 1545 | Tea Break

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Day 2 – Thursday 2nd July 2026

0830 – 0900 | Arrival and Registration

1215 – 1400 | Lunch Break

0900 – 1030 | Session 5 – Module 4:
The Role of Critical
African institutions

Convener: GGON

Facilitator: Joab Okanda

Purpose: This module aims to foster an understanding the role of critical African institutions in creating consensus and African-led cooperation as the most viable pathway to stability, agency and long-term resilience in the context of a more fickle and erratic global order with fewer rules.

Objective: To unpack how is indebtedness affecting leadership and democratic governance on the continent.

1030 – 1045 | Tea Break

1045 – 1215 | Session 6 – Module 5:
Tax Governance and
Critical Minerals in Africa

Convener: TJNA

Facilitator: Ishmael Zulu

Purpose: To critically analyse the UN Tax Convention's potential and its implications for Africa's tax governance and the challenges in revenue mobilisation especially through the mining industry in the continent.

Objective: To make a case on how resource extraction can be leveraged explicitly to break the debt cycle and shift to building sovereign wealth. The session will also touch on political economy of illicit financial flows (IFFs).

1400 – 1530 | Session 7 – Module 6:
The Global Trade
Architecture

Convener: SEATINI UGANDA

Facilitator: Jane Nalunga

Purpose: To enable participants understand Africa's trade status quo and challenges within the current global economic order.

Objective: To examine the linkage between the unequal trade relations to balance-of-payment deficits that ultimately create the need for sovereign borrowing.

1530 – 1545 | Tea Break

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Day 3 – Friday 3rd July 2026

0830 – 0900 | Arrival and Registration

0900 – 1030

Session 8 – Module 7:
Democracy and
Governance

Convener: PALU

Facilitator: Diana Wabwire

Purpose: This session will help in grounding an understanding of elections as a source of political legitimacy as well as the rule of law and its connection to current governance context in the continent amidst repression, insecurity and economic crisis.

Objective: To provide a framing of how austerity measures as a cause of public dissatisfaction, civic space crackdowns and governance failures.

1030 – 1100 | Tea Break

1100 – 1230

Session 9 – Module 8:
Digital transformation and
Data Governance

Convener: Ubuntu AI

Facilitator: Pendo Manjele

Purpose: To unpack the political economy of AI and digital transformation in Africa, how Africa positions itself within the global AI race, and the role that critical minerals play in these dynamics.

Objective: To highlight how structural extractive patterns are replicated within digital transformation discourse and practice and how the constrained fiscal space is impacting development of digital infrastructure which might lead to exploitative “infrastructure-for-data” or “infrastructure-for-minerals” deals with tech giants.

1230 – 1300 | Closing Session

Vote of thanks

John Oduk - AFRODAD

Closing Remarks

TBC

1300 | Lunch

1900 | Dinner & Cocktail