



The Association
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Universities



OPEN IMPACT CONFERENCE 2019

Theme: Extending the frontiers of access to higher education in Africa: strategies for leveraging international open and distance learning programs

<http://business-school.open.ac.uk/events/open-impact-conference>

Call for papers

Proposals are invited from academics, researchers, technology innovators, development practitioners and partner institutions to submit proposals for presentations within the scope of the theme of the Open Impact Conference 2019 at **Hotel Africana**, Kampala, Uganda, from the 13th to the 14th December 2019. The conference will have the following types of sessions:

- **Paper Presentations:** These are research papers, case studies, etc., from the participants that will be presented in parallel sessions.
- **Poster Presentations:** There will be one poster session, where all the conference posters will be displayed.
- **Panel Discussions:** These are sessions of typically up to 40 minutes, where 3-4 presenters are identified as key participants and a moderator facilitates discussions. Proposals are submitted by the participants, and they identify the discussants. Normally, these are sessions where a conference partner and/or the proposer takes full responsibility.
- **Marketplace/Exhibition:** This is a place for one-to-one conversation with conference participants and the general public, where you can demonstrate and talk about your technology, OER or innovative services and practices.

Guidelines for Submission of Proposal

The Programme Committee of the Open Impact Conference 2019 invites you to submit your abstract/proposal for the conference as early as possible. The last date for submission of abstract/proposal is 17 September 2019. Abstracts/proposals should be written concisely and clearly (in English, the official language of the event) and in not more than 300 words. Interested individuals can submit more than one abstract/proposal, but only a maximum of two will be considered for presentation. Abstracts/proposals are to be submitted using an email system.

Please read and follow the instructions below before submitting your abstract/proposal.

Before Submission

Please ensure that you have carefully reviewed the overall theme and sub-theme descriptions and submit your abstract/proposal for only one sub-theme. You will need to indicate your chosen sub-



theme at the abstract submission stage. The abstract/proposal must convey the importance and relevance of the topic to the conference theme and sub-theme. Some indicative topics (the list is not exhaustive) are presented in the table below:

| Track | Business & Law (1) | Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (2) | Arts & Social Sciences (3) | Education & Language Studies (4) | Energy use & Sustainable development (5) | Mixed (6) |
|--|--|--|----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|-----------|
| Strand | | | | | | |
| A. Employability in new frontiers | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifying and addressing key issues under each cluster Special relevance for new frontiers markets Strengthening international collaboration Reaching the rural communities and devising effective strategies Strategies to strengthen ODL in new frontiers Strategies to strengthen duo-mode delivery Meeting UN SDGs Innovations around ODL in new frontiers Africa's youth and evolving dynamics Strategies to contribute to emerging institutions and policy frameworks Strategies to support growing job mobility and cross-border projects Imagining the University of the future in Africa. ODL and unexplored possibilities Addressing technology barriers in ODL. Fast-tracked solutions ETC | | | | | |
| B. Entrepreneurship in new frontiers | | | | | | |
| C. Emerging themes in ODL for new frontiers (technology, accessibility, international partnerships, MOOCS, FutureLearn, etc.) | | | | | | |

Criteria for Abstracts/Proposals Selection

Abstracts/Proposals submitted shall be peer-reviewed and selected based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the sub-theme
- Clarity of the overview of the paper
- Brief explanation of the methodology used (or proposed to be used)
- Significance of the paper
- Clear, unambiguous and written in acceptable standard

In cases of multiple submissions of the same abstract/paper submission, the latest entry will be considered. All previous entries will be deleted without notification.

Submission Process

We are using an email system for receiving abstracts and papers for the Open Impact Conference.



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Steps to Submit Abstracts/Proposals

To start the submission process, use the heading: **Abstract/Proposal for Open Impact Conference 2019** (strand/track combination - e.g. **A5**) in an email to the following address:

open-impact@open.ac.uk

Before submitting the proposal, you are advised to have the following ready:

- 1) Decide the specific strand and track of the conference to which you plan to submit, for example **A5** (Employability in new frontiers / Energy use & Sustainable development)
- 2) Mention your sub-theme/strand combination in brackets in the heading
- 3) Mention at least 3 keywords that apply to your abstract/paper in the body of the email.
- 4) Name the institution you are affiliated with. If you are not affiliated with any organisation, kindly write "INDIVIDUAL" instead.

Publication

The best conference papers will be included in the first edition of a new journal (**Open Impact Journal**) to be associated with the conference. Some others will be further recommended for publication in at least one partnering journal the conference will work with. The partnering journal will reserve the right for further paper review.

Deadlines

- Submission of abstracts/proposals: September 17, 2019 (maximum 300 words, blind review compliant)
- Notification of acceptance of abstracts/proposals: September 22, 2019
- Submission of full papers: October 20, 2019 (5,000-6,000 words, Times Roman, 12-point, double spacing, blind review compliant)
- Notification of acceptance of full papers: October 31, 2019

Conference fees

Note that all fees include catering, materials and other services for the conference over one and a half days, but **do not** include accommodation. The conference organisers will however negotiate a discount at the hosting hotel (Hotel Africana, Kampala).

Early bird registration and payment (by 3rd November 2019):

Ugandan (standard): **Ugx 250 000 (Ticket priced at £55 GBP)**



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Ugandan (student): **Ugx 150 000 (Ticket priced at £33 GBP)**

African (non-Ugandan, standard): **US\$ 100 (Ticket priced at £80 GBP)**

African (non-Ugandan, student): **US\$ 60 (Ticket priced at £50 GBP)**

Rest of world (standard): **US\$ 215 (Ticket priced at £175 GBP)**

Rest of world (student): **US\$ 150 (Ticket priced at £125 GBP)**

Late registration and payment (from 4th November 2019 to event date):

10% mark-up on all early bird rates above.

Payment and registration system using Eventbrite:

Click on this link please:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/open-impact-conference-tickets-66888044943>

From Eventbrite page click on the green tickets button, from there select the number and type of tickets you want to purchase. Click on the green checkout button to proceed to payment. Payment is by credit card (Visa, Mastercard or American Express) only. Payment will be taken in £ GBP.

On the payment page you will be asked for some delegate ticket buyer details:

- First name, surname and email address.
- Credit cards details
- Billing information (your registered address with your credit card bank)

To complete the transaction, click on the green payment button.

For enquiries, please contact:

open-impact@open.ac.uk

Sightseeing trip:

For international participants, you have the option of registering for a one-day Safari to the globally famous Source of the Nile in Jinja, including a stop-over in Mabira forest to enjoy some of the most beautiful tropical vegetation and bird encounters. Departure at 8 am and return by 7 pm on Sunday, the 15th of December 2019. Chill off a bit in the Pearl of Africa before you depart.

Additional cost: US\$ 100

Reserve using the contacts above.