



**Call for Papers**  
**5<sup>th</sup> AfricaLics Conference, 9 - 11 November 2022**  
**University of Yaoundé II,**  
**Yaoundé, Cameroon**

***The Conference will be hosted by University of Yaoundé II***  
***Local Partner: Pan-African University, Institute for Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences (PAUGHSS)***

**Important Dates**

Submission of papers and registration	The online application facility will open on 1 June 2022
Deadline for submission of papers	1 July 2022
Notification of paper acceptance	15 August 2022
Deadline for application for travel support	1 July 2022
Response to applicants for travel support	1 September 2022
Conference registration deadline	30 September 2022
Deadline for up-loading of final paper	10 Oct 2022
Conference Dates	9-11 November 2022

**Theme: National Innovation System for Resilience and Sustainable Development in Africa**

Many of the African Countries have entered the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals enduring recurrent climatic shock, persistent challenges from acute and chronic food and nutrition insecurity., and in some countries, unrelenting civil conflict. The current situation has been worsened by the negative health and socioeconomic impacts of the coronavirus pandemic. The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in February/March 2020 and the imminent measures to curb its spread affected the national economies. The pandemic has also exposed opportunities for innovation particularly in the health and

digital innovation. The Conference is coming at an opportune time when innovation scholars can deliberate on post-COVID development agenda for Africa.

### **Background**

The African Network of Researchers in Learning, Innovation and Competence Building Systems (AfricaLics) aims to hold a research conference every two years at a minimum since the launch of the network in 2012. The focus is primarily the current state of research on African Innovation and Development specifically for the academic community, but also targeting policy makers and business community. It aims to bring together leading scholars (between 150 – 200) working on innovation and development in Africa with the foremost scholars from outside Africa as well as policy makers and business community interested in this field.

### **The 5<sup>th</sup> Conference**

The 5<sup>th</sup> AfricaLics International Conference is being held at the opportune time as the African economies recover from post COVID-19 impact while still struggling to attain sustainable development. The impact of COVID, but also the undesirable environmental and social effects, including climate change and excessive socio-economic inequalities have challenged the traditional narrow focused innovation models of growth. This means that the debates around the role of science, technology and innovation (STI) in shaping the future of African countries will inevitably shift, post COVID. Such debates are very crucial for the African region that hosts more than half of the least developed countries in the world; and which will (according to the UN) see its population doubling to 2.4 billion people by 2050. Further, the discussion is crucial for better understanding of innovation and the need for development of capabilities, which can help foster sustainable industrialization and development in a manner that respects the planetary boundaries. This means that Africa cannot escape discussions regarding how to combine the need for economic growth with the need for more environmentally and socially sustainable developments paths. It also raises key questions around: How can the Innovation and Development community help to further develop concepts and strategies that deal with external shocks while keeping the focus on SDGs?

### **Conference theme and subthemes**

The 5th AfricaLics conference aims at addressing some of the above raised issues which are of interest, not only to Africa, but also the global development community - in the spirit of the SDGs of *leaving no one behind*. The conference main theme is **Innovation for Resilience and Sustainable Development in Africa**. Papers addressing the main topic and sub-themes (see below) are strongly encouraged, but other high-quality papers focused on innovation and development issues may also be accepted.

### **Sub-themes**

- a. Innovation and structural transformation in Africa
- b. National Innovation System and resilience to shocks like COVID-19, Climate Change etc
- c. Innovation, Growth and Sustainability post-COVID-19
- d. Appropriate policies for innovation and development in the era of Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA), 2024, Agenda 2063 and the SDGs
- e. Innovation, the Private Sector and Sustainable Development – the future of formal and informal economies
- f. Innovation management in key economic sectors for Africa's development (e.g. agriculture, manufacturing, services): prospects and challenges
- g. 4th Industrial Revolution: opportunities and impacts of disruptive technologies on African social and economic structures

- h. Ensuring sustainable development through innovation – focusing attention on natural resources management, energy and climate change
- i. Challenges in and innovation for sustainable health and human wellbeing in Africa
- j. Challenges in and innovation for sustainable education
- k. Ensuring inclusive innovation and development – focusing attention on gender, youth and persons with disabilities.

