

# ARISA

## AFRICAN REGIONAL INTEGRATION STUDIES ASSOCIATION

### African Regional Integration Studies Association (ARISA)

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### ARISA and its partners

ARISA is an African-owned and Africa-based network for regional integration research, based at the West Africa Institute (WAI) in Praia, Cabo Verde. The non-governmental, non-profit network is significantly supported by the African Union Commission (AUC) and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) within the framework of the Ministry's Africa Strategy.

This network is the result of intensive discussions during the research and consulting project "Sustainable Regional Integration in West Africa and Europe", jointly implemented by the West Africa Institute (WAI), Praia, Cabo Verde, and the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) in Bonn, Germany, ARISA will continue to be supported by WAI and ZEI.

The West Africa Institute (WAI) is a research institute focusing on regional integration and social transformation in West Africa, based in Praia, and supported by ECOWAS, Government of the Republic of Cabo Verde, UEMOA, UNESCO and the Group ECOBANK.

The Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) is an interdisciplinary research and further education institute at the University of Bonn, Germany, founded in 1995 on the basis of the Bonn-Berlin law.



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## About ARISA

Since the 1990s, regional economic communities (RECs) and continental integration initiatives have emerged all across Africa and their policies and projects increasingly influence national priorities and the daily life of African citizens. Research on regional integration processes has been growing substantially, too, but is largely conducted outside the continent where financial and human resources are more abundant.

The African Regional Integration Studies Association (ARISA) seeks to overcome this gap by formally connecting African regional integration researchers and practitioners in a continental-wide community, harmonizing existing research structures in order to raise the knowledge of and build capacity in African regional integration.

Contributing critical academic analysis with practical policy implications, as well as networking and information-sharing opportunities, ARISA is an opportunity to contribute to sustainable and people-centered regional integration processes across Africa.

## Events and Activities

- ARISA Annual Symposium with changing sub-themes
- ARISA Award for young researchers

Further capacity-building instruments and activities, such as workshops, trainings and short courses, as well as virtual platforms for exchange are being developed.

Current information on past and upcoming events can be found at: [www.arisa-africa.org](http://www.arisa-africa.org)

Training scholars and practitioners is crucial to raise the knowledge of and build capacity in African regional integration



ARISA Chairman Prof. Gervasio Semedo surrounded by the first members of the ARISA Executive Committee

## Publications

Acting as a critical-constructive companion of African regional integration, ARISA's research results and practical policy implications will be published in the following series and in close cooperation with the African Union Commission and RECs:

- ARISA Edition of the *African Integration and Development Review*, published by the African Union Commission (AUC)
- ARISA Papers
- ARISA Policy Briefs
- Regional Integration Observer (RIO)
- ARISA Newsletter: information on the network's and members' activities, events and publications

## Data and resource hub

The ARISA network monitors regional integration processes on the continent and provides a qualified information base with facts and figures on the AU and RECs on its website, constituting an easy-to-use data and resource hub for researchers and practitioners.



## Become a Member!

- **Publish** your research in ARISA Publications!
- **Promote** your events in the ARISA Newsletter!
- **Grow your network** and (re-)connect with your colleagues during the ARISA Annual Symposium!
- **Stay informed** about recent developments, events and publications in African regional integration!
- **Advance your career** by applying for the ARISA Award!

Further information on actual members' benefits can be found on [www.arisa-africa.org](http://www.arisa-africa.org)

## How to Join

To join ARISA, please enter [www.arisa-africa.org](http://www.arisa-africa.org) and download the Membership Application Form.

Please fill out the form, sign and send it to the West Africa Institute (WAI) by mail, or scan the signed document and send it electronically to [arisa.info@iao.gov.cv](mailto:arisa.info@iao.gov.cv).

## Further information

Further information on ARISA can be found in WAI-ZEI Paper No.24: Ludger Kühnhardt and Djénéba Traoré (eds.): *Brainstorming for a Pan-African Network in Regional Integration Studies*, Bonn/Praia, 2015, available at the websites of WAI and ZEI.



Prof. Dr. Kocra L. Assoua, member of the ARISA Executive Committee, at a regional integration training seminar in Lomé, Togo

