SCIENCE WEEK 2026
Chair of Complexities X Inspire de Cultur. Ed
Altérités et/en devenir

Divergence / Convergence / Emergence
Lundi 30 mars 14h-17h
Amphithéâtre Asni, UM6P Campus de Benguerir
En collaboration avec les participants du programme Inspire de Cultur.Ed

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PROGRAM

2:00 – 2:25PM | Opening

Activités d'ouverture & Présentation des intervenants

2:30 – 2:45 PM

Intervention de Najat Vallaud Belkacem

2:45 PM – 2:50 PM | Performance musicale

2:50 PM – 3:05PM | Intervention de Hassan Aslafy

3:05 PM – 3:15PM | Projection teaser Documentaire sur Chikhate, mot de l'équipe & échanges rapides avec le public

3:15 PM – 3:30 PM | Intervention de Fouad Laroui

3:30 PM – 3:35 PM | Slam

3:35 PM – 3:50 PM | Intervention de Réda Benkirane

3:50PM – 3:55 PM | Performance musicale 2

3:55PM – 4:25 PM | Mots de clôture, invitation à découvrir l'exposition & pause café.

Connaissance tacite
Des fondements scientifiques aux enjeux africains

Mardi 31 mars, de 14h- 16h
Amphithéâtre Asni, UM6P Campus de Benguerir
Africa Business School – Chair of Complexities x Humanities ∞

Présentation

« Nous savons plus ce que nous pouvons dire », c'est ainsi que fut formulée pour la première fois en 1966 la notion de connaissance tacite par le médecin, chimiste, philosophe et économiste hongrois, Michael Polanyi. Ordinairement, la connaissance, qui plus est, la connaissance scientifique, renvoie à ce que nous maîtrisons comme procédures et dont nous pouvons prévoir les résultats et l'application dans la vie réelle. Mais il est une autre connaissance, implicite et non moins active, qui se loge, entre autres, dans la tradition scientifique, notre éducation, nos croyances, nos représentations et nos opinions. Cette connaissance se déploie dans la plupart de nos actes producteurs de sens, en dehors de toute codification formelle, et s'appuie sur ce que nous observons, imitons et accomplissons. C'est ce que nous proposons d'explorer en contexte culturel marocain et africain.

Exposé introductif d'Emmanuel Malolo Dissakè, suivi d'une table ronde, puis d'une discussion générale avec le public.

Intervenants

Emmanuel Malolo Dissakè professeur de philosophie à l'université de Douala, Cameroun, est auteur de plusieurs ouvrages, traducteur de Karl Popper et Paul Feyerabend. Il enseigne depuis 30 ans l'histoire et la philosophie des sciences et des techniques.

Housni Zbaghdi directrice de la Maison de la Philosophie/Maroc qui anime des ateliers de philosophie sur le terrain (dans les écoles, les prisons, les orphelinats et les entreprises).

Fadoua Mhidia est docteure en sciences sociales, diplômée de l'EGE et de l'Université Internationale de Rabat.

Reda Benkirane professeur titulaire affilié, Chaire Complexités ∞ Humanités (ABS/UM6P), traitera de la connaissance tacite dans le cas de la génération Z.

Modérateur : **Nicolas Sperry-Guillou**, directeur du programme "Edge Dynamics", Chaire Complexités ∞ Humanités

SCIENCE WEEK 2026
Green Tech Institute – Special Session
STEM, Social Innovation & Territorial Impact

March 30, 20 26
Amphi 2017 – UM6P
2:00 – 5:00 PM

PROGRAM

2:00 – 2:10 PM | Opening
Opening & Presentation of the Theme

2:10 – 3:40 PM | High-Level Panel Discussion
STEM, Social Innovation & Territorial Impact

