



GAUTENG PROVINCE
CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND
TRADITIONAL AFFAIRS
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



2017 ACECD

Africa Conference on Economic Costs of Disasters

**23-25 October 2017
Johannesburg, South Africa**

www.gravitazzacecd.com

EXTENSION DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND POSTERS:

23rd JUNE 2017

CALL FOR PAPERS

MASTERS POSTER SESSION

STUDENT SPONSORSHIP

**Topic: *Africa Conference on Economic Costs of Disasters
(ACECD 2017)***

Theme: *The Role of the Private Sector in Disaster Risk Reduction*

The Africa Conference on Economic Costs of Disasters with a focus on **The Role of The Private Sector in Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)** will take place in Johannesburg, South Africa, between 23-25 October, 2017. It will be **the first continental Conference to focus exclusively on the active involvement of the private sector in DRR**. This high-level platform will bring together decision-makers from both the private and public sectors - including industry leaders, entrepreneurs, practitioners, scientists, national and local government officials, environment and development economists, academia, civil society organisations

Steering Committee: Dr. Pacôme AHOKPOSSI (Chair), Mr. Millan ATAM, Mr. Joseph Kimuli BALIKUDEMBE, Ms. Kehinde BALOGUN, Dr. Audrey CASH (Co-Chair), Ms. Beatriz Lopez-Fanjul DIEZ DEL CORRAL, Mr. Bibhuti Bhusan GADANAYAK, Ms. Vilma HOSSINI, Dr. Wilfred LUNGA, Prof. Justice Sama NCHUNU, Dr. Elias Bongani SITHOLE, Dr. Mmaphaka TAU

and other stakeholder groups - to discuss the current and future economic impacts of disasters on the African continent. The Conference will further explore best practices and approaches for stronger collaboration between government and the private sector for DRR, building resilience and contribution to the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Agenda 2030 and towards Agenda 2063 in Africa.

The Conference will carefully examine the significant role of the private sector and its investments in Disaster Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery. It will further serve as platform for governments to discuss the best partnership approaches with private sector companies. It also offers an opportunity for Non-Governmental Organisations to interact with both government and private sector stakeholders and to explore opportunities and synergies. In addition, this Conference is expected to inform the future direction on implementation of the Sendai Framework as well as strategies on how the private sector can actively invest in DRR in order to reduce economic losses and help build a more resilient Africa.

The sub-themes of the Conference focus on the four priorities of action of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030 (SFDRR) with an emphasis on the opportunities for contribution. Areas of intervention will be broken down according to industries and linked to the Sendai priorities namely:

- **Priority 1:** Understanding disaster risk;
- **Priority 2:** Strengthening disaster risk governance to manage disaster risk;
- **Priority 3:** Investing in Disaster Risk Reduction for resilience;
- **Priority 4:** Enhancing disaster preparedness for effective response and to “Build Back Better” in recovery, rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Private sector industries which have been identified include, but are not limited to:

- Banking and Finance
- Insurance
- Urban Resilience
- Specialised Service Providers
- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene
- Education
- Construction
- Extractive Industries
- Information Technology and Telecommunications
- Mining
- Food Technology
- Manufacturing
- Retail
- Logistics
- Agriculture
- Health
- Pharmaceutical

We invite interested professionals such as academics, higher education students, practitioners and decision-makers across the African continent and beyond to submit papers on topics of their choice that consider how best to involve the private sector in DRR focusing on the four priorities of the SFDRR and the possible topics provided below.

Master students or interns at NGO's and other organisations are invited to submit posters on topics of their choice that relate to the Conference.

