



# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## WRITING FOR JOURNAL PUBLICATION WORKSHOP including CO-DEVELOPING A PROPOSAL FOR A SPECIAL ISSUE OF *COMPARE*

Sub-Saharan Africa: Key educational  
issues and challenges in a global context



**30-31 MAY 2024**



## INVITATION TO SUBMIT ABSTRACTS FOR A “WRITING FOR PUBLICATION” WORKSHOP

We invite all educational researchers, especially doctoral students, post-doctoral fellows and early and mid career researchers from Sub-Saharan Africa to submit abstracts of their current research for consideration for participation in the workshop to be held in 30-31 May 2024 in Cape Town, South Africa.

The workshop will be facilitated by Dr Peter Sutoris (University of Leeds), a co-editor of COMPARE, as well as the editors of the proposed special issue, Drs Andrea Juan and Adam Cooper. Click [here](#) to complete the expression of interest to attend one or both days.

**Day 1** will be a general, public session on writing for publication with one of the editors of *COMPARE: International Journal of Comparative and International Education*. This is offered in a hybrid mode.

**Day 2** will be a closed discussion and reflection where we help develop the accepted abstracts towards the proposed special issue. This is an in-person session only.

### KEY DATES

Expression of interest form to attend Day 1, Day 2, or both: 20 March 2024


Abstracts for consideration: 20 March 2024

Workshop 30 -31 May 2024

Full papers if abstracts accepted: 30 September 2024

Those interested in attending Day 2 and contributing to the special issue proposal need to also submit a separate, extended abstract of up to 1,000 words. Abstracts submitted for consideration for the proposed special issue should engage with challenges, contexts, and pertinent educational issues that affect the region of sub-Saharan Africa, in relation to global contexts of education. We will consider research using a diverse range of theoretical, qualitative, quantitative, or mixed methods research.

All papers should include a comparative and/or international dimension in the widest sense. Papers do not need to be comparing different countries or contexts, but may compare across time, cultures (e.g. insider/outsider perspectives) or between different groups or systems (e.g. public and private).





## DAY 1

Public session | Hybrid

The open workshop on writing for publication will introduce participants to key features of an academic research article, consider the idea of a research gap, and help participants better understand the process of submitting a manuscript to a range of academic journals. The workshop will be open to all researchers and authors with accepted abstracts for the special issue proposal will also attend.

The workshop will help demystify the process of academic peer review. Participants will have direct access to an editor who makes decisions about desk-rejecting, peer reviewing and publishing manuscripts and will be able to ask questions about how these decisions are made, helping participants avoid common pitfalls that get in the way of publication. We will work with a series of case studies—previous manuscripts submitted to COMPARE—to tease apart what makes a successful manuscript.

## DAY 2

Closed session | In-person

In the second part of the workshop, which will only be available in-person, we will reflect on and discuss proposals accepted for consideration for the special issue. Empirical and theoretical articles are welcome and a range of methodologies encouraged on any topic related to educational challenges in sub-Saharan Africa. We invite doctoral students and early career researchers, either on their own or in collaboration with more senior researchers to take part.

Being selected to participate in the workshop is not a guarantee of publication, as the special issue proposal will be subject to approval by COMPARE's editorial board, and individual papers subject to peer review. During the second day of the workshop, authors will be invited to co-create the proposal which will be submitted to the board. If accepted, full papers will be solicited by September 2024.

Abstracts should be submitted by 20 March 2024 to Ms Sylvia Hannan ([shannan@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:shannan@hsrc.ac.za))

Abstracts will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Relevance to key educational challenges in sub-Saharan Africa;
- Degree of potential to enhance our understanding of key educational challenges in sub-Saharan Africa
- Rigour
- Likelihood of successful completion within timeline;
- Fit with other submissions;
- Applicability to journal mission.

Queries can be directed to Ms Sylvia Hannan ([shannan@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:shannan@hsrc.ac.za))

Support for travel

Limited assistance with local (domestic) travel will be provided for workshop participants. Some assistance may be available for regional travel, but this is subject to budget limitations.

