

# FOSTERING A SUSTAINABLE ENTREPRENEURSHIP RESEARCH ECOSYSTEM

October 24-26, 2022 - Online

**SIWEA initiative**

*A Real-World Laboratory to Accelerate Transition with Africa  
A Paradigm Shift*

## 2022 AfRIC CALL FOR PAPERS

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## 2022 AfRIC CALL FOR PAPERS

### AfRIC DEADLINES

#### **Meet the Editors Registration Deadline**

October 10, 2022

[Learn More](#)

#### **Special Issues - Extended Abstract**

##### **Submission Deadline**

September 10, 2022

[Learn More](#)

#### **Doctoral Consortium Deadline**

September 1, 2022

[Learn More](#)

#### **Strategic Research Workshop with Stakeholders Registration Deadline**

October 10, 2022

[Learn More](#)

The 1<sup>st</sup> AfRIC will be held virtually by LouRIM at UCLouvain, in collaboration with the IEF Forum, SAM, INSME, and supported by CAMES through its research programmes “Programmes Thématiques de Recherche (PTR Santé, PTR Socio-Economie et Marchés, PTR Gouvernance et Développement)” and AUF. This event is also supported by PRICNAC, EIT Climate KIC’s Transitions Hub and Inno4sd.net as well as many scientific journals. The conference will focus on cutting-edge empirical research in progress that will significantly advance the field of sustainable entrepreneurship and innovation from emerging economies with a specific focus on Africa.

### EXTENDED ABSTRACT GUIDELINES

• The Meet the Editors is scheduled for October 24, 2022. Only the authors targeting the special issues related to AfRIC will need to submit an extended abstract (short paper). A ten-page (maximum) double-spaced document, excluding references and exhibits, to include mainly Principal Topic (including Problem, Current understanding and Research question), Method, Results and Contribution/ Practical implication, should be submitted online to [afric.be](http://afric.be) no later than September 10, 2022.

• Papers will be evaluated by the scientific panel on double-blind basis. Only the authors of selected short papers will be invited to continue the editorial process after AfRIC 2022.

### DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM

The PHD PROJECT AFRICA Doctoral Consortium is scheduled for October 25, 2022. Thirty doctoral students and early-stage researchers pursuing research and teaching careers will have an opportunity to participate in the program and attend the virtual conference for free. Application deadline is September 1, 2021.

Candidates will need to submit an abstract. A two-page, maximum 900-word abstract, to include Principal Topic, Method, and Results, should be submitted online to [easychair.afric2022](http://easychair.afric2022) no later than September 1, 2022. Abstracts will be reviewed by the members of the Scientific Committee.

### Strategic Research Workshop with Stakeholders

The workshop is scheduled for October 26, 2022. We connect the unconnected for more cross-fertilization. Join the conversation with an extensive network of academics, policy makers, practitioners, and community-based organizations to advance new knowledge through connecting real-life problems to the production of scientific knowledge with Africa.



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Université catholique de Louvain (UCLouvain) and Louvain Research Institute in Management and Organizations (LouRIM) are glad to announce the first edition of African Research Initiative Conference (AfRIC) 2022 on 24th, 25th and 26th October 2022.

The 2022 AfRIC is organized by LouRIM/ Sustainable Innovative Entrepreneurship Worldwide /Africa Initiative (SIEWA Initiative: A real world Laboratory to Accelerate the Transition with Africa) with the collaboration of International Entrepreneurship Forum (IEF, University of Essex), International Network for SMEs (INSME) and Société Africaine de Management (SAM). AfRIC 2022 is also supported by the African and Malagasy Council for Higher Education (CAMES) through its research thematic programs (PTR Santé; PTR Socio-économie et Marché; PTR Gouvernance et Développement), The Francophone University Agency (AUF), as well as the Project 'Promotion de la Recherche, l'Innovation et de la Culture Numérique en Afrique Centrale' (PRICNAC) one of the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States - Research & Innovation (OACPS R&I) initiative funded by the European Union. This event is also supported by EIT Climate KIC's Transitions Hub (CKIC's Transition Hub), the Innovation for Sustainable Development Network (Inno4sd.net) and many journals.