### **Conference location and objectives**

The Fifth AfricaLics Conference will be hosted by University of Yaoundé II with Pan-African University, Institute for Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences (PAUGHSS) a local partner.

The conference intends to bring together up to 100 – 150 PhD students, early careers and established researchers and scholars from different disciplines with the overall aim of enhancing the quality of innovation studies in relation to development and growth in Africa.

The conference specifically aims at providing a space for presentation and discussion of research findings and for networking between researchers working in the field of innovation and development. It constitutes part of the AfricaLics efforts to build research capacity in Africa with strong links to users including policy makers and the private sector.

The main objectives of this conference are:

- To present and discuss state of the art research in the field of innovation and development in Africa with focus on the promotion of sustainable industrialization.
- To provide a much needed arena for researchers in Africa, particularly early career researchers, to build capacity in presenting and networking skills as well as learning about new methods and theories.
- To promote networking and create space for new collaborations amongst researchers in the field of innovation and development focusing on Africa.
- To build capacity to teach high quality, fit for purpose, curricula in the field of innovation and development in Africa.

The conference will be held over three days. The first and the second days will involve keynotes addresses and presentation of research papers in parallel tracks with panel discussions and plenary lectures. The third day will be devoted to learning and networking through workshops and collaborative research facilitation events. A draft programme will be posted on the conference web site in August/September 2022.

### **Paper submission and selection process**

We invite submission of original unpublished full papers for the conference. Submission of a full paper (in PDF) not exceeding 8,000 words (including notes, tables, appendices, list of references, etc.) can be submitted against any of the themes mentioned above. All papers should be made via the online submission system that will be available from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 at the conference website: <http://2022.africalics.org/call-for-papers>. Paper submissions will be accepted through this system up to the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

AfricaLics reserves the right to use available software to control for plagiarism and to take appropriate action in severe cases.

All papers submitted will then be peer reviewed by at least two members of the Conference Scientific Review Committee (to be made up of members of the local organizing committee in Cameroon; members of the AfricaLics Scientific Board and senior scholars from the AfricaLics community). Each paper will be reviewed by two reviewers and scored on relevance to the conference themes, originality, research methods and scientific quality.

Principal authors of accepted papers will be notified after 15 August 2022. Final papers must be up-loaded to the conference website by 10<sup>th</sup> October 2022.

**Other ways to participate**

In addition to participation as a presenter with an accepted paper, it will also be possible to participate as follows:

**Day delegate option:** A limited number of conference registrations will also be available for those who would like to participate for one or more days only without presenting their work, including e.g. policy makers interested in the topic. Registration fees will apply and such participants will be responsible for funding their own travel, subsistence and any other costs related to attending the conference. Details of how to apply for day delegate status will be made available from mid-August 2022 on the conference website.

**Conference registration, travel support and logistics**

**Registration for the conference** will open through an online system on 30<sup>th</sup> September 2022 available through a link on the conference website. Details of the registration process will be made available to all accepted paper presenters in the email detailing their papers’ acceptance. A small registration fee is payable by **ALL** participants of the conference. All delegates who may be interested in participating as non-paper presenters must pay the prescribed subsidized registration fee.

<b>Registration Fees</b>	<b>Senior researchers</b>	<b>PhD students</b>
High income countries	100USD	50USD
Upper middle-income countries	100USD	50USD
Low-income and lower middle-income countries	50USD	30USD
Participants from Cameroon	40USD	30 USD

**A limited amount of travel support funding is available** to support participation of PhD students and scholars from low and lower middle-income countries. PhD students and junior researchers will receive priority over senior researchers. **Applications for travel support should be submitted at the same time as submission of papers;** deadline for submission of travel support requests is 1 July 2022. Travel support is not guaranteed. For more details on eligibility, how to apply and the rules of travel support, please visit the conference website

**Complementary hotel accommodation** on a bed and breakfast basis will be available for one author (normally the lead author) per accepted research paper **ONLY**. All other participants will be expected to make their own hotel arrangements and cover the costs of their own hotel and subsistence

arrangements. Details of local hotels will be made available on the conference website nearer the time of the conference.

**Further information on registration and conference logistics** will be made available on the conference website from 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022.