Panelists

Prof. Christian Seelos
Distinguished Fellow & Director, Global Innovation for Impact Lab (GIIL) - Stanford University *(Remote)*
Mr. Mohammed Fikrat
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer - Crédit Agricole du Maroc
Mr. Aziz Bouignane
Governor - Province of Rhamna
Mrs. Catherine Payette
Student – ÉTS Canada
Mrs. Laura Wafo Wendzi
Student – EMINES, UM6P

Facilitator

Mr. Youssef Mamou | Founder & Co-CEO, YolaFresh
Investor & Advisor

3:40 – 4:25 PM | Student Project Pitches
Smart & Sustainable Rural School design proposals developed by multidisciplinary teams from UM6P and ÉTS Canada.

4:25 – 4:35 PM | Official Signing Ceremony
Symbolic commitment of institutional partners supporting the Smart & Sustainable Rural School initiative.

4:35 – 4:45 PM |Jury Deliberation

4:45 – 5:00 PM| Awards Ceremony
Recognition of the best student projects.

From 5:00 PM | Music Break & Networking

Lot 660 - Hay Moulay Rachid
43 150 Benguerir Morocco
www.um6p.ma

The Center for Applied Systems Analysis (CASA), hosted within the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, will be a research and education initiative dedicated to advancing systems thinking as a foundation for addressing the complex sustainability challenges shaping food, land, water, energy, and urban systems. CASA will operate at the intersection of disciplines — drawing on agronomy, environmental sciences, data science, economics, and policy — to generate rigorous, integrative knowledge of the socioecological systems that underpin human well-being. Beyond producing research, the Center will play an active role in reshaping higher education: it will contribute to the design of interdisciplinary training programs that equip the next generation of scientists and practitioners with the analytical tools and integrative mindset needed to navigate systemic complexity. CASA is conceived as an open and globally connected platform, with international partnerships at its core, collaborating with leading universities, research organizations, and policy institutions to co-develop the methodologies, tools, and evidence needed to support sustainable development pathways in Africa and beyond.

Mardi 31 mars, de 14h- 16h
Amphithéâtre Ighli, UM6P Campus de Benguerir

SESSION PROGRAM

14:00–14:15	**Welcome & Introduction** *Bruno Gérard | College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES), UM6P*
14:15–14:35	**Frédéric Baudron** | *CIRAD / UM6P* ***Supporting the Transformation of African Smallholder Farming Systems through Systems Agronomy*** This talk argues that agricultural transformation requires a multi-disciplinary approach combining agronomy with ecology, social sciences, and economics, across multiple scales — from plot to landscape and region — accounting for the diversity of farmers and the trajectories of production systems. Through case studies from sub-Saharan Africa, examples are highlighted where systems agronomy has successfully supported the codesign of more sustainable production systems.
14:35–14:55	**Klara Fischer** | *Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)* ***Why do we need interdisciplinary approaches to understand agriculture?*** In this talk Klara Fischer from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU) will share her experiences from 20 years of interdisciplinary collaboration on agriculture, as well as exemplify from other work at SLU. Klara will use these examples to draw some conclusions about key success factors for interdisciplinary work.

