

2024 SARIMA CONFERENCE

3-5 September 2024 • Radisson Blu Hotel • Maputo • Mozambique | www.sarimaconf.co.za



— CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

SARIMA invites you to contribute to the 2024 Annual Conference – it is an opportunity to present stimulating findings, best practices, case studies and the chance to make a difference to the future of research and innovation management in Southern Africa.

CONFERENCE THEME: It takes a village to raise a child

Our theme originates from a well-known African proverb of the Nigerian Igbo culture 'Oran a azu nwa' and conveys the message that it takes many people ("the village") to provide a safe, healthy environment for children, where children are given the security they need to develop and flourish. Within Research and Innovation Management, our theme resonates with community, collaboration mentorship, training, professionalisation, inspiring networks and support to create a safe, healthy environment for research and innovation management to develop and flourish – institutionally / nationally and globally.

The committee will be selecting speakers that can bring a regional perspective to the topics, as well as inviting speakers from beyond the region to bring a global perspective. The programme comprises several sessions with different formats that are designed to stimulate and promote engagement and discussion. We welcome abstracts for the sessions outlined below. In addition to the sessions for which we are calling for abstracts, the committee is preparing certain sessions with invited speakers and well as panel discussions that will be included in the conference programme. Delegates are also invited to submit poster presentations relating to the session topics. Posters will be on display at the conference.

INVITATION TO SUBMIT ABSTRACTS:

Abstracts are sought for oral or poster presentations, under the following session topics:

- Presentations may be made in English / Portuguese and language should be indicated when submitting your abstract, as well as whether you could present in English AND Portuguese.
- The Conference Organising Committee reserves the right to allocate abstracts to presentation sessions or formats depending on relevance and/or space availability and reserves the right to remove a particular session topic.

Bringing the Village in - Inclusive Governance in Research & Innovation (RM & I&TT)

The OECD writes: "The question of how to foster governance processes that i) are more inclusive and representative and ii) lead to development outcomes that are more broadly shared has emerged as a leading priority in international development, and for good reason. Over the long term, more open and inclusive states and societies tend to be more prosperous, effective and resilient."

"The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the United Nations 2030 Agenda, which makes a commitment to **leave no one behind** (UN, 2015[1]), are perhaps the most ambitious articulation of this consensus."

"SDG 16 in particular calls on all signatory countries to "[p]romote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels" (UN, 2015[1]). Other SDGs make specific commitments not only to "end poverty in all its forms everywhere", but also to tackle marginalisation and respond to the needs of all groups, including in terms of income (SDG 1), health (SDG 3), education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), employment (SDG 8) and inequality (SDG 10) (Glassco and Holguin, 2016[2]). Read in this way, the SDGs represent a powerful framework for transformation that is grounded in a shared understanding of inclusive institutions as both intrinsically valuable and indispensable for tackling poverty, inequality and exclusion and for achieving peace and development" [ref. <https://doi.org/10.1787/960f5a97-en>].

What are best practices in achieving inclusive governance and community benefit / participation in research and innovation? How do we align research and innovation with achieving the SDGs and Africa Agenda 2063 goals? How do we embed this in institutional strategies? How can research organisations engage with, listen to and uplift communities through research and innovation? How do we facilitate collaboration between professional researchers and "citizen scientists" ensuring effective communication and data management?

Curating and Sharing the Wisdom of the Village (RM)

Curating knowledge and then sharing the "wisdom of the village" as one seeks to develop others - especially new entrants to research management – en route to ultimately achieving professional status as a Research Manager. The session will explore this in more detail and abstracts are sought that provide insights into sub-themes such as:

- Strengthening the role and practices of the Research Manager
- Professionalisation and building the profession
- Pathways and journeys to professionalisation
- Best practices for professional development
- Narratives, stories and case studies
- Recruiting the next generation of Research Managers
- The importance of soft skills and how these can be trained
- Embracing transferable skills (teamwork and collaboration, diversity, ...)
- How can we develop a body of knowledge by researching best Research Management practices, for instance, through conference participation and publications in proceedings, journals and books? What is needed for practitioners to start contributing research outputs, also as a requirement for professional recognition?
- Financial research administration and building this competence
- Leadership and strategy

Developing the Research Management Landscape over the next 10 years (RM)

We have needed to adapt to Covid19 working conditions and the rise of Artificial Intelligence, but what can we expect to change in the Research Management landscape and how can we continue to adapt, build resilience and future proof the profession and ensure that our research institutions thrive?

