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Developmental, Capable and Ethical State

Africa Institute of South Africa
Development Through Knowledge

CLIMATE CHANGE AND FUTURES IN AFRICA CONFERENCE SERIES

Towards Local Solutions to Early Warning and Disaster Risk Reduction in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and beyond

08-10 November 2023
Maputo, Mozambique

Climate change is negatively impacting the global community and local communities in the SADC region. Extreme weather events are occurring more frequently, posing a threat to human lives and well-being. Therefore, it is important to learn lessons from past events and manage risks effectively as part of an integrated set of interventions directed at mitigating the harmful impacts of disasters and risks. Comprehensive disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies are essential for sustainable development and for addressing the needs of vulnerable groups in society. Some countries around the world have started to roll out DRR strategies and have already made substantial progress in this respect.

Agenda 2030 defines DRR as a direct contribution to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goal 11 (which relates to Sustainable Cities and Communities). Local structures, be it administrative, political and cultural, have a direct responsibility to protect themselves and in doing so, can sustainably develop their communities to ensure they have adequately prepared for disasters and recovery thereafter.

DRR is a cross-cutting topic which must be factored into all aspects of disaster risk management, responsiveness and preparedness.

A dedicated global agreement on the topic already exists in the form of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which reaches its mid-point this year. This Framework underlines the importance of DRR for sustainable development and thus offers a potential entry point for linking the two strands of discourse more effectively and sustainably.

A disaster risk management conference that is inclusive of local stakeholders, academia, researchers, practitioners and other key stakeholders is important to gain new insights into sustainable disaster risk reduction and shared learning. The conference offers policymakers, disaster specialists, researchers, academia, scholars, think tanks, civil society organizations, business, and humanitarian organizations the opportunity to exhibit their products, innovations, initiatives as well as network in one place. The conference aims to harness the broad, interdisciplinary expertise of the delegates to build networks as well as discuss the most pressing issues in disaster risk research across the academic, policy, decision making and practical disciplines.

In an attempt to answer the following research questions: (i) What are the greatest challenges in disaster risk reduction at the local level at present? (ii) Which lessons are municipalities learning from the most recent disaster events? and (iii) Which new solutions exist in SADC and other regions of the world?

CALL TO SUBMIT ABSTRACTS

Abstracts should be limited to 250 words. Successful author(s) will be required to register and attend the conference. All papers will be double blind peer reviewed by a panel of selected international experts.

The submitted abstracts must address one of the following thematic areas;
- Indigenous knowledge in early warning and risk reduction
- Disaster modelling, surveillance, and remote sensing
- Disaster risk knowledge
- Science, innovation, and technology in early warning and disaster risk management
- DRR/CCA governance, frameworks, policies, and programmes
- Disaster research agendas and methods
- DRR and Sustainable development Goals (SDGs)
- DRR urbanisation and development planning
- Systems thinking, resilience and complex adaptive systems in disaster risk reduction
- Media, communication, and advocacy
- Disaster Risk Reduction and vulnerability issues (migration, gender-based violence, Environmental management)
- Disasters and mining
- Disaster Risk Reduction of cultural heritage
- Africa perspectives and trans-boundary disaster risk reduction
- Inclusive DRR (participation of women, youth, children, people with disabilities and other vulnerable groups)
- Networking, partnerships, and collaborations in DRM
- Panel discussions on Early Warning in the SADC

Abstracts can be submitted online to the following address **drmconference@hsrc.ac.za** before **21 August 2023** and should contain the following information:
1. Rationale of the Research
2. Method of Investigation
3. Main Findings
4. Conclusions and Recommendation

KEY DATES

First call for abstracts
15 June 2023

Final abstract submission date
31 August 2023

Final date for registration
29 September 2023

Conference
08-10 November 2023

ATTENDANCE COSTS

US$ 250.00	cost of attending the conference
US$ 200.00	early bird registration cost
US$ 50	students' registration (proof of student registration will be required)

Note that participants from all regions around the world are welcome to present and/or attend the conference.

Conference fee excludes accommodation, travel and visa related costs, and these costs are each delegate's own responsibility. Should you require an invoice, please request it from **drmconference@hsrc.ac.za**

PAYMENT DETAILS

Please request an invoice by downloading the form. Send the completed invoice form to **drmconference@hsrc.ac.za**.

Please ensure that the information on the invoice is correct and that you are able to pay the invoice, as it cannot be cancelled once generated. Please attach proof of payment to your conference registration form.

POSTERS

We encourage submissions of poster presentations that succinctly convey the essence of the research or project. Posters should be visually engaging and clearly communicate the research question, methodology, findings, and implications. A poster template will be provided and printing may be done by the HSRC if timeously submitted.

BOOK DISPLAYS

Authors who have recently published or are soon to publish a book related to the conference theme are invited to submit proposals for book displays in an open research market place format. These sessions will provide an opportunity for authors to talk about their work and engage in discussions with the audience during a conference reception and poster session.

VISUAL DISPLAYS

We welcome submissions of other visual displays of academic output, such as documentaries, short films, and media installations that critically engage with the conference theme and offer innovative perspectives on adaptation and early warning.