

Issue 1st of June 2023

AfricaFora



Promoting Black and African trade and culture worldwide

Proudly black and african.





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WHO WE ARE

“The fight for change should be seen as a chance to set Africa on the right foot [...] We hope to see a show of solidarity within Africa, its diaspora, and the afrodescendants.”

Winifred Gaillard
Founder of AfricaFora

AfricaFora is an organisation that works to promote and disseminate African culture, history, and innovation worldwide through its events. Its aim is to place Africans at the center of the long overdue conversations around changing the narratives. We are committed to actively participate and facilitate the construction of new relationships between Africans and the world, Europe, and France in particular.

AfricaFora events promote Black and African successes, innovations, and inventions. Our conferences and events bring together experts, artists, and policymakers to partake actively in the rebuilding of the relationship between Africa and its partners.

OUR VISION To live in an independent, self-reliant, self-sufficient, and peaceful Africa

OUR MISSION To showcase African culture and economy; boost intra-African trade, cooperation and collaboration, and promote Africa's human and natural resources for a dignified, proud and prosperous Africa.

Nzuko 2021

Africa Week



Nzuko 2021 - Africa Week was the first edition of the Nzuko series. Formerly called African Economic & Cultural Week, it sought to create a forum to ponder on issues that bring Africans together. Scheduled on May 25th, in honour of Africa Day, the conference held over 3 days to promote Africa's diverse economic and cultural heritage and showcased local innovators.

Critical discussions reflected on the various obstacles and opportunities that the continent has faced and need to tackle in the coming years. 9 sessions were held on a variety of topics including shifting the gaze on the black and African youth, from burden to power.

Key speakers included:

- Dr **Collins Nweke**, Councillor for social affairs at the Ostend City Council
- Dr. **Ugo Nwaogu**, Research and Development Scientist at Vesuvius-FOSECO
- **Diana Onyonyi**, Sigana Founder and Community Advisor - Africa Hub at Fortescue Future Industries
- Dr **Asma Abuzaakouk**, industrial organizational psychologist at MITRE
- Dr **Louis B. Ogbeifun**, AfriTAL Founder and former President of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria
- **Mawuko Adjaho**, Managing partner at MA Adjaho & CO
- Dr **Ifeanyi Nsofor**, CEO of EpiAFRIC and Senior Atlantic Fellow for Health Equity at George Washington University
- and 15 other high profile contributors.

Wazobia 2021

Nigeria Day

November 6th 2021

Nigeria Day - Wazobia 2021 creates a forum to ponder on issues that bring Nigerians together. It highlighted Nigeria's diverse economic, and cultural heritage as well as local innovation. This online conference reflected on the various obstacles and opportunities that the country has faced and needs to correct in the coming years. Our speakers reflected the diversities of Nigeria, and the sessions included:

- Nigeria, a giant with feet of clay?
- Tapping into the potential of tech for Nigeria's future.
- Building upon resilience and heritage.

Key facts:

- 50 registered participants
- HRM **Eze O.J. Ananaba** Chairperson of the Obingwa Traditional Council (royal Father), Dr **Ngozi Ogbonna-Erondu**, Special Adviser to the Governor of Abia State on Diaspora Matters; 10 speakers including Prof **Ayodele Johnson**, Associate Professor of Criminology at the Lead City University of Ibadan; Dr **Constance Omokaro-Romanus**, Operations Director at Precision Consulting & Research Services; **Azuka Onwuka Brand Strategist**, Writer, **Chioma Agwuegbo** Ex. Dir. TechHerNG; **Yinka Fayomi** Chairperson of Foreign Investment Network; **Sone Osakwe**, Research Fellow at the Centre for the Study of the Economies of Africa; **Ayodele Ikuesan**, Deputy Mayor of the 18th arrondissement of Paris; **Friday Agbonlahor** (Frisky Larr) Author & Journalist; and **Emeka Nwachinemere**, entrepreneur
- Musical contributions by **Chris Obehi** and **C-Mi**



Nzuko 2022

Africa Week

May 24th 2022



Bringing together Africa, its diaspora and their allies, this event was once again articulated around Africa Day (May 25) to address the future of the continent and reframe the narrative by placing its citizens at the core. Africa's future and successes in facing the health, economic and climate crises will be defined by the strength of the ties between continents; and that can only come through honest and sincere dialogue.

Nzuko 2022 - Africa Week built on the discussions from its first edition and gathered speakers from nearly 20 countries to highlight policy issues and potential solutions, but also highlight the strength of relationships between Africa and its partners (ranging from Serbia to Brazil) and ways to further enhance the depth and reliability of these relationships, emphasizing a sustainable and win-win paradigm.