ChatGPT suggests a number of possibilities that will impact research management over the next decade based on trends and advancements. These include: increased collaboration and interdisciplinarity; advances in data management and analysis; open science and transparency which may need research management to adapt to support more transparent and open practices, including better tools for data sharing, open-access publishing, and collaborative platforms; digital transformation and tools allowing researchers to work seamlessly across geographical boundaries; increased emphasis on research impact (which we will deal with in a different session); ethical and responsible research practices (the topic of another session); globalisation of research and coordinating and managing projects across international borders, including issues related to different regulatory environments and cultural considerations; personalised research management where advances in technology will increasingly allow researchers to access tailored tools and resources based on their specific needs and preferences; involvement of the public in scientific research (citizen science), which is dealt with in a different session; and a focus on research reproducibility.

These trends suggest a dynamic and evolving landscape for research management, driven by technological advancements, changing research practices, and a broader recognition of the societal impact of research. The specifics will likely depend on the continued development of technology, changes in funding structures, and shifts in the broader research culture.

Abstracts that explore challenges and change, new areas of development and factors impacting research management and possible solutions may be submitted, as well as ones aligned with the sub-themes that ChatGPT raised above!

Inspiring (human-centric) research ethics and integrity management (RM)

- African/culturally responsive perspectives on research ethics and integrity management
- Generative AI: influence, impact and opportunities in research ethics and integrity
- Promoting research ethics and integrity in community access, engagement, and collaborative research
- Collective efforts towards fostering a responsible and accountable “research ethics village” (Communities of Practice (CoPs), mentorship and capacity development efforts)

The ‘SHAPE’ of Innovation (I&TT)

Social Science, Humanities & Arts for People & Economy (SHAPE) innovation is receiving much attention globally and this session will focus on how these developments are being embraced within SADC countries and reflect on the adaptation of best practices internationally to local African environments to achieve success – presentations could consider:

- Emerging practices in SADC
- Identifying which projects to support
- Business models for SHAPE innovation
- Combining SHAPE and STEM for success – aiding technology adoption
- Supporting consulting work
- Communicating “commercialisation” to Social Science, Humanities and Arts raising awareness
- Developing and supporting impact pathways

You are welcome to submit abstracts for presentations that are not listed above, but that are aligned with the topic.

Impact (RM & I&TT)

The growing importance of research and innovation impact is driven by a shift in priorities toward addressing real-world challenges, increased collaboration, public accountability, economic considerations, and changing expectations from funding agencies and the public. Researchers and institutions are recognizing the need to go beyond traditional academic measures and demonstrate the tangible benefits of their work to society at large.

This session will look at how to make impact, communicating that impact and monitoring or measuring it:

- Communicating impact to various stakeholders
- New metrics, altmetrics, bibliometrics
- Impact rankings (e.g. Times Higher Education Impact Rankings)
- Open science
- Developing institutional impact frameworks and targets
- Technology solutions in research / innovation management administration to track impact (e.g. outputs associated with a particular funding stream)
- Assessing the economic impact of a research institution, particularly in its local environment
- Writing impact case studies

Bad Practices (RM & I&TT)

People tend to focus on the sharing of best practices, but often some of the biggest learning comes from failure and understanding what went wrong. Communicating about what didn't go right, builds knowledge and strengthens us as a community to avoid falling into similar traps. Presentations of case studies regarding "bad practices" and what to avoid, mistakes made, and lessons learned in both Research Management and Innovation & Technology Transfer can be submitted and depending on response they may be split into two focussed sessions.

"We learn more from our failures than from our successes. Not only do we find out what doesn't work so that we can adjust our future attempts, we learn about ourselves in the process and gain a bit of empathy towards others that might be struggling as well."