Possible topics to focus on include¹:

- Investing in DRR to better understand Disaster Risk
- Encouraging the development of innovative products and services to enhance DRR
- Reducing disaster related economic losses and building resilience in the Health / Agricultural Sector
- The economic impacts of food quality losses
- Ensuring the mainstreaming of age, gender and disability in DRR
- Costs and solution to climate-related migration
- DRR public investment

¹¹ This list is not exhaustive and contributors are encouraged to bring in other areas of focus around the theme areas.
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- Disaster risk finance mechanisms and approaches in Africa
- Strengthening disaster risk governance through the promotion of Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in DRR
- Finding new innovative ways of investing in disaster risk for resilience: by involving the banking, finance, accounting and insurance firms
- Building resilient cities and infrastructure for the African continent
- Climate risk insurance mechanisms at Macro, Meso, and Micro levels
- Promoting risk-sensitive investments for building resilience
- Safeguarding the livelihoods of vulnerable people and communities through micro-finance initiatives
- Enhancing disaster preparedness through investing in "Building Back Better"

How to Submit your abstract

1. Abstracts and posters should be submitted electronically to the Conference website or to the Conference administration at info@gravitazzci.org
2. Languages of abstract submission: English and French
3. Abstracts will be accepted as oral or poster presentations

4. Timeline

EXTENSION DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS AND POSTERS: 23rd of June 2017

Final notice of approval of abstracts and Posters: 10th of July, 2017

Deadline for submission of full papers and Posters: 6th of October, 2017

Conference dates: 23-25 October, 2017

5. The selection of papers and posters shall be based on the abstracts and posters submitted; presenters will be notified whether they have been successful by the **10th of July 2017**
6. The full paper and poster are due on the **6th of October 2017** and must be an original submission not presented or published elsewhere
7. **Papers should be no more than 4,000 words, single spaced in Times New Roman 12 point**

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8. For selected papers, 15 minutes will be allowed for a summary delivery of the paper during the Conference
9. The author(s) should indicate his/her personal full contact details, institutional affiliation where applicable, and include a brief biographical note with the paper
10. A number of papers will be selected for publication in the **Gravitazz Quarterly Publication Series**: ACECD 2017 Edition as an outcome of the Conference. The papers to be published will be those that will have passed a blind peer review process.
11. A Technical Committee has been established that will peer review the papers selected and provide expert advice to ACECD.

Selection

Full abstracts (300 words) should be prepared following the template provided below. Each abstract will be blind peer reviewed by members of the ACECD 2017 Steering Committee.

Abbreviated abstracts or late submissions will not be considered.

<i>Purpose of this paper</i>	What are the objectives of the research?
<i>Theme</i>	How does it relate to the theme of the Conference?
<i>Design / methodology / approach</i>	How are the objectives achieved? Include the main method(s) used for the study. What is the approach to the topic and what is the theoretical or subject scope of the paper?
<i>Findings (if applicable)</i>	What was found in the course of the work? This will refer to analysis, discussion or results. (<i>Preliminary findings or research hypotheses, if</i>

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	<i>research is still underway)</i>
<i>Practical implications (if applicable)</i>	What outcomes and implications for practice, applications and consequences are identified? All papers should have practical applications. What changes to practice might be made as a result of this research/paper?
<i>What is originality / value of paper</i>	What is new in the paper? State the added value of the paper and to whom.

We are looking forward to receiving your abstracts and welcoming you to ACECD 2017 in October. As we receive your papers and collate the research, we will finalise the Conference programme and communicate accordingly.

Should you have any questions in the meantime, do not hesitate to e-mail the Conference administration at info@gravitazzci.org. For more details visit the Conference website at www.gravitazzacecd.com.



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Call for Applications for Student Sponsorship

Africa Conference on Economic Costs for Disasters: The Role of the Private Sector in Disaster Risk Reduction

Date: 23rd to 25th October, 2017

Location: Johannesburg, South Africa

Stand a chance to be sponsored to attend and participate in the first Africa Conference on Economic Costs of Disasters!

Requirements

1. Master Students (African nationals)
2. Currently focusing on DRR, Climate Change Adaptation, Public-Private Partnerships, Economics, and any other theme related to the topic.
3. Prepare a one page motivational letter outlining the reasons for being sponsored for the Conference.
4. Sponsored students should be ready to actively contribute to the Conference through, for instance, moderating a workshop session, contributing to compiling proceedings, and/or interviewing guests.

NB: Should sponsored students want to present a paper, they will have to go through the normal abstract submission and selection process.

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