**General theme of AfRIC 2022:** "Fostering a Sustainable Entrepreneurship Research Ecosystem"

### OBJECTIVES

The general objective of this three-day virtual conference is to allow discussions about the progress on sustainable innovative entrepreneurship research with Africa through transdisciplinary, interdisciplinary perspectives. The specific objectives are:

- To provide space for knowledge sharing among young scholars interested in topics related to sustainable development, innovation and entrepreneurship for more socio-economic development and wellbeing with Africa.
- To provide opportunities for PhD candidates & early career researchers to present and discuss about their work.
- To provide opportunities for PhD candidates and early career researchers to submit their work to members of the SIEWA Scientific Board, IEF, SAM, CAMES-PTR Santé/ PTR Socio-économie et Marché, and to receive scientific advice as feedback.
- To offer the possibility to prepare and submit full manuscripts for publication in the Special Issues edited by the 1<sup>st</sup> AfRIC organizing committee.
- To provide space for an extensive network of academics, policy makers, practitioners, and community-based organizations to advance new knowledge by tapping leading edge research connecting real-life problems to the production of scientific knowledge

### Conference Format and Activities

The AfRIC 2022 is organized virtually around two main activities during 3 days as follow:

- 2 days PHD BOOTCAMP: Capacity Building for PhDs and early-stage researchers
  - Day 1: 'Meet the Editors'
  - Day 2: Doctoral Consortium
- One day Strategic Research Workshop with Stakeholders
  - Day 3: Cross fertilization

### SIEWA Initiative

SIEWA Initiative is an emerging international consortium-based initiative with already more than 15 universities and research initiatives members and supportive international organizations. Pursuant to the AU-EU High-Level Policy Dialogue on Science, Technology and Innovation, we aim to:

- **Make it real** through a focus on how researchers gather data to generate actionable information before transferring the subsequent knowledge to relevant stakeholders in the EU and Africa.
- **Generate impact by design** with a socio-spatial approach to research and its application that considers, respects, and strengthens effective existing ecosystems already on the ground.
- **Strengthen people, communities, and institutions** through connecting real-life problems to the production of scientific knowledge, bringing together academics and their external counterparts.
- **Learn, monitor and scale up** through analysing failures and successes for lessons learned and repeating what works while discarding what does not after having grown in our understanding.

October

24

# 2022 AfRIC - DAY 1-VIRTUAL

## MEET THE EDITORS

### CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Learn about how to get your papers published

The 'Meet the Editors' virtual session is an opportunity for all conference participant to meet virtually and talk with the editors of the AfRIC 2022 supportive journals: *Journal of African Business*, *International Journal of Entrepreneurship and Emerging Economies*, *Recherche et Applications en Marketing*, *Décisions Marketing*, *Business & Society Review*, *Cleaner Waste Systems Journal*, *Gestion 2000*, *Management & Sciences Sociales*.

While the AfRIC 2022 'Meet the Editors' is aimed at any career level, it will be particularly useful for doctoral students especially first-time writers, early career researchers and those with an interest in reviewing and editing for related journals.

In this AfRIC 2022 'Meet the Editors' virtual session, you will hear from several editors about their respective journals and the publishing process – from submission to acceptance. They will also give their top tips for a successful publication and advise on topics including cover letters, responding to criticisms and how to get involved in reviewing and editing. In addition of writing for journals, the AfRIC 2022 'Meet the Editors' will also focus on two additional special topics including writing monograph and text as well as dissemination and communication.

The AfRIC 2022 'Meet the Editors' is scheduled for October 24, 2022. The session will be moderated by three members of the convener team.

