



## **“Building Anticipatory Governance in SADC post Covid-19”**

**Presented by**

**SAIIA Futures**

**Wednesday, 12 May 2021**

**Time: 14:00 – 17:00**

**Online**

### **Background**

The South African Institute of International Affairs and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation extend a cordial invitation to you to participate as a panellist at the SAIIA Futures’ virtual webinar.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated fastmoving and complex challenges around governance, conflict and defence and disaster risk reduction in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region. These challenges involve interactions across multiple dimensions of government; they have no regard for customary, jurisdictional and bureaucratic boundaries; and require continual management. The disruptive impact of these events and the resulting pattern strains the adaptive capacity of our legacy systems of government, which are essentially modelled on the early industrial period: vertical, hierarchical, segmented, mechanical, and sluggish.

Our 19th-century governments are simply not built for the nature of 21st-century challenges arising in SADC member states. This problem is increasingly manifesting in the growing perception that governments’ foothold on good governance is in decline as well as ill-equipped to reduce risk or to diversify in the face of shocks such as COVID-19.

This virtual conference explores prospects for building anticipatory governance for the SADC region in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and its aftermath, with a particular focus on three sectors: governance; disaster risk reduction; and defence and conflict risks. The aim of this conference is to use the implications of the pandemic in the region to illustrate the opportunities of anticipatory governance in addressing challenges and risks associated with growing instability and uncertainty in these three areas. Key governance issues, trends and emerging challenges observed in the region in recent decades will be discussed, as well as opportunities to secure a more effective regional and global environment for addressing security, defence and disaster mitigation challenges.

The SAIIA [Futures Programme](#) builds African foresight and innovation capacity to anticipate and prepare for major political, economic, social, security, technological and environmental disruptors facing the SADC region by discovering new possibilities for systemic innovation and anticipatory governance. The Futures programme aims to contribute to an anticipatory approach to regional policymaking in the sectors that will be most affected and to enable pro-active and collaborative public-private action across the region through anticipatory policy responses.

**Programme – Wednesday 12 May 2021**

<b>14:00 – 14:05</b>	<b>Welcome and introduction</b> Mr Henning Suhr, Head, KAS South Africa Dr Deon Cloete, SAIIA Head: Futures Programme
<b>14:05 – 14:15</b>	<b>Overview of Anticipatory Governance and OECD perspective</b> Dr Piret Tonurist, Observatory of Public Sector Innovation, OECD
<b>14:15 – 14:35</b>	<b><i>Building Anticipatory Governance in SADC: Post-COVID-19 Conflict and Defence Outlook</i></b> Professor Anthoni van Nieuwkerk, WITS School of Governance Respondent: Dr Dimpho Deleglise, SADC expert, UNU Associate
<b>14:35 – 14:45</b>	<b>Q&amp;A (10 mins)</b>
<b>14:45 – 15:05</b>	<b><i>Building Anticipatory Governance in SADC: Post-COVID-19 Governance Outlook</i></b> Professor Fritz Nganje, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Johannesburg Respondent: Dr Lucy Shule, Tanzania Defence College Respondent: Ms Donna du Pont, Foresight & Design Strategist at Purple Compass
<b>15:05 – 15:15</b>	<b>Q&amp;A (10 mins)</b>
<b>15:15 – 15:35</b>	<b><i>Building Anticipatory Governance in SADC: Post-COVID-19 Disaster Risk Reduction Outlook</i></b> Professor Dewald van Niekerk, African Centre for Disaster Studies, North-West University SADC respondent: Ms Sithembiso Gina, SADC Secretariat Respondent: Prof Roberto Poli, University of Trento
<b>15:35 – 15:45</b>	<b>Q&amp;A (10 mins)</b>
<b>15:45 – 16:45</b>	<b>Panel discussion on building Anticipatory Governance in SADC</b> Ms Miriam Bensky, Demos Helsinki (10 min presentation - International) Ms Tanja Hichert, Hichert & Associates (10 min presentation – South Africa) Ms Donna du Pont, Foresight & Design Strategist at Purple Compass Prof Roberto Poli, University of Trento Dr Piret Tonurist, Observatory of Public Sector Innovation, OECD Mr Pierre Schoonraad, Centre for Public Service Innovation
<b>16:45 – 16:55</b>	<b>Q&amp;A (30 mins)</b>
<b>16:55 – 17:00</b>	<b>Concluding remarks and close</b> Ms Neuma Grobbelaar, SAIIA Director of Research