

SBA 5.0 International Conference on Synthetic Biology, AI, and Biosecurity in Africa

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

October 7-9, 2026

Noguchi MIMR, University of Ghana

Accra, Ghana

Synbio Africa

https://synbioafrica.com

Conference Program

Time (Ghana Time)	Program	Speaker	Moderator
	DAY 1 : October 7, 2026		
Conference Opening Session			
07:30 am-08:30 am	Arrival & Registration	All	
08:30 am - 08:45 am	Participant Welcome	All	
08:45 am - 09:00 am	Welcome Address by Conference chair	Geoffrey Otim	
09:00 am - 09:15 am	Opening remarks by representative from conference Host - Noguchi MIMR	Prof. Kofi Bonney	
09:15 am - 09:30 am	Partner and Stakeholder Remarks		
09:30 am - 09:45 am	Guests of Honor Remarks		
09:45 am - 10:00 am	Official launch of SynBio Africa Strategic Plan and Corporate Fundraising	Geoffrey Otim	
10:00 am - 10:30 am	**Keynote Lecture 1:** RNA origami: From synthetic cells to therapeutics		Prof. Kerstin Göpfrich
10:30 am - 11:00 am	**Tea Break & Group Photograph**		

SESSION 1 Chair:	**Policy & Bioeconomy Development**	
11:00 am-11:15 am	Artificial Intelligence, Digital Infrastructure, and Biosecurity Governance: A Framework for Preparing Africa's Medical Workforce for the Synthetic Biology and Bioeconomy Era	Modo Fredrick
11:15 am - 11:30 am	Africa's Sovereign Bioeconomy: Accreditation as an Economic Precondition	Dr. Anna A. S. Adiabouah
11:30 am - 11:45 am	When Skills Exist but Workers Do Not: Competency-Bundling Mismatch in Africa's Computational Synthetic Biology Workforce	Mr. Agnimel Christian SESS
11:45 pm - 12:15 pm	**Panel Discussion**	Mr. Agnimel Christian SESS **Dr. Dominique Carter** Dr. Vicky AMA MOOR
12:15 pm - 12:30 pm	Networking Tea	
SESSION 2 Chair:	**Biosafety & Biosecurity**	
12:30pm - 12:50 pm	Genomic Data Governance in Africa: Closing Policy Gaps for Biosecure Whole Genome Sequencing Integration	Olakulehin Adebusuyi
12:50 pm - 1:10 pm	Beyond the Annual Cycle: Data-Driven Verification and Certification to Free Up Africa's Biosafety Budgets	Prof. Michael Agbaje
1:10 pm - 1:30 pm	Biosafety, Biosecurity, and ISO Accreditation Programs: A Strategic Challenge for Laboratory Excellence	Mr. Alain ABO
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	**Panel Discussion and Q&A**	All Speakers
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	**Lunch Break** All	

SESSION 3 Chair:	**AI in Biological Design**	
3:00 pm - 3:20 pm	Governing AIxBiological risk: Developing equitable frameworks for Africa's sovereign bioeconomy	Ming Ong
3:20 pm - 3:40 pm	Biosecurity requires verified and equitable access to AI-enabled biology	Sharon Malonza
3:40 pm - 4:30 pm	**Emerging Leaders in Synthetic Biology and Biosecurity Fellows (CEPI-Sponsored)** Lightning Talks	Chair:
3:40 pm - 3:50 pm		Dr. Fatima Dantanko
3:50 pm - 4:00 pm		Sakira Mohamed Lamine
4:00 pm - 4:10 pm		Caroline Edem Anani
4:10 pm - 4:20 pm		Dr. Kalilu Samuka Donzo
4:20 pm - 4:30 pm		IIBINMO Love Ikulughan
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	**Recap and announcement**	**Emcee**