Kealy Spring, Leadership Fellow Coach, BetterUp

TAKE NOTE OF THE BELOW BEFORE SUBMITTING:

- The Committee reserves the right to allocate abstracts to presentation sessions depending on relevance and space availability, and reserves the right to remove a particular session topic.
- Each presentation must have one main presenter (the Presenting Author). The Presenting Author must submit the abstract and be the point of contact for that abstract. It is the responsibility of the Presenting Author to communicate with the other Co-presenters.
- Only MS Power Point will be accepted for oral presentations.
- Abstracts must be submitted online via www.sarimaconf.co.za. Please click on the **ABSTRACTS** tab.
- Abstracts must be submitted in either English or Portuguese | with a maximum word count of 300.
- Presenters will be expected to cover the costs of their Conference registration, accommodation and expenses.
- All presenting authors are requested to fully register for the conference by **Monday, 15 April 2024**. If registration for the 2024 SARIMA Conference has not been received by this deadline, the presentation cannot be listed in the programme.
- All presenters are asked to present **IN-PERSON**.

QUESTIONS ASKED AS PART OF THE SUBMISSION:

1. **What is the preferred format of your submission?** *(Please note that the Programme Committee reserves the right to change the preferred format to fit the final programme)*
 - **Oral presentation:**
 - This category would be appropriate for submitters wanting to present a 15 minute oral abstract as part of a standard presentation session which will be included in either a plenary or a parallel session
 - Provide a motivation to indicate the relevance and novelty of the oral presentation (maximum 120 words)
 - Presenters may be required to participate in a Q & A at the end of their presentation.
 - Only MS Power Point will be accepted for oral presentations.
 - PowerPoint presentations must be saved as a .pptx file. 16x9 formats.
 - Video presentations (if applicable) are to be in mp4 format.

- **Poster presentation:**
 - The poster boards are 2.45m high and 90cm wide. Posters should be printed in Portrait A1-size (841mm x 594mm).
 - Oversized posters can unfortunately not be accommodated.
 - Poster adhesive will be supplied by the Organisers for each poster.
 - 2. **What career level is your presentation aimed at?**
 - Early-Career
 - Mid-Career
 - Senior
 - Relevant to All
 - 3. **Is your presentation:**
 - An Overview
 - Detailed
 - Strategic
 - Technical
 - 4. **Is this the first time you are submitting an abstract for a SARIMA conference?**
 - Yes
 - No
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ABSTRACT PREPARATION GUIDELINES:

- **PROFILE**

The presenting author should create and complete the online submission, and not the co-author. All communication will be sent to the author who created the profile. The biography is compulsory, as the Chairperson will use this to introduce each speaker.
- **TITLE | PRESENTATION TYPE**

Insert the full title of the proposed presentation. Title should not exceed **15 words**.

Select the preferred type/format of your presentation:

 - Oral presentation
 - Poster presentation
 - Panel Discussion
 - Demo Workshop
 - Interactive Workshop
- **SESSION TOPIC**

Select the session topic under which you would like to present.
- **CO-AUTHORS**

Insert full names and affiliation details of all co-authors. Please note that co-authors must have approved of their inclusion of abstract submissions before final submission of the abstract to the SARIMA Programme Committee.
- **CO-PRESENTER**

Please select this function if another author will be co-presenting the paper with you at the conference (due to time limitations, as far as possible only a single author should present in an oral presentation). Co-Presenter biographies are required and can be uploaded as a PDF document.
- **TEXT**

Insert the text of the abstract. You will not be able to type additional words once the 300-word limit has been reached, so please check your abstract once submitted. Do not insert the title or co-authors in this text block. Check that special characters have copied correctly. Check that the full abstract has been successfully uploaded by logging out and logging in to your profile again before final submission.

Text will be limited to 300 words. Your abstract should state clearly what your presentation will cover, how it will contribute to the particular session and be of benefit to the audience.

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING DEADLINE DATES FOR PRESENTERS:

Wednesday 13 March 2024	Deadline for abstract submissions EXTENDED
Monday 1 April 2024	Feedback in terms of whether your submission has been accepted
Monday 15 April 2024	Deadline for presenter registration
Monday 17 June 2024	Deadline for presenter registration payment

PRESENTER REGISTRATION | PAYMENT TERMS

- Registration and full payment is required in order to attend and participate within the conference programme. This applies to the main presenting author as well as the co-presenting authors.
- We are aware of the payment processes involved within certain organizations | institutions - therefore the payment deadline will be 60 days after the presenter registration deadline date (Monday, 15 April
- Please note should you cancel after registering and confirming your participation you will still be liable for full payment of the registration.

Queries Relating to SARIMA 2024 Abstract Submission Please Contact: Kristy Muller | kristy@confpartner.co.za
