

UseR! 2019

Toulouse, France

AfricaR Initiative

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Dennis Irorere*



Who are we?



Mission:

- To achieve **improved representation** and **empower** the African population of all genders, who are **underrepresented** in the global R community.
- Support already existing R User Groups (RUGs) across Africa, and R enthusiasts to embrace **the full potential** of R programming.
- Through fostering a **collaborative continental network** of R gurus, mentors, learners, developers and leaders, to help facilitate individual and collective progress worldwide.



Why AfricaR?



- ▶ Many R users in Africa, who did not know of the larger global #rstats community.
- ▶ Lack of awareness about R Conferences that we can apply for, and attend, through **diversity scholarships**.
- ▶ People learning R, but are not aware of where/how to apply the skills they learn.
- ▶ Education system is lacking. Some campuses teach R, but the curriculum is not exhaustive.
- ▶ ~~“Battle” between R and Python:~~
 - ▶ Employment JDs prioritize Python over R
 - ▶ Python communities stronger than R community.
 - ▶ Data Science Africa
 - ▶ Pycon
 - ▶ IndabaX



What ideas do we have for AfricaR?



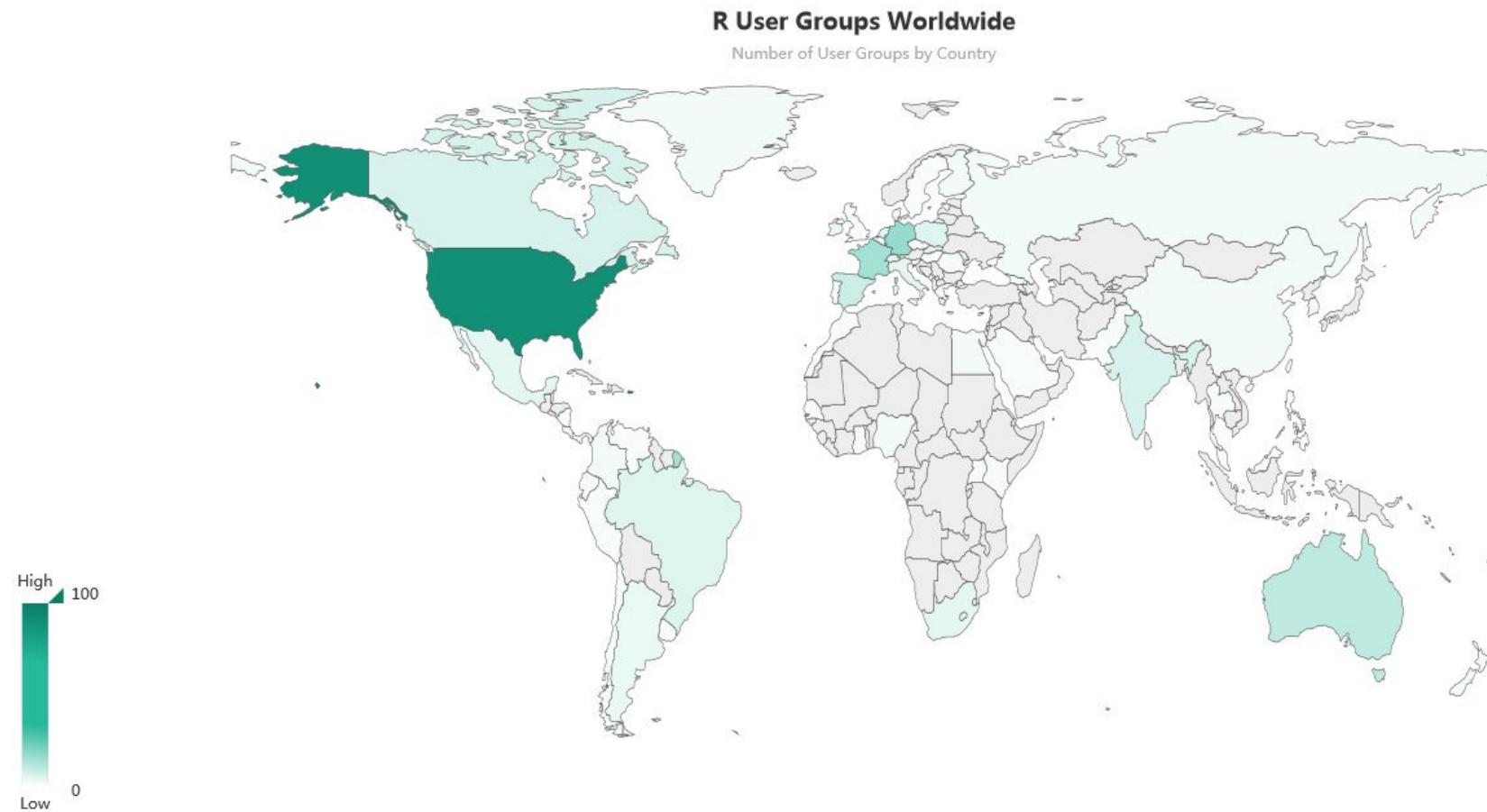
01: *Adopt and nurture an African RUG*



02: Seek remote internships / jobs for students fresh from school



03: Spring up as many African RUGs



10

R-Ladies Addis Ababa

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

341 members - Public group

Organized by R-Ladies Global and 2 others

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Join this group

What we're about

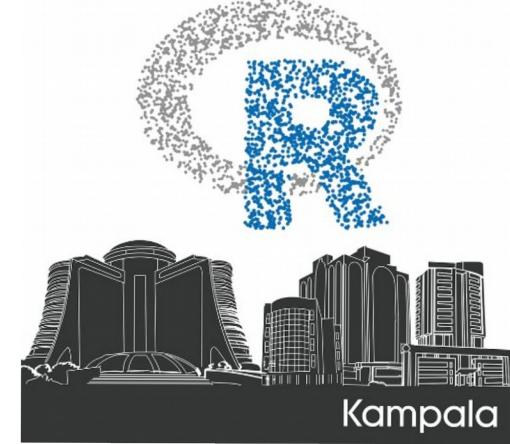
R-Ladies Addis Ababa welcomes members of all R proficiency levels, whether you're a new or aspiring R user, or an experienced R programmer interested in mentoring, networking & expert upskilling. Our community is designed to develop our members' R skills & knowledge through social, collaborative learning & sharing. Supporting minority identity access to STEM skills & careers, the Free Software Movement, and contributing to the global R community!