DAY 2 : October 8, 2026		
SESSION 4 Chair:	**Biomathematics & Modeling**	
08:40 am - 09:10 am	Using Mathematical Modeling to Understand Cell Signalling Dynamics in Populations of Proliferating Cells	Prof. Nick Monk
09:10 am - 09:40 am	Resilient Allocation: Capacity-Invariant Graph Neural Networks and Fairness-Constrained Reinforcement Learning for Scarce Biomedical Resources in African Health and Biosecurity Systems	John Mwangi Megwe
09:40 am - 10:00 am	**Q&A Session**	
10:00 am - 10:30 am	**Tea Break**	All

SESSION 5 Chair:	**Synthetic Biology & Engineering Biology**	
10:30 am - 11:00 am	**Keynote 2** Producing artificial polymers in plants	Dr. Daniel Dunkelmann
11:00 am - 11:30 am	**Panel of Discussion:** (Title)	**Panelists:** Prof. Kerstin Göpfrich Dr. Daniel Dunkelmann **Moderator:**
SESSION 6 Chair:	**Abstracts Presentation**	
11:30 am - 11:50 am	Development of Gas Fermentation Technology for Syngas-to-biofuel Conversion: A Waste-to-value Biomanufacturing Approach Toward a Circular Carbon Bioeconomy	Geoffrey Otim
11:50 am - 12:10 pm	Isolation of glyphosate-utilizing bacteria from auto mechanic workshop soils in agbor, delta state	Dr. Jude Igborbor
12:10 pm - 12:30 pm	Bridging Policy and Practice: A Systematic Review of Sickle Cell Disease Management in Primary Healthcare Settings - Implications for Africa's Health Innovations	Nkrumah Kelvin Adasa
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Enhancing sustainable animal nutrition through optimized production of lucilia sericata larvae using alternative feeding substrates	Billy Kipkirui
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**Lunch Break**	

SESSION 7 Chair:	**Climate-Resilient Agriculture and Space Life Sciences**	
2:00 pm - 2:30 pm	**Keynote 3** Sovereignty by Design Why Bioeconomy Policy Is National Security Policy for African Agricultural Innovation and Food Security	Dr. Dominique Carter
2:30 pm - 2:50 pm	Title:	Prof. John S.Y. Eleblu
2:50 pm - 3:10 pm	Enhancing sustainable animal nutrition through optimized production of lucilia sericata larvae using alternative feeding substrates	Kipkirui Billy
3:10 pm - 3:40 pm	**Keynote 4** Space technology application in synthetic biology and biosecurity	Dr. Funmilola Oluwafemi
3:40 pm – 4:00 pm		Recap and announcement
7:00 pm – 10:00 pm		**Networking Dinner**

DAY 3 : October 9, 2026		
SESSION 8 Chair:	**Health Innovation**	
08:30 am - 08:50 am	AI-Enabled Precision Public Health: Integrating Genomics, Biosurveillance, and Biosecurity for Pandemic Preparedness in Low- and Middle-Income Countries	Sadia Zia
08:50 am - 09:10 am	Securing Sustainability: Policy-Driven Segregation and Resource Recovery from Healthcare Waste in Nigerian Facilities	Juliet C Joseph
09:10 am - 09:30 am	Building Molecular Engineering Capacity in Africa Through ACEME	Bilkissou Yagoure
09:30 am - 09:50 am	From Fragmented Hospital Records to Learning Health Systems: Responsible AI for Health Innovation in Africa	Dr. Nathanaël Kapto Tchouga
09:50 am - 10:10 am	Strengthening Safeguards through Connected Community: International development of DNA synthesis screening best practices	Dr. Becky Mackelprang
10:10 am - 10:30 am	Charting the Way Forward: Building SynBio Africa Centre of Excellence through Strategic Partnerships and MoU Signing	Invited Guests and stakeholders
10:30 am - 11:00 am	**Tea Break & Networking**	
11:00 am - 11:30 am	Women in Synthetic Biology (WisBA) (Progress Report)	
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	African Society for Synthetic Biology (ASSB) (Progress report)	
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	**Closing Ceremony**	
1:00 pm - 2:00 pm	**Lunch**	
2:00 pm	**Departure**	