14:55–15:15	**Nouzha Chekrouni** | *Policy Center for the New South* ***Policy Dimensions of Systems Analysis: Bridging Research and Governance*** Agricultural and environmental challenges in Africa are inherently political as well as technical: they are shaped by regulatory frameworks, public investment decisions, trade policies, land governance arrangements, and the institutional capacities of states and international bodies. Systems analysis can only fulfill its transformative potential if it is connected to these policy realities from the outset. This presentation explores how research produced through systemic approaches can be designed and communicated to be policy-relevant — informing decisions on subsidy reform, input market regulation, climate adaptation strategies, and regional food system governance. Drawing on the work of the Policy Center for the New South, it also examines how evidence brokering and policy dialogue can create the enabling conditions for systemic innovations to be adopted at scale, and how African institutions can strengthen their capacity to translate complex research findings into actionable policy choices.
15:15–15:35	**Yasmine Bouchareb** | *UJALA – J-PAL, UM6P* ***The Role of Rigorous Impact Evaluation in Informing Policy and Development Interventions*** Using methods such as randomized controlled trials and experimental approaches, impact evaluation helps identify what works, for whom, and under what conditions — providing an essential empirical complement to systems analysis.
15:35–15:55	**Cathal Omadagain** | *School of Collective Intelligence, UM6P* ***How Collective Intelligence Approaches Can Support Decision-Making in Complex Systems*** Methods developed within the School of Collective Intelligence — including participatory platforms, AI-assisted deliberation, and collective decision tools — can help integrate distributed knowledge and improve the quality and legitimacy of decisions in complex agrifood and environmental systems.
15:55–16:15	**Imane Magrez** and **Mohamed Arji** | *Africa Business School, UM6P* ***Markets as system integrators in African agriculture: From production systems to market systems*** This presentation argues that agricultural transformation in Africa cannot be understood through production alone. While yields, inputs, and technologies remain essential, they do not fully explain why productivity gains often fail to generate durable and inclusive change. Drawing on AVANA's work on maize in Kenya and Senegal, as well as rice in Ghana, it argues that markets are not simply endpoints for selling output. They are system integrators that signal value, coordinate actors, distribute risks and rewards, transmit standards, and shape whether innovation can scale. The presentation shows that many of the most critical bottlenecks in African agriculture arise not only at the level of production,

	but in the market-coordination processes that connect production to broader system transformation.
16:15–16:35	**Alexia Faugeroux** and **Maryama Hmaidi** | *BCG* ***Data Infrastructures and Analytical Platforms for Applied Systems Analysis: The OS.Ag Experience*** Addressing complex challenges in agriculture requires integrating diverse datasets — from agronomic and environmental data to market and socio-economic information. OS.Ag illustrates how open, interoperable data platforms can support better modeling, analysis, and decision-making across the agricultural ecosystem.
16:35–17:25	**Panel Discussion with CAES PhD Students** ***The Importance of Systemic Thinking in Higher Education*** **Moderator:** Michael Jacobson An interactive discussion with CAES PhD students exploring how systems thinking can reshape higher education in agriculture and environmental sciences — bridging disciplinary silos, connecting research to societal challenges, and training the next generation of scientists to navigate complexity.
17:25–17:35	**Closing Remarks** *College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES), UM6P*

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Frédéric Baudron — *Senior Scientist, CIRAD & CAES – UM6P*

Frédéric Baudron is a Senior Scientist at CIRAD, currently hosted at the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University. A leading expert in systems agronomy and farming systems research, his work focuses on the co-design of sustainable and productive agricultural systems with smallholder farmers, integrating agronomy, ecology, and social sciences across scales from the plot to the landscape. He has conducted extensive field research across sub-Saharan Africa, including in Zimbabwe,

Ethiopia, and is widely recognized for his contributions to rethinking how agricultural science can serve the needs of diverse farming communities.

Yasmine Bouchareb — *Research and Training Manager, UJALA – UM6P / J-PAL*

Yasmine Bouchareb is a Research and Training Manager at the UM6P–J-PAL Applied Lab for Agriculture (UJALA), where she ensures close collaboration with researchers and stakeholders to enhance the quality and efficiency of agricultural studies aimed at improving food security and productivity for small-scale farmers in Africa. Before joining J-PAL, Yasmine served as a Consultant in the Digital Transformation department at Deloitte Luxembourg, leading projects that integrated climate policies into digital banking initiatives in alignment with EU directives. She holds a double master's degree in management studies and digital transformation from EDHEC Business School, Rennes Business School, and the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, and has earned the Data, Economics, and Development Policy (DEDP) MicroMasters credential from J-PAL and MIT.