Organizers

R-Ladies Global and 2 others

Members (341)

See all



ABIDJAN R USERS

R & DATA

Start a new group Explore Messages Notifications

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Request to join

Akure R user group

Akure, Nigeria

271 members - Public group

Organized by Dennis Irorere

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Join this group

What we're about

AkureRUG is a group for R users at all levels and from all backgrounds based in and around Ondo State and the South west of Nigeria, to meet and discuss R-related topics and to promote the use of R.

R is an open source programming language for statistical computing, data

Organizer

Dennis Irorere

Message

Members (271)

See all

Johannesburg R User Group (R Programming Language)

Johannesburg, South Africa

773 members - Public group

Organized by Luis de Souza

Share: [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#)

About Events Members Photos Discussions More

Join this group

What we're about

We are the local R user group for Johannesburg, South Africa. Check out our website at <https://www.rusergroup.co.za/> and our GitHub repository at <https://github.com/rusergroupcoza>.

Organizer

Luis de Souza

Message

Members (773)

See all

Dakar R User Group

Dakar, Senegal

187 members - Public group

Organized by Ahmadou Dicko and 2 others

Share: [Facebook](#) [Twitter](#) [LinkedIn](#)

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Request to join

What we're about

Bienvenue dans le Dakar R User Group. R est un langage/logiciel open source pour l'analyse et la visualisation des données. Le but de ce groupe est de réunir tous les utilisateurs qu'ils soient expérimentés ou débutants du langage R vivant au Sénégal et particulièrement sur Dakar. Nous visons aussi à promouvoir R et l'utilisation des logiciels libres pour l'analyse des données à travers tout le pays et dans la sous-région.