### **Contact Details**

For further information on the call and submission of papers, please visit our conference website: <http://2022.africalics.org/>

If you have questions that cannot be answered using the website, please send a mail to [secretariat@africalics.org](mailto:secretariat@africalics.org) or to the LOC ([email to be created soon](#)).

### **Background to AfricaLics**

The African Network of Researchers in Learning, Innovation and Competence Building Systems (AfricaLics) is the African regional network for researchers involved in innovation and development research with a specific interest in promoting learning, innovation and competence building systems approaches. The network currently includes scholars from Algeria, Cameroon, Benin, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, Uganda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The formation of AfricaLics was centered on the following two rationales:

- A need to understand innovation and learning in the context of Africa – both from theoretical and practical perspectives.
- Given the fact that Africa lacks adequate capacity for the above purpose, a need for capacity building arose.

It was envisioned that the AfricaLics network could become a strong dynamo for capacity building in the specific field of innovation and economic development, both at the individual, institutional and country levels. This can allow African countries to design policies suitable and responsive to their own needs, and instigate corrective measures to ensure the smooth production, dissemination and use of knowledge for economic development, including poverty alleviation. For more information about AfricaLics, visit [www.africalics.org](http://www.africalics.org)

AfricaLics has received funding from the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) to conduct research capacity building activities to build research capabilities in the field of innovation and development. This includes funding to support a bi-annual research conference.

### **About University of Yaoundé II-Soa**

The University of Yaoundé II emerged from the former University of Yaoundé, founded in 1961 out of Presidential decree in 1993. It specializes in the teaching and research of social sciences through two branches: Economics, Law and Political Sciences, and Communication and Information Technologies. The university counts with a student body of nearly 30,000, as well as 316 teachers and 480 administrative staff. The University of Yaoundé II-Soa aims to become a virtual university.

Today, the University aims to be a Technopole in the social sciences including research centers, companies, academic institutions, as well as financial organizations that facilitate personal contacts

between these different entities. This Technopole wants to be the engine of public action in its diagnostic, evaluative and praxeological dimensions. Well beyond the functional needs created by the increasing complexity of the public policy environment, it intends to give meaning and innovation to the construction of the continuum between legal, political, economic, managerial, demographic and communication knowledge on the one hand and public action on the other.

To do this, the University of Yaoundé II-Soa relies on a training offer structured around:

- 5 institutions. - 26 pedagogical departments. - 30 Bachelor's degree programs (classical and professional). - 25 Master's programs (classical and professional). - 1 doctoral school with 09 doctoral training units;

And a research offer structured around:

- 9 research centers. - 5 chair programs. - 10 teams and networks of researchers. - 1 library of 200 places and - 4 documentary resource centers

### ***About PAU Institute for Governance, Humanities and Social Sciences***

The PAUGHSS is hosted at the University of Yaoundé II, Cameroon, representing Central Africa. It is one of the five Institutes of the Pan-African University. Established in 2002, the Institute presently comprises two Masters and Ph.D programmes in "Governance and Regional Development", quartered in the University of Yaoundé II-Soa and in "Translation and Conference Interpretation" based in the Advanced School of Translators and Interpreters (ASTI) of the University of Buea.

The "Governance and Regional Integration programme", seeks to give Africans the necessary intellectual and practical capabilities in the field of good governance, sustainable development and the promotion of Regional Development in Africa, while the "Translation and Conference Interpretation" programme enables young Africans to acquire the necessary skills in the field of Translation and Conference Interpretation as well as in the development of African and cross-border languages.