Nouzha Chekrouni — *Policy Center for the New South*

Nouzha Chekrouni is a Senior Fellow at the Policy Center for the New South. She has extensive experience in academia, diplomacy and political leadership. She has served as His Majesty's Ambassador to Canada (20092016), and Dean of the Council of Arab League Ambassadors to Canada (2015-2016). Dr. Chekrouni was Minister for the Moroccan Community Living Abroad (2002-2007), a Member of Parliament (2002-2007), and the Minister for Women and Social Issues (1998-2002). She holds a Bachelor Degree from the Philological Faculty at the University of Fez, a Post-Graduate Diploma and a PhD in Linguistics from the Université Sorbonne Nouvelle in Paris. Dr. Chekrouni has also completed a Certificate in Ethics and International Relations at Harvard University. She is a
2016 Senior Fellow in Advanced Leadership at Harvard University and has taught linguistics at the Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences at the University of Meknes. Since 2020, Dr. Chekrouni is a member of the Arab and Moroccan Network of Women Mediators for the UN Agenda "Women, Peace and Security".

Alexia Faugeroux — *Senior Consultant, Boston Consulting Group (BCG)*

Alexia Faugeroux is a senior consultant at Boston Consulting Group (BCG) working at the interface of technology, climate and social impact. She supports both development institutions and private sector actors on designing and scaling sustainable initiatives across emerging markets. She is acting as Chief Venture and Product Lead for OS.ag, an open and interoperable platform aimed at accelerating science-driven innovation across the agricultural ecosystem.

Klara Fischer — Senior Lecturer, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU)

Klara Fischer is a Senior Lecturer in Environmental Communication at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences (SLU). With 20 years of experience in interdisciplinary collaboration, her research examines how sustainability practices in agriculture and natural resource management are negotiated across disciplines. She draws on political ecology and Science and Technology Studies to explore how agricultural knowledge is translated into practice, with a particular focus on smallholder farming systems in African contexts.

Bruno Gérard — Dean, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES), UM6P

Bruno Gérard is Dean of the College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University. He has over 30 years of experience with the CGIAR, having worked with ICRISAT, ILRI, and for 10 years as Director of the Global Sustainable Intensification Program at CIMMYT. His career spans systems agronomy, sustainable intensification, and the integration of science, data, and development for African agriculture.

He is leading efforts to strengthen interdisciplinary research and education at UM6P through the creation of the Center for Applied Systems Analysis (CASA).

Maryama Hmaidi — *Expert, Boston Consulting Group (BCG)*

Maryama Hmaidi is an expert at Boston Consulting Group (BCG) with a focus on digital transformation and data strategy in African agriculture. She has contributed to the development of OS.Ag, an open and interoperable data platform designed to integrate agronomic, environmental, market, and socio-economic datasets in support of better decision-making across the agricultural ecosystem. Her work bridges analytical rigor with the operational realities of large-scale agricultural programs across the continent.

Michael Jacobson — *Moderator – Panel Discussion*

Michael Jacobson is Professor of Forest Resources in the Department of Ecosystem Science and Management at Penn State. His work spans forest economics, global agricultural systems, agroforestry, and international forestry, with broader expertise in the water–energy–food nexus, bioenergy, and natural resource management. As moderator of the panel discussion, he will guide an exchange with CAES PhD students on how systems thinking and interdisciplinary approaches can help shape the next generation of agricultural scientists and practitioners.

Cathal Omadagain — *Researcher, School of Collective Intelligence – UM6P*

Cathal Omadagain is a researcher at the School of Collective Intelligence (SCI) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University. His work explores how collective decision-making tools,

participatory platforms, and AI-assisted deliberation approaches can improve governance and resource management in complex socio-technical systems. He is particularly interested in how distributed human intelligence can be harnessed to support more legitimate, inclusive, and effective decision-making in agri-food and environmental contexts.

ORGANIZED BY

College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences (CAES)
University Mohammed VI Polytechnic (UM6P), Benguerir, Morocco