If you have any questions about the AfRIC 2022 'Meet the Editors' session, please contact us via "[afric2022-mte@uclouvain.be](mailto:afric2022-mte@uclouvain.be)"

## SPECIAL ISSUES

### CALL FOR EXTENDED ABSTRACTS

Join the scholarly debates to make impact in your field

Thanks to our supportive journals, we are also glad to invite you to join the scholarly debates through the opportunities special Issues. Only the authors targeting the special issues related to AfRIC will need to submit an extended abstract (short paper). A ten-page (maximum) double-spaced document, excluding references and exhibits, to include Abstract, Principal Topic (with the statement of the Problem, Current understanding, and Research question), Method, Results and Contribution/ Practical implication, should be submitted online no later than September 10, 2022. For more information, please check the call for papers associated to the targeting journal. Below, you may also find the links to the journal web page.

Papers will be evaluated by the scientific panel on double-blind basis. Only the authors of the selected short papers will be invited to continue the editorial process after AfRIC 2022.

Current special issues are listed below. The forthcoming special issues will be announced in due time directly on the conference web site.

#### **Submit a manuscript to the journal**

*Journal of African Business*

For a special issue on:

Decrypting the CSR Promises, Challenges and Practices in the SMEs, Start-ups, and Intrapreneurial Initiatives.

[https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special\\_issues/decrypting-csr-promises/?utm\\_source=TFO&utm\\_medium=cms&utm\\_campaign=JPG15743](https://think.taylorandfrancis.com/special_issues/decrypting-csr-promises/?utm_source=TFO&utm_medium=cms&utm_campaign=JPG15743)

October

25

# 2022 AfRIC – DAY 2-VIRTUAL

## PHD PROJECT-AFRICA DOCTORAL CONSORTIUM CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Building the next Generation of African Leaders in Business Through Academia

The PHD PROJECT AFRICA Doctoral is scheduled for October 25, 2022. Thirty doctoral students and early-stage researchers pursuing research and teaching careers will have an opportunity to participate in the program and attend the virtual conference for free. Application deadline is September 1, 2021.

### Eligibility and Requirements

The program welcomes empirical and conceptual papers as well as developmental research projects examining topics across all areas of Sustainability and Green Management, Innovation & Entrepreneurship in the African context, both in the private and public sectors, and a comparative analysis of the African context with other parts of the world. Research projects examining real life problems from other disciplines but linked to issues in Sustainability, Innovation and Entrepreneurship are also welcome. Work based on interdisciplinary, transdisciplinary-oriented approaches is a real asset in the selection process.

Candidates will submit a two-page (maximum 900-word) abstract including principal topic, method, and results online to [easychair.afric2020](https://easychair.afric2020) no later than September 1, 2022.

The submission Web page for AfRIC 2022 is <https://easychair.org/my/conference?conf=afric2022>.

Abstracts will be double-blind reviewed by members of the Scientific Committee.

### Guidelines for preparing abstract:

- Principal topic:
  - Problem: What specific research (clarify the related discipline) problem does the submission focus on?
  - Current understanding: What is known about this problem, who and how has it been tackled before?
  - Research question: What is the submission goal?
- Method (or research design): How precisely and in detail was/will the work (be) executed. The methodology/approach should be described.
- Results: What are/will be the main outcomes and results?
- Contribution: What will the outcomes and results add to current understanding or theory in the related discipline?
- Practical implications: Who will practically gain what and in which way from the findings?

Authors will be notified via email in September 2022 on acceptance of abstract. For selected candidates,

- a one-page, maximum 400-word summary is due by October 15, 2022.
- a six-page max PowerPoint for presentation is due by October 15, 2022.
- please be sure to register no later than October 15, 2022. If you register late, your summary may not be included in the Conference Abstract Book, and we may give chance to another selected candidate in the top-40 list.

Papers will be evaluated by the Scientific Committee and selected for publication. The top-30 selected submissions will have their one-page summary published in the 2022 issue of AfRIC 2022 Best Abstract Book.

