



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SCIENCE AND DEVELOPMENT

“Catalysing science innovations to accelerate development”

20-22 February 2020, Elephant Hills Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

Great Zimbabwe University will host an international conference on Science and development with the theme “*Catalysing science innovations to accelerate development*”. The conference is dedicated to the advancement of scientific, practical and policy-oriented approaches in tackling regional challenges on agriculture, environmental science, climate change, ICT, forecasting and modelling, biodiversity conservation, water and sanitation, energy resources and development. The conference will bring together researchers, development practitioners and policy makers from all over the world to analyse scientific options for development. We are calling for abstracts for papers on empirical studies, good practice and theoretical reviews on the above stated main theme:

SUB-THEMES

The sub-themes for the conference include but are not confined to the following:

1. AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SECURITY

- Crop production
- Soil science
- Horticulture
- Land reform and agriculture
- Policy issues in agriculture
- Livestock production

- Fisheries management

2. ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE, CLIMATE CHANGE AND DEVELOPMENT

- Applications of earth observation systems in development.
- Water management science and development.
- Invasion ecology.
- Biodiversity conservation issues in development.
- Applications of indigenous knowledge systems in resource management.
- Environmental health and safety systems in development.
- Recent climate change observations: the science, evidence and implications.
- Climate-smart agriculture and agro-ecology: identifying and addressing the convergences
- Climate-smart development initiatives.
- New dimensions in climate change science.
- Climate change and biodiversity conservation.
- Mining and mineral processing.

3. ICT AND DEVELOPMENT

- ICT and agriculture.
- ICT for sustainable development.
- Machine learning.
- Big data.

4. MATHEMATICAL MODELLING FOR DECISION MAKING AND DEVELOPMENT

5. SUSTAINABLE ENERGY RESOURCES AND DEVELOPMENT

- Modelling of renewable energy systems.
- Innovations in sustainable energy applications and technologies.
- Utilisation of Renewable Energies: Challenges, Opportunities and Policies.
- Renewable Energy Resources: Solar, Wind, Biomass, Hydro, Bio-fuels and Geothermal energy.

6. CROSS CUTTING ISSUES

- Policy coherence and alignment in support of accelerated development and uptake of scientific innovations.
- Multi-sectoriality: Experiences and opportunities/ challenges to embrace multi-sectorial approaches to enhance and accelerate execution and delivery of science innovations.
- Institutional and human skills/ competencies to delivery of sustained and widespread systematic capacity to innovate and practice.
- Scientific perspectives of Gender and development.

Key-note speaker



Professor Ken Giller

Prof. Dr. Ken Giller is an outstanding expert in the field of Plant Production Systems. He leads a group of scientists with profound experience in farming systems analysis to explore future scenarios for land use with a focus on food production at Wageningen University, the Netherlands. Ken's research has focused on smallholder farming systems in tropical regions with special attention for sub-Saharan Africa. In particular problems of soil fertility, the role of nitrogen fixation in tropical legumes, and the temporal and spatial dynamics of resources use within crop/livestock farming systems have this interest. He leads a number of large initiatives such as [N2Africa](#) (Putting Nitrogen Fixation to Work for Smallholder Farmers in Africa), [NUANCES](#) (Nutrient Use in Animal and Cropping Systems: Efficiencies and Scales) and [Competing Claims on Natural Resources](#).

Other key-note speakers will be announced in due course.

Conference proceedings

All presented papers will be published in conference proceedings by the Great Zimbabwe University.

Important Dates

30 September 2019: **Closing date for first call of abstracts.**

10th December 2019: **Closing date for second call of abstracts.**

5th January 2020: **Last date for Notification of Acceptance.**

3rd 15 February 2020: **Registration and submission of full papers.**

20th to 22th July 2020: **Conference**

Conference Structure

The conference will be structured into six major components:

- Opening plenary session for keynote addresses and an invited science talk;

- General plenary sessions for high level presentations on topics of general interest;
- Parallel sessions for oral presentation or selected research/technical papers, and case studies;
- Poster sessions aimed at displaying scientific findings, and to discuss these findings with attendees;
- Panel discussions for invited groups to share their perspectives on selected topics; and;
- Poster Exhibitions of products of services in line with the conference theme (scientific and non-scientific).

Abstract Format and Submission Process

Abstracts should follow the generic format of purpose, method, results, conclusions and recommendations. The abstract should be between 150 and 200 words and accompanied with a maximum of five key terms. Contact details and institutional affiliations should be included. Abstracts are to be submitted as word documents to: research@gzu.ac.zw.

Registration Fees

For all accepted abstracts, a registration fee of US\$400.00 will be paid to cover for lunches, teas and stationery (including laptop bags).

Other important information

Conference venue: Elephant Hills Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. Telephone [+2631344793](tel:+2631344793)

Negotiated rates: Single Room bed & breakfast- \$100.00
 Double Room bed & breakfast- \$140.00

Other hotels that are a short distance from the conference venue are:

Cresta Sprayview Hotel, Telephone [+2631344344](tel:+2631344344)

Victoria Falls Hotel, Telephone [+2631344751](tel:+2631344751)

The Kingdom Hotel, Telephone [+2631344275](tel:+2631344275)

Victoria Falls Safari Lodge, Telephone [+2631343211](tel:+2631343211)

The main language of the conference is English

Presentation formats include plenary presentations, poster presentations and parallel presentations.

Further Information

For more information please contact research@gzu.ac.zw or phone +263 776 440 804 OR +263 39 254 085

Account details