

Nasiru Taura (PhD)

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INTRODUCTION



Dr. Taura is a distinguished senior academic with a remarkable career spanning over a decade in the UK higher education sector. Renowned for pioneering innovation measurement & mapping techniques, clusters, & ecosystems his groundbreaking research initially focused on comparing innovations and their knowledge intensive ecosystems across African nations, published in top-tier ABS (Q1) Scopus ranked journals and widely-read practitioner-facing publications. His work has since expanded internationally, including research on UK digital cluster innovations. As an Affiliate Professor at the Africa Business School, he has a strong connection to the African academic landscape. Dr. Taura's visionary contributions extend to the development of the Africa Foresight Academy's architecture in partnership with the Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA), where he serves as a keynote resource person – leaving indelible mark on initiatives, linked to African climate-smart agriculture, sustainable food systems, capacity and skills development. Dr. Taura is also highly regarded for his expertise in designing and developing entrepreneurial collaborative ecosystems for both organizations and individuals, further solidifying his global leadership and impact. He advocates for entrepreneurial mindsets, foresight thinking, social innovation, and grassroots initiatives in various sectors, presenting at esteemed global conferences and delivering keynote speeches at prestigious events. He is affiliated with professional organizations like AFHEA, CMI, RSA, and ICSB, reflecting his profound global impact and leadership.

EDUCATION

● 2010 – 2014: Awarded by Nottingham Trent | Nottingham (UK)

- PhD: Business Management & Entrepreneurship
- Thesis Title: [From Passive Managers to Active Managers: Managing Innovation and Constraints in African Intensive Metalworking & Automotive Clusters]

● 2012-2012: University of Southern Denmark | Kolding, Denmark

- Diploma: Diploma on Approaches to Entrepreneurship Theory and Methodology

● 2011-2011: University of Seville –Life Long Learning Centre | Seville, Spain

- Diploma: Diploma on Methodological Tools in Entrepreneurship

● 2007-2008: Southampton Solent University | Southampton, UK

- Certificate: Postgraduate Certificate in Research Methods

● 2007 – 2008: Southampton Solent University | Southampton, United Kingdom

- MA: Management & Finance
- Thesis Title: [Adapting Youth Entrepreneurship Program: UK & Nigeria]

● 2004 – 2005: Bayero University Kano | Kano, Nigeria

- MBA: Masters in Business Administration

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE: ACADEMIC IMPACT (MODE - I) - Q1

Scopus Quartile one (Q1) Journal Publication-1

Taura, N., and Radicic, D. (2019). Intra-Cluster Knowledge Exchange and Frequency of Product Innovation in a Digital Cluster. *Journal of Small Business Management*. (57): 350–373–Management (3*)" with high impact factor: - Q1

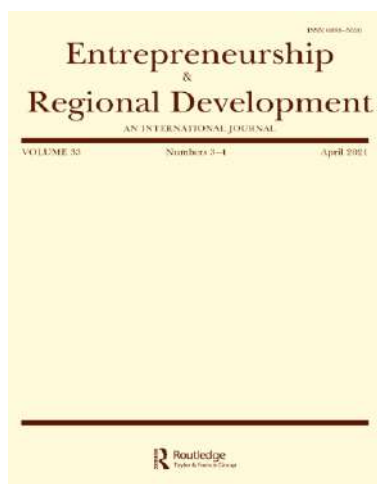


- Published in the prestigious Q1 Journal of Small Business Management, this article, titled 'Intra-cluster Knowledge Exchange and Digital Innovation,' bridges academia and real-world impact.
- Emphasizing the pivotal role of strong relationships within digital clusters, it guides young enterprise managers and champions the 'act near' philosophy in the dynamic digital innovation realm. The work's profound impact is underscored by its featured video clip, specially requested by the journal's editors.
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[JSBM Research Minute Episode 2 with Nasiru Taura - YouTube](#)

Scopus Quartile one (Q1) Journal Publication-2

Taura, N., and Watkins, D. (2014). Counteracting innovative constraints: insights from four case studies of African knowledge-intensive metalworking and automotive clusters – 'the Akimacs', *Entrepreneurship & Regional Development*, 26:3-4, 313-336