### **Conference Scientific Committee**

**ATANGANA ONDOA Henri** (University of Yaoundé II), **ASONGU Simplicie** (African Governance and Development Institute), **ASSIGA ATEBA Etienne Modeste** (University of Douala), **AVOM Désiré** (University of Yaoundé II), **BAHEL Eric** (Virginia TECH), **BAYE MENJO Francis** (University of Yaoundé II), **BIDIASSE Honoré** (University of Douala), **BIWOLE FOUA Jean** (University of Ngaoundéré) **CHAMENI Célestin** (University of Yaoundé II), **DIAW Adama** (University of Gaston Berger -Saint-Louis of Senegal), **DUFRENOT Gilles** (Aix-Marseille University), **EKOMIE Jean-Jacques** (Omar-Bongo University), **ETOUNDI Gilles** (University of Douala), **FOMBA KAMGA Benjamin** (University of Yaoundé II), **FOUDA Séraphin Magloire** (University of Yaoundé II), **MACHIKOU Nadine** (University of Yaounde II) **MBAYE Aly Ahmadou** (University of Cheikh Anta Diop), **MIGNAMISSI Michel** (University of Yaoundé II), **MINKOA SHE Adolphe** (Université de Yaoundé II), **MOUNGOU Sabine Epse MBENDA** (Université de Yaoundé II), **NGUIMKEU Pierre** (Georgia State University), **NIYONSABA SEBIGUNDA** (University of Goma), **NKAKENE Laurence** (University de Yaoundé II), **NTONO TSIMI Germain** (University de Yaoundé II), **OMGBA Luc Désiré** (University of Lorraine), **ONDOUA Alain-Franklin** (University of Yaounde II), **ONGO NKOA Bruno** (University of Dschang), **ONOMO Cyrille** (University of Douala), **PONDI Jean Emmanuel** (University of Yaounde II), **TOUNA MAMA**

(University of Yaounde II), **TSAFACK NANFOSSO Roger** (University of Dschang), **UM-NGOUEM Marie-Thérèse** (University of Dschang), **ZAHONOGO Pam** (University of Ouaga II).

The **AfricaLics Scientific Board** are part of the Conference Scientific Committee - Prof. David Kaplan, (University of Pretoria), Prof. Mammo Muchie (Tshwane University of Technology-TUT), Prof. Alex O. Vera-Cruz (UAM-Xochimilco, Mexico), Dr. Geci Karuri-Sebina (South African Cities Network and WITS University), Prof. Opeyemi Eytayo Ayinde (University of Illorin, Nigeria), Dr. Rajesh Gopalakrishnan Nair, (Jawaharlal Nehru University, India), Prof. Susan Cozzens (Georgia Institute of Technology, USA), Prof. Erika Kraemer Mbula (University of Johannesburg, South Africa), Dr. Diran Soumonni (WITS University, SA), Prof. Abdelkader Djeflat (University of Lille, France/MAGHTECH, Algeria), Dr. Bitrina Diyamett (Science, Technology and Innovation Policy Research Organization – STIPRO, Tanzania), Prof. Rasigan Maharajh (Institute for Economic Research on Innovation - IERI at Tshwane University of Technology -TUT, SA), Dr. Gregory Paulin Mvogo (ESSEC Business School, Cameroon), Dr. George Essegbey (CSIR- Science and Technology Policy Research Institute -STEPRI, Ghana); Prof. Rasmus Lema (UNU-MERIT, Netherlands & Denmark); Prof. Daniel Kitaw (Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia).

#### **Local Organizing Committee**

**Chairman of the committee:** Pr MINKOA SHE Adolphe, **Vice-Chairman:** Pr Nadine MACHIKOU (Vice-Rector in charge of Research, Cooperation and Relations with the Business World), **Technical Coordinator:** Pr Désiré AVOM (Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Management), **Rapporteur:** Pr Germain NTONO TSIMI (Director of Academic Affairs and Cooperation). **Members:** H.E. Daniel Urbain NDONGO, Director of the Institute of International Relations of Cameroon, Pr. Sabine MBENDA MOUNGOU, Pr. Henri ATANGANA ONDOA, Pr. Christopher NSOH, Dr. Grégory MVOGO, Dr. Prisca ASSIENE BISSOSSOLI, Dr. Thierry BEDZEME, M. Laurice ETEKI. Dr. Désire Djoumessi, Dr. Martin NDZANA

Local Organizing committee supported by **AfricaLics Secretariat** - Dr. Ann Kingiri (African Centre for Technology Studies - ACTS, Kenya), Prof. Rebecca Hanlin (ACTS/University of Johannesburg, SA), Dr. Margrethe Holm Andersen (Aalborg University, Denmark/Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, Kenya), Moses Owidhi (ACTS), Mourine Cheruiyot (ACTS), Ann Numi (ACTS) and Josephat Okemwa (ACTS).