

South African team held the workshop at Stellenbosch.

South African team held the workshop at Stellenbosch University, South Africa from 26 to 27 September 2023. All of the team members, Prof. Scarlett Cornelissen (Stellenbosch University), Dr. Chizuko Sato (IDE-JETRO), and Tomohiro Hosoi (the University of Tokyo) participated in it.

South African team has conducted a large-scale online survey to collect data on the South African citizens' experience in overcoming difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic. Team members vigorously discussed the data and results of the survey. The team concludes mainly with three findings. First, people's perception and risk evaluation toward COVID-19 is less severe than other risks like economic distress, security concerns, and public service delivery failures. Second, while South African people do not trust the government, they highly evaluate the government's response against COVID-19, such as infection prevention policies and social security policies. Third, support by family members, communities, and civil society has mitigated the stress imposed by COVID-19. The result was reported at the Japan Society for Afrasian Studies (JSAS) Conference at Aichi-Gakuin University, Nagoya, on 7th October.

Based on these achievements, the team discussed more detailed survey and analysis in future research. The team decided to focus on the condition of middle-class people during the pandemic, which has not attracted so much attention by existing literature. The South African team will conduct an in-depth survey of a small number of respondents to hear about their experience in mitigating the stress imposed by prevention policies and COVID-19. Team members discussed methods, questions, and ethical considerations for the survey. The team plans to conduct it by the end of the 2023 Financial Year.

The South African team made this project go ahead in this workshop. Members also promised to cooperate and communicate tightly with each other thereafter.