Organizers

Ahmadou Dicko and 2 others

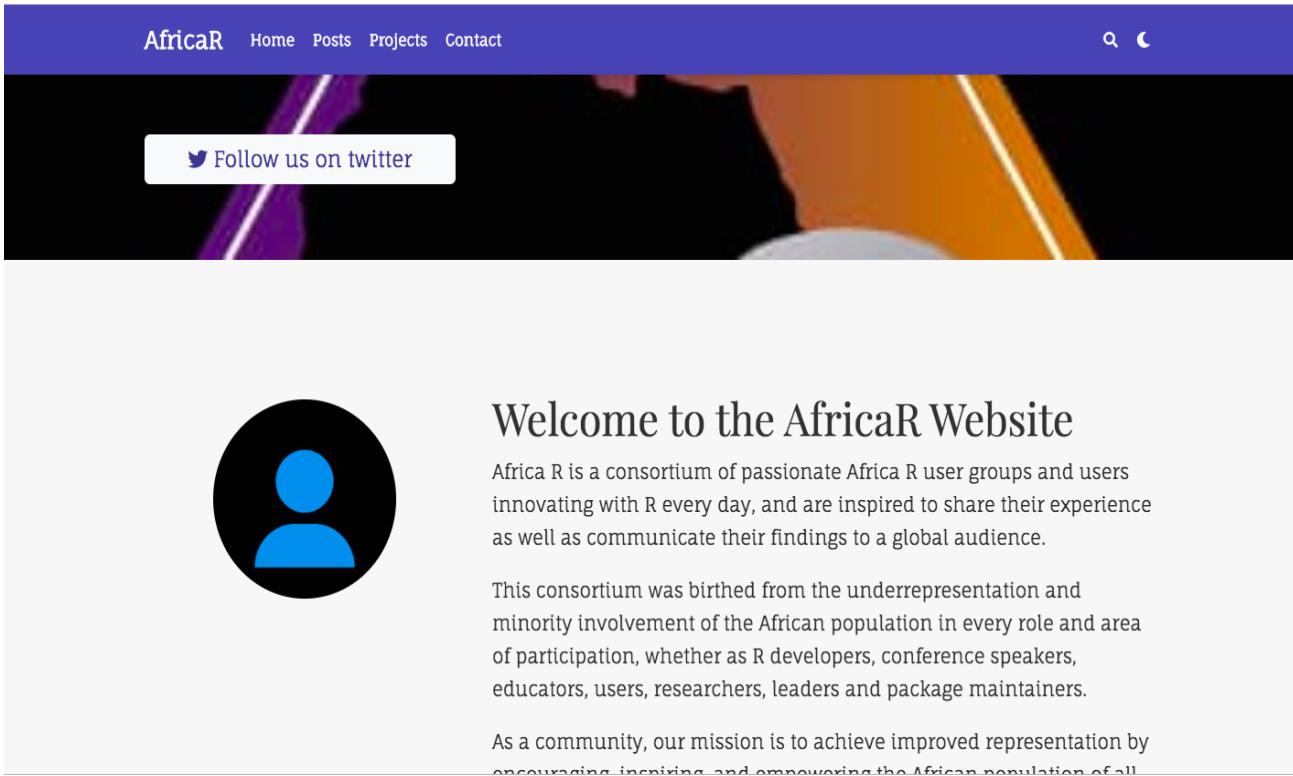
Message

Members (187)

See all

04: *Develop a website*

<https://africa-r.org/>



The screenshot shows the AfricaR website homepage. At the top, there is a dark purple header bar with the text "AfricaR" and navigation links for "Home", "Posts", "Projects", and "Contact". Below the header is a large banner featuring a map of Africa with orange and purple highlights. A white button on the left side of the banner says "Follow us on twitter". On the right side of the banner, there is a small circular icon with a blue person silhouette. The main content area has a white background. It features a large "Welcome to the AfricaR Website" heading with a blue outline. Below this, there is a paragraph of text about the consortium's mission and history. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer section with a blue background containing a "SATDAY 2019" logo.