## BEST PAPER AWARDS

Recognizing and promoting the talent and effort of the best of group of doctoral students

An award will be granted to the best paper for PHD AFRICA PROJECT Doctoral consortium. Winners will receive a certificate, and the paper highlighted in the AfRIC 2022 Program. Best papers will also be considered for an extensive training program leading to publication in one of supportive journals of AfRIC 2022, subject to the journal's blind review process.

Papers will be evaluated by the Board of Reviewers and selected for publication. Particular attention will also be given to successful work with real practical implication or potential significant implication for entrepreneurs and other actors involved in the entrepreneurial ecosystem and with socio- economic impact in Africa.

October

26

# 2022 AfRIC - DAY 3-VIRTUAL

## STRATEGIC RESEARCH WORKSHOP WITH STAKEHOLDERS CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Connecting the unconnected for more cross-fertilization, make the difference and have impact.

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The Strategic Research Workshop is scheduled for October 26, 2022. The workshop will bring together an extensive network of academics (research, education & training,...), policy makers, industries, Business & entrepreneurs, and community-based organizations to advance new knowledge through connecting real-life problems to the production of scientific knowledge. We are glad to invite you to join us to this vibrant conversation for more impact.

### Workshop Format and Activities

The workshop is organized around panel sessions led by one key speaker and about 4 other contributors. The format for the workshop has been designed to meet and help realize its objectives and to address the key themes: In addition to the keynotes, we are working towards the organization of the panel sessions around the following key topics:

#### **Sustainable Entrepreneurship & Innovation**

What are the implications for:

- job creation
- Inclusivity (Gender & Youth; Public-Private)
- Health and Environment
- Knowledge creation
- Institutional development
- Resources

#### **Ecosystem Development**

What are the implications for:

- job creation
- Inclusivity (Gender & Youth; Public-Private)
- Health and Environment
- Knowledge creation
- Institutional development
- Resources

#### **People & Technology**

What are the implications for:

- job creation
- Inclusivity (Gender & Youth; Public-Private)
- Health and Environment
- Knowledge creation
- Institutional development
- Resources

## REGISTRATION DEADLINE

**October 10, 2022**

["afric2022-crossfertilization@uclouvain.be"](mailto:afric2022-crossfertilization@uclouvain.be).

If you have any questions about the AfRIC 2022 'Strategic research workshop with stakeholders' session, please contact us via: [afric2022-crossfertilization@uclouvain.be](mailto:afric2022-crossfertilization@uclouvain.be).

# ORGANIZING INSTITUTIONS

- Louvain Research Institute in Management and Organizations (LouRIM), UCLouvain
- International Entrepreneurship Forum, University of Essex
- Société Africaine de Management (SAM)

## SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE – BOARD OF REVIEWERS (in alphabetical order)

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- Youssoufou Hamadou Daouda, Université de Tahoua (Niger)

# ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Conference Architects & Co-Chairs (Organizers)	Journal Editors	Facilitators
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Administrative team, UCLouvain, LouRIM	Research Assistant
<p><b>Sylvie Baudine</b>, Head of administrative unit <b>Linda Warnier</b>, “Project Coordinator” <b>Maud Lebrun</b>, Communication and Events Manager <b>Laura Vecchiato</b>, Activities and Event Coordinator</p>	<p><b>Ulvick Houssou</b>, PhD candidate, ICN Business School ARTEM and Université Lorraine (France) <b>Daniel Manyabe</b>, PhD candidate, Kyungpook National University (South Korea) <b>Toussaint Bugandwa Ciza</b>, PhD student, UCLouvain, LouRIM (Belgium) and Université Catholique de Bukavu (DRC) <b>Yeguinafere Diarrassouba</b>, PhD Student, CESAG (Senegal) <b>Franck Ronald Foadin</b>, PhD student, UCLouvain, LouRIM (Belgium)</p>

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