- Published in Q1's prestigious Entrepreneurship and Regional Development Journal, this article presents actionable strategies for enhancing innovation in African clusters
- By integrating key theories and real-world insights, it offers a groundbreaking model for tackling innovation challenges. The potential impact: rejuvenated African clusters, driving economic growth and sustainability
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RESEARCH EXCELLENCE: ENTREPRENEURIAL IMPACT (MODE - 2)

Some selected Books & Book Chapter Publications:

- Taura, N. (2022). *Digital Skills and Strategic Postures: Insights from African Digital Entrepreneurs*. In: Adeola, O., Edeh, J.N., Hinson, R.E., Netswera, F. (eds) *Digital Service Delivery in Africa*. Palgrave Studies of Marketing in Emerging Economies. Palgrave Macmillan, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-83909-3_11
- Book Edited by Taura, N., Bolat, E, & Madichie, N. (2019). *Digital Entrepreneurship in Sub Saharan Africa: Challenges, Opportunities, and Prospects*. Published by Palgrave Macmillan under the “Palgrave African Entrepreneurship Series”

Featured Book Chapters

- Taura, N., Bolat, E., and Madichie, N. (2019). *Introduction to African Digital Entrepreneurship*. In: Taura, N., Bolat, E. and Madichie, N., eds. *Digital Entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa: Challenges, Opportunities, and Prospects*. Palgrave Macmillan.
 - Taura, N. Ede, O. C., and Ogunniyi, O. (2019). *Renegotiating Legitimacy in the Digital Age: Insights from Nigeria*. In: Taura, N. and Madichie, N., eds. *Digital Entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa: Challenges, Opportunities, and Prospects*. Palgrave Macmillan.
 - Madichie, N., Taura, N., Bolat, E.(2019). *What's next for Digital Entrepreneurship in Sub Saharan*. In: Taura, N., Bolat, E. and Madichie, N., eds. *Digital Entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa: Challenges, Opportunities, and Prospects*. Palgrave Macmillan.
- These publications, 'Digital Entrepreneurship in Sub-Saharan Africa' and 'Digital Skills and Strategic Postures: Insights for African Entrepreneurs,' both featured in the esteemed Palgrave Macmillan publication series, are reshaping the African landscape by empowering digital entrepreneurs.
 - With over 5,600 downloads at one point, these works are bolstering the capacities of African entrepreneurs, equipping them with the knowledge and skills to thrive in the digital

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE: PRACTITIONER IMPACT (MODE - 3)

- Taura, N. (2022). *Changing Tides: Titled Digital Entrepreneurship is Swelling in some Seaside towns across the UK*. Royal Society for Encouragement of Arts & Manufactures - The RSA Journal (Issue 4). Available Online: Read RSA Journal Issue 3 2022 - RSA (thersa.org): [Changing tides - RSA \(thersa.org\)](https://thersa.org/Changing-tides)
- Digital technologies are transforming African businesses, but obstacles remain (Published in Conversation: [Digital technologies are transforming African businesses, but obstacles remain \(theconversation.com\)](https://theconversation.com/Digital-technologies-are-transforming-African-businesses-but-obstacles-remain)
 - These publications, featured in platforms with extensive reach, possess the potential to drive transformation in Africa and globally. The Conversation's blend of academic rigor and practitioner focus makes them a catalyst for real-world impact. Furthermore, the RSA, with its rich history of social influence spanning over two centuries (260 years), offers a global platform to amplify these ideas.
 - By harnessing the global reach of these platforms and aligning with RSA's mission, these publications have the power to reshape perspectives and ignite change among global changemakers, contributing to a harmonious world for people, places, and the planet

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE: EDITORIAL BOARD & REVIEWS

- Associate Editor: The Journal of International Council for Small Business
- Reviewer Journal of Business Ventures (ABS 4*). I acted as a Blind Reviewer for Journal of Business Ventures (ABS 4*) in 2015
- Member of the Scientific Council for (UM6P) – A top research intensive University in Morocco with the main mission to accelerate transformation of Africa and the Kingdom to knowledge-based economy.
- Reviewer Journal of Tallin University of Technology (2017). I acted as a reviewer for Journal of Tallinn University of Technology (2017)
- Regular Reviewer European Summer University Conference (Reviewer since 2010).
- Regular Reviewer of Palgrave Macmillan book proposals.