AfricaR Home Posts Projects Contact

Follow us on twitter

Welcome to the AfricaR Website

Africa R is a consortium of passionate Africa R user groups and users innovating with R every day, and are inspired to share their experience as well as communicate their findings to a global audience.

This consortium was birthed from the underrepresentation and minority involvement of the African population in every role and area of participation, whether as R developers, conference speakers, educators, users, researchers, leaders and package maintainers.

As a community, our mission is to achieve improved representation by encouraging, inspiring, and empowering the African population of all



The screenshot shows the AfricaR website gallery page. At the top, there is a dark purple header bar with the text "AfricaR" and navigation links for "Home", "Posts", "Projects", and "Contact". Below the header is a dark purple sidebar with the word "Gallery" in white. The main content area has a white background and displays three images: a group of people standing in front of a projection screen, a person working at a laptop, and a person giving a presentation at a whiteboard.

AfricaR Home Posts Projects Contact

Gallery



05: Set up R Clubs in Campuses

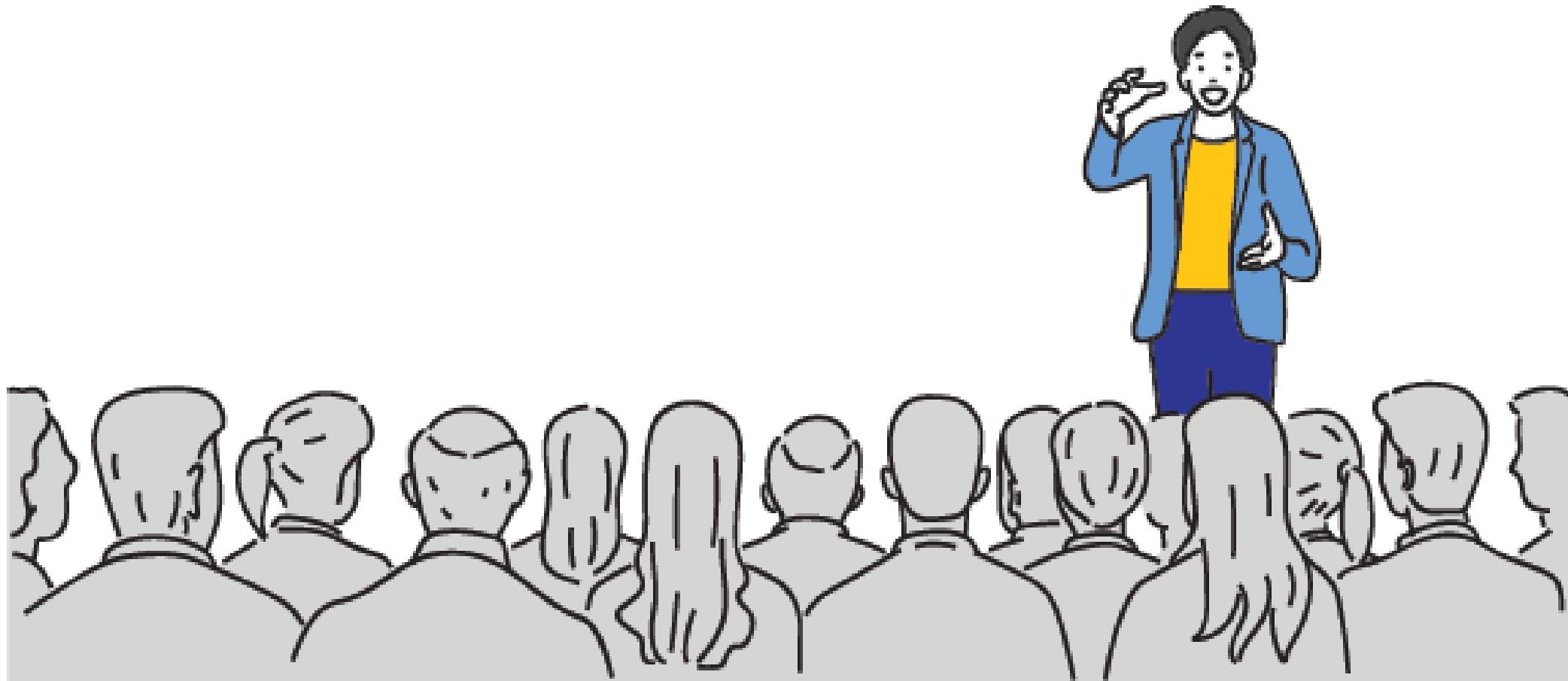


06: AfricaR Monetary Fund



07: Have a grand AfricaR Conference

14

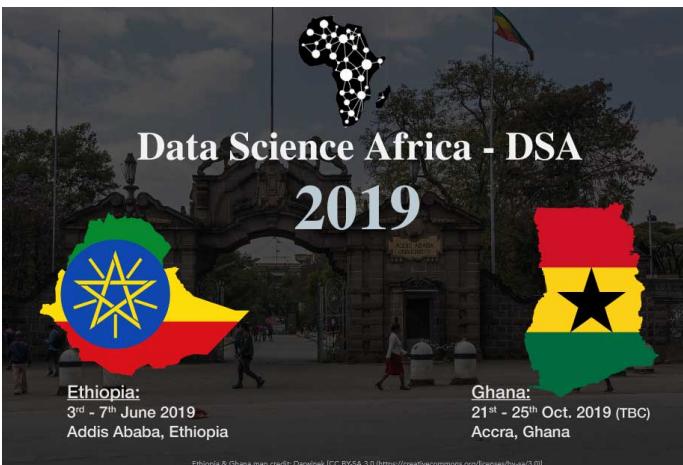


What have we done so far?

- Inception call with R Consortium
 - Gathered people who lead/planning to initiate ARUGs in their respective countries.
