

Online training

HANDLING AND UNDERSTANDING DISINFORMATION FOR PRACTITIONERS FOCUSING ON AFRICA

European Digital Media Observatory

Co organised with **Africa Check** and **FactSpace West Africa**

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7- 9 September 2022

Course Description

The European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) is pleased to announce the launch of a new training module on “Understanding and handling disinformation for practitioners focusing on Africa”, organized in collaboration with [Africa Check](#) and [Fact Space West Africa](#).

In recent years it has become increasingly evident that disinformation crosses borders with varying risks for different media landscapes, highlighting the importance of better understanding the similarities and differences of disinformation techniques, patterns and flows and their impact on local information environments. At the same time cooperation among fact-checkers has proven essential to detecting and reacting to disinformation in different regions of the World. In this context, and given its unique role as a platform aiming to gather stakeholders working to tackle disinformation, the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO) will coordinate a number of regional training programmes in collaboration with local fact-checking organisations, aiming to strengthen resilience to online disinformation in different information environments, while drawing from the expertise of the European EDMO network.

The training module for practitioners focusing on Africa is composed of three sessions. The first session will focus on actors and techniques of disinformation, including agents, incentives and techniques of disinformation and social media analysis and disinformation in Africa. The second session provides a deep dive into fact-checking and verification tools, including also fact-checking standards and ethics. The final session looks into the safety and protection of journalists, with a special focus on tools to support safe journalistic work in the context of different media landscapes in Africa.



Scientific Coordinators:

Lisa Ginsborg | European University Institute, STG and EDMO

Paula Gori | European University Institute and EDMO

Carina van Wyk | Africa Check

Rabiu Alhassan | FactSpace West Africa

Target audience:

This training is specifically aimed at practitioners focusing on Africa with an interest in learning more about disinformation challenges, fact-checking tools, and how safe journalistic work can be supported within the African media landscape.

Draft Programme

7 September

11:00 - 11:05 CEST/SAST	<u>Welcome and introduction</u> Paula Gori European University Institute and EDMO Carina van Wyk Africa Check Rabiu Alhassan FactSpace West Africa
11:05 - 11:15 CEST/SAST	<u>Round of introductions</u>
11:15 - 11:55 CEST/SAST	<u>Module 1 - Actors and techniques of disinformation</u> (Part 1) TBC FactSpace WA Agents, incentives and techniques of disinformation
11:55 - 12:35 CEST/SAST	Caleb Gichuhi Build Up The role of disinformation in elections: case study on Kenya
12:35 - 12:40 CEST/SAST	<i>Coffee Break</i>
12:40 - 13:30 CEST/SAST	<u>Module 1 - Actors and techniques of disinformation</u> (Part 2) Lee Mwiti Africa Check Impact of disinformation campaigns on decision-making processes and trust in media and institutions

8 September

11:00 - 12:00
CEST/SAST

Module 2 – Fact-checking and verification (Part 1)

Keegan Leech | Africa Check

Fact-checking and verification tools

12:00 - 12:15
CEST/SAST

Coffee Break

12:15 - 12:45
CEST/SAST

Module 2 – Fact-checking and verification (Part 2)

Camilla Vagnozzi | Facta

Best practices of collaborative fact-checking investigations in a multilingual context

12:45 - 13:30
CEST/SAST

TBC | Maldita.es

Fact-checking standards and ethics

9 September

11:00 - 11:45
CEST/SAST

Module 3 – Safety and protection of journalists (Part 1)

Muheeb Saeed | Media Foundation for West Africa

Global policy on the protection of journalists

11:45 - 12:30
CEST/SAST

Jochen Spangenberg | Deutsche Welle

Guarding mental well-being & avoiding (secondary / vicarious) trauma doing digital investigations

12:30 - 12:45
CEST/SAST

Coffee Break

12:45 - 13:15
CEST/SAST

Module 3 – Safety and protection of journalists (Part 2)

TBC | FactSpace WA

13:15 - 13:30
CEST/SAST

Closing remarks

Lisa Ginsborg | European University Institute, STG and EDMO