Key speakers included:

- **Anniko Briggs**, human rights activist; **Obi Emelonye**, film director; **Monique Burt Williams**, CEO of Cadence Counsel; **Dion Johnson**, award-winning Women's champion; **Daniella Sachs**, Founder of Know Your Tourist; **Anselm Adodo**, founder of Pax Herbal Clinic and Research Laboratories; **Igor Miranda**, Co-founder of Mancala Institute; **Christopher Ehret**, research professor at the University of California; **Elizabeth Tchwenko-Fabu**, CEO of Auth'Afrique; **Chibu Akukwe**, Co-founder of Pedro's; **John Amanam Sunday**, CEO of Immortal Cosmetic Art; **Uzoma P. Nnganyadi**, Mechanical Engineer; **Christoph Ndayiragije**, Founder of MAFI (the Movement For Africa's Financial Independence); **Chioma Philips**, editor of Msingi Afrika Magazine; and many more.

THE NIPR DIASPORA DIALOGUES

19 June 2022

The 2019 report of the African Polling Institute, on Nigeria's Social Cohesion highlighted amongst other findings, that Nigeria is not a socially cohesive country, and more needs to be done by the government to promote oneness, trust, equity, inclusion, and hope for the future.

In partnership with the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR), the **NIPR's Diaspora Dialogue** brought together high-level experts of the Nigerian diaspora to discuss and profess citizens derived solutions and actions to re-energize the country's nationhood.



Jumoke akin-Taylor



Joe Itah



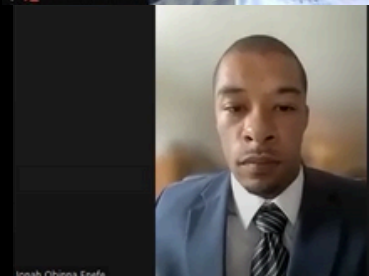
Moderator - Krysti Udochi



Dr. Ike Neliaku



Mallam Mukhtar Sirajo



Jonah Obinna Enefe

IKENGA DAY 2022

A European Igbo Festival

October 2nd, 2022

Ikenga Day – A European Igbo Festival was held on October 2nd 2022 in the Paris region. The event, in the true AfricaFora spirit, hosted a series of panels, cultural and commercial exhibition.

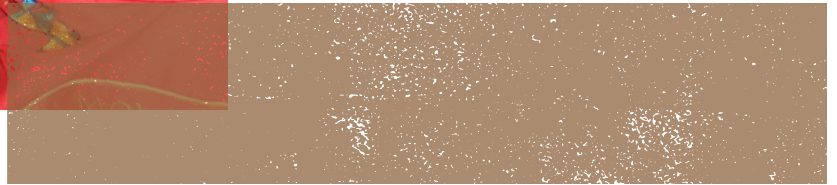
This event celebrated the Igbo culture and traditions, with special remarks from H.E. Kayode Laro, Ambassador of Nigeria to France. Activities included panels, cultural displays, prose reading, masquerades, traditional flute performance, film in Igbo, food sales and more.



Speakers discussed a variety of topics, ranging from **Understanding Igbo philosophy** to **Reforming our educational system and the Igba Boi (apprenticeship)**.

Speakers came from a variety of European country and included:

Uzoma Nnganyadi, Mechanical Engineer and Waste to Energy expert; **Chikezie Agubuzu**, data protection expert; Ezemmuo **Iheanyichukwu Anyanwu**, **Enyinnaya Uwazie**, teacher and board member in Odinaala Education Institute; Dr **Kathryn Nkechinyelu Nwajiaku-Dahou** Director at ODI; and Lady **Chinwendu Okoroigwe**, Igbo activist.



OCTOBER
2022



Wazobia 2022

Nigeria Day

November 19th 2022

Wazobia 2022 - Nigeria Day showcased and celebrated the diverse riches of Nigeria, steering away from incessant Nigeria-bashing. The 2022 edition, organised in collaboration with the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations, focused on **preparing for the 2023 Elections**. Following the format of a town hall meeting, participants and speakers gathered to propose solutions around the topic: Let's Rethink Nigeria.

Organised in partnership with the Nigerian Institute of Public Relations (NIPR), the discussion emphasised the benefits of good governance and accountability in Nigeria politics in particular, and Africans in general; as well as reflected on issues that bring Nigerians together; promote national peace and security taking into consideration the country's diverse cultural heritage.