 - Inception call with the ARUGs leads team
- Discussions about potential R Clubs in campuses
 - Discussions with different ARUG leads who needed support e.g Cairo, Lagos
- SatRday Kampala
 - First remote internship opportunity
 - Discussions about 2020 AfricaR Conference
-
- The timeline consists of five large, right-pointing arrows, each representing a month: Jan (orange), Feb (purple), Mar (pink), April (blue), and May (dark purple). Vertical lines connect the start of each arrow to specific bullet points in the lists above them, indicating the timing of each activity.
- Twitter (@AfricaRUsers)
- AfricaR Logo
 - Kickstarting the website
 - Discussions with potential partners and sponsors



Quick Wins ...



Forwards @R_Forwards · May 14
What a great response from the #rstats community! Current total stands at \$2,941!

Africa R Users @AfricaRUsers
Please support the first ever #rstats conference in East Africa - SatRdays Kampala 2019. (SatRday 25th May @ @OutboxHub) indiegogo.com/projects/satrd... #rstatsnyc @PolicyOrg @ZindiAfrica #AfricaR Show this thread

4 13

Forwards Retweeted
satRdays @satRdays_org · May 13
Hey #satRdayKampala, we'd love to sponsor your conference! We're paying it forward from #satRdayLA, who helped us out when we were fundraising for ours.

your sister event, #satRdayChicago



La Fin .



```
> paste0("Merci","!!!")
[1] "Merci!!!"
```

Twitter: @AfricaRUsers

Gmail: africarusers@gmail.com

Website: <https://africa-r.org/>



Des questions?

