

MSU AFRICAN STUDIES CENTER

KONGAMANO

Kongamano Student Group in collaboration with the African Studies Center presents African Tea Time! An opportunity to learn and share about first-hand experiences on the African Continent.

#### OPEN TO EVERYONE! CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Thursday, February 18th, 2021 4:00pm to 6:00pm (EST) Virtual via Zoom \*Tea Time events will be recorded

### Botswana & Uganda

# Theme: A look into Health-Related Issues in Africa: Associated Challenges and Interventions

#### Botswana

## **Presenter: Dr. Matlhogonolo Kelepile,** Lecturer, Faculty of Science (Environmental Science), University of Botswana Title: *The challenge of COVID-19 and HIV/AIDS on families and communities in Botswana*

The talk will highlight how COVID 19 complicated the situation of HIV AIDS in Botswana. In attempting to curb the spread of COVID-19, borders were closed, and a lockdown was enacted for a period. The closing of boarders led to disruptions in HIV service delivery. Preventative measures such as condom distribution reduced, increasing the risk of HIV infection. Cases of Gender Based Violence also increased following the lockdown as people were confined at home. Women, who are also the group with the highest prevalence of HIV in Botswana, were affected most as they were trapped at home with abusive partners who most of the time practiced unprotected sex with them. ARVs (HIV medications) were hard to access during lockdown. Unemployment skyrocketed among families and communities which complicated the situation further. Interventions to address the problem are ongoing but it will take a while for the country to get back on track with the World Health Organization [WHO] ambition of ending HIV/AIDS by 2030.

#### Uganda

**Presenter: Dr. Jorem Awadu,** Alumnus, Dept. of Counseling, Educational Psychology and Special Ed. Michigan State University

Title: Autism assessment and rehabilitation - a tale of unmet parental needs in Uganda

Facilitator: Dr. Tutilo Mudumba, Lecturer, Dept. of Zoology, Entomology and Fisheries Sciences, Makerere University, Uganda



