



Diaspora Academic Network For Africa (Diana RY)

Mobilizing African Diaspora for Knowledge Give Back, Partnerships & Scientific Excellence.

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**2nd Edition of the African Academic Night (AAN)
Saturday 28 October 2023, Vanha Hameentie 29, Turku, Finland**

This Year's Edition

Welcome to the 2023 and second edition of the African Academic Night, Saturday 28 October 2023, an African and Finnish academic forum where science meets with entertainment, business and cultural Diversity.

Innovation: This year's edition combines a focus on African scientists with impact in Finland, Finnish and African Scientists in Africa and those with business mindsets, university industry linkages towards Africa.

The theme of the 2023 edition of the African Academic Night shall be "multicultural Finland-African academic community with partnership and business mindset".

Come and meet and see Finland-African academics network, relax, dance and develop a common future.

CONCEPT NOTE

African Academic Night (AAN)

where science meets with entertainment, business and cultural diversity.

The African Academic Night (AAN) on Saturday 28 October 2022 at Turku, Finland is instituted in the charter of the Diaspora Academic Network for Africa (Diana RY). It is based on an internal consultation in Diana RY, which called for such an occasion to stimulate a sense of community between the foreign academics, the education stakeholders and grassroots communities of the host countries. Diana RY is a professional association and international NGO registered and headquartered in Finland to mobilize African diaspora academics and international colleagues for African universities and education systems as well as business and other partnerships with Africa. Although Diana RY is focussed on researchers and members of other professional corps in Finland everyone is warmly welcome to the AAN.

Objectives of the AAN

The AAN aims to enable African Academics and scientists to interact with Finnish education authorities, business, professional authorities, international colleagues in Finland and to learn and acquaint themselves with different programmes and projects. Interestingly, the African academics and scientists in Finland know too little about themselves, do not know who is doing what, talk less of knowing Finnish and international colleagues. *And, if we do not know each other, how can we cooperate towards Africa and for science and innovation in Finland?* Said in the consultation. At the moment in 2023, when Finland's management of population diversity has been put in question, there is a need for appropriate forums for the immigrant population to meet with the nationals, work together and trust each other. The education system is an important sector, higher education institution and the community, strategic. The ANN will promote networking amongst African academics and scientists



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and also with their Finnish colleagues. The AAN also aims to celebrate and promote the contribution of African diaspora academics in their host countries' and Africa's knowledge economies.

Academia work, it is often said, is too stressful, "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy". AAN provides a forum where science will meet with entertainment, business and cultural diversity. The 2023 edition is also characterized by flagship business partnership activities between Finland and Africa. As an important innovation following evaluation of last year's programme, this year's programme is composed of less and light speeches but entertainment, networking, socials, relaxation and dancing.

Stay tuned to the full programme of the AAN and please don't forget your dancing shoes!!

Long live the AAN
Long Live Diana RY
Long Live the African Academic Community in Finland.
Long Live Finland.