**NASIRU
TAURA**



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ASSOCIATE EDITOR



ADVISORY EXCELLENCE:

Advisory I -2020-21:

- ❖ Appointed Advisory Lead for Forum for Agricultural Research in Africa (FARA) to „provide the technical support for the strengthening of capacity for foresight among more professionals in Africa AR4D institutions & private sector".
- ❖ An African Foresight Academy Project

ADVISORY EXCELLENCE: FORUM FOR AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN AFRICA (FARA) -PROJECT

"FARA, the apex continental organization championing agricultural research for development (AR4D), collaborates closely with sub-regional organizations. As the technical arm of the Africa Union Commission for agricultural science, technology, and innovation, FARA also plays a pivotal role in mobilizing the agricultural research for development sector and amplifying Africa's influence on global forums, such as the G-8 and the Global Forum on Agricultural Research (GFAR).



The following deliverables were achieved:

- Consolidate the African Foresight Academy online
- Provide technical support and foster alignment and partnership for the implementation of foresight-relevant agricultural transformation in countries
- Ensure Gender mainstreaming in regional and national foresight activities
- Support the development of the Africa Foresight Academy webpage and its update
- Update and validate a synthesis of the harmonized framework of Africa Foresight Academy
- Facilitate training and advocacy meetings supported by Africa Foresight Academy
- Offer tools and modules for the application of foresight in training events organized by Africa Foresight Academy and its partners
- Provide FARA's stakeholders with a simple methodology to do an initial analysis
- Offer a rapid “collective intelligence gathering” process on emerging impacts and responses

Advisory 2 -2021:

- ❖ A Joint Collaborative Project with FARA & Commonwealth of Learning (COL) about AGMOOCS in Agricultural Innovation Systems in Africa -Project
- ❖ Appointed Advisory Resource Person to organise the workshop as part of the Committee as well as a Resource Person (Facilitator).

Deliverables achieved:

- Delivered a Session Titled : AgMOOCs for capacity building of SSA agriculture: Understanding the Training Needs.
- Designed Workshop Flow
- Designed the Workshops Story Board
- Manages the Delivery of Presentations
- Fostering of awareness and joint learning of opportunities and challenges of the multi-level capacity building using online platforms
- Identification of Priority areas and topics for AgMOOC in Africa;
- Input into the process of developing standard regional thematic learning resources for larger-scale adoption and utilization; and,
- Insight on the delivery model of courses for capacity building of SSA agriculture.

Advisory 3 -2022:

- ❖ A Commissioned Study Project towards the Biennial Africa Climate Smart Agriculture Conference.
- ❖ Appointed Advisory to undertake a Commissioned Study on - Foresight: Plausible futures of Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) in Africa: A Systematic Review.
Deliverables achieved:
- ❖ Presented the commissioned study in a plenary session to kickstart the conference and participated as a resource person throughout the conference.

Advisory 4 -2023:



- ❖ A Joint Collaborative Project with FARA, AGRA, & AUDA-NEPAD
- ❖ Appointed Advisory Resource Person to Facilitate sessions.

Deliverables achieved:

- Delivered a Session Titled : Capacity Needs Assessment for Sustainable Food Systems in Africa
- Delivered a Session Titled : Foresight Tools for Sustainable Food Systems in Africa
- Participated as discussant in range of side events

AFRICA AGRI-BUSINESS & SCIENCE WEEK (AASW8) - NETWORK

- I participated at the AASW8, hosted by FARA, is Africa's premier event for agribusiness innovation, happening in Durban, South Africa from June 5th to 8th, 2023. It unites stakeholders to boost Africa's agro-industry by strengthening links between science, innovation, and business. With diverse partnerships, it's a hub for knowledge sharing, business alliances, and discussions on leveraging AfCFTA opportunities."