Key speakers included:

- Chairman **Malam Sirajo**, President of NIPR; H.E **Kayode Laro**, Ambassador of Nigeria to France; Hon. **Collins Nweke**, former Board Chairman of NIDO Europe; and Reverend **Ladi Thompson (Speaker)**, Conflict resolution consultant, and Prof Okey Ikechukwu (moderator).



Nzuko 2023

Africa Week

May 25-27th 2023



Articulated around Africa Day, **Nzuko 2023 - Africa Week** was held on 25 and 27 May 2023. Gathering high levels speakers from across the world, an online conference held on May 25th, while a physical festival with more speakers, exhibitors, live music, food and more was held on 27 May in St-Ouen (near Paris). The event marked the beginning of physical activities for AfricaFora.

This third edition of Africa Week highlighted and celebrated the achievements of Black and African

communities, mutually beneficial international relationships with the continent and its countries, but also to discuss realities of the African diaspora in today's world and endogenous development solutions. The contrary, a reverse relationship, based on openness, equality of partners and a focus on mutual development, is essential to establish the desired trust and lasting solutions. The two days featured high level panels of speakers, exhibitors and innovators, cultural shows, live music representing African and Afro descendant countries, face paint and more.

Key facts:

- 200+ registered participants
- in partnership with **Oza-Nogogo**, the **St-Ouen sur Seine city hall**, the **Foreign Investment Network** and **la Maison de l'Afrique, Paris**.
- Speakers included Dr **Natasha Kelly**, author, editor, curator and artist; **Kemisola Bolarinwa**, Nextwear Technologies founder; **Nyanchama Okemwa**, decolonial expert, **Ibrahima Ba**, diplomat; **Guillaume Liby**, founder of William Khamey Advisors; Dr **Victor Bissengue**, Researcher and more

Nzuko 2023

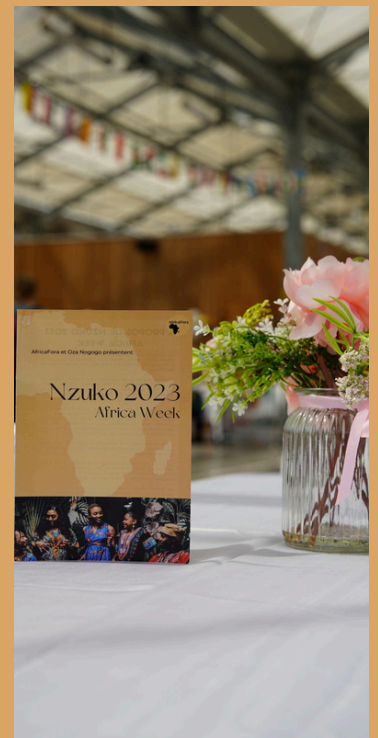
Africa Week





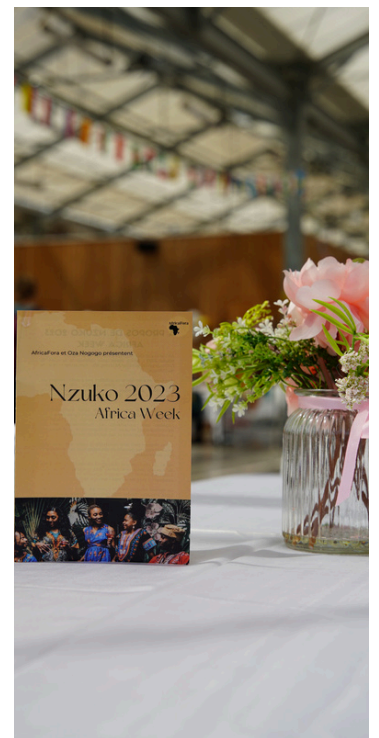
The **Nzuko 2023 - Africa Week** festival brought together 15+ stands of artists, authors, jewellers, decorators, various entrepreneurs, cosmetic companies, etc., to showcase a wide variety of products inspired by Africa. Held in the Serre Wangari, named after Kenyan political activist Wangari Maathai, this event also welcomed cultural performances, and live music shows from Black and African artists.

Hundreds of attendees joined us for this day of activities to celebrate Africa Day and learn about the riches of the continent.



Nzuko 2023

Africa Week



PARTNERS



Oza Nogogo



SAINT-OUEN-SUR-SEINE



Participating countries include: Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, Libya, Rwanda, South Africa, France, United States of America, Haiti, Brazil, South Africa, Central African Republic, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Mali, Cameroun, Côte d'Ivoire, Serbia, Burundi, Senegal, Democratic Republic of Congo, Australia, Guadeloupe, Jamaica, Cabo Verde, Tanzania, Namibia.



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