

2026

11th

**IPADA ANNUAL
INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE**

**“AFRICA’S GROWTH, DEVELOPMENTAL
COMPLEXITIES AND NEW PERSPECTIVES”**

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS EXTENDED TO 30 JUNE 2026



**Moses Kotane
Research Institute**

Research • Innovation • Excellence

CALL FOR PAPERS

08-11 September 2026

Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani Hotel, Durban



**International Conference
on Public Administration
and Development
Alternatives**

“AFRICA’S GROWTH, DEVELOPMENTAL COMPLEXITIES AND NEW PERSPECTIVES”

The **Organising Committee of the International Conference on Public Administration and Development Alternatives (IPADA)** in collaboration with **Moses Kotane Research Institute (MKRI)** under the theme “**Africa’s Growth, Developmental Complexities and New Perspectives**” invites submissions for its **11th Annual International Conference** to be held at **Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani Hotel, Durban** from 8-11 September 2026. The target delegates for the Conference are Academics, Development experts, Public Administration Practitioners, Politicians, Local Government Officials and Post Graduate students.

1. THEMES OR TRACKS: ABSTRACTS OR PAPERS

1. Africa and the Economy	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • General economic conditions • Poverty and inequality • The level of the economy • Economic governance • Sustainable economic practices
2. Global Politics and Sustainable Economy	These papers are to address specific questions of and not limited to: • Global politics and the economy • Global actors in politics, economy and culture • Chinese economic growth partnerships in Africa • Economic models pursuing good economy • Political models suitable for developing economies • Economic superpowers • Global economic growth • Strategies for improving economy
3. Africa’s Economy and Governance Mechanisms	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Principles of good economic governance and development • Role players in the African economy • African Theories of the economy • Government machinery and the economy

4. Development Projects and AID	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Development benefit and stakeholders • Development funding and Aid • Development management and governance • Development projects and communities • Development stakeholder challenges and problems
5. Development Concepts and Practices	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • The Concept of Development • Local and international projects. • The nature of development practices and implementation • Development challenges and problems
6. Development Finances, Financial Institutions and International Relations	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Development finances • International financial institutions • Global politics and financial support • Internationalisation and sovereignty of states • Global political powers
7. Development Planning, Management and Development Goals	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Concept of development • Current and future development challenges • Sustainable development • Development planning and management • Millenium development goals
8. Local Government Administration and Development	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • The role of local government in development • Local government stakeholders • Developmental local government • Local government training • Local government research • Local government elections and politics

9. Local Government and the Economy	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Local government administration • Local government finances • Role of local government in local economic development. • Challenges of the local economic development space
10. Research, Innovation and Scholarship	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Critical areas of impactful research • Commercialisation of research • Innovative ideas • Collaborative research • Innovative solutions
11. Elections, Democracies and Governance	Papers should address issues relating to and not limited to: • Elections and the public • Democracy and governance • Case studies of good governance and bad governance • Crisis of governance in developing countries • Elected officials and governance
12. Public Administration Ethics and Governance	Papers in this category are to answer the moral administrative phenomenon in government: • Corruption as a result of poor governance • Ethics and governance • Moral based public administration • Effective governance models • Foreign governance models and the African economic environment
13. Law, Sustainable Development and Administration	These papers should answer questions on and not limited to: • Law and sustainable development • Development law • Law and administration • Contemporary issues on law and administration

14. Public Finance, Auditing and Financial Management	These papers will answer questions relating to the management of public finances and not limited to: • Auditing and effective public administration • Responsible public financial management • Compliance and public accountability • Public participation in budgeting • Cooperative governance and auditing
15. Sustainable Global Partnerships and Political Economy	These papers are to address specific questions of and not limited to: • Global actors in politics, economy and culture • Chinese economic growth and partnerships in Africa • Political and economic models suitable for developing economies • Sustainable Development Goals
16. Predictive and Futuristic, Political and Economic Models	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Predictive analysis of futuristic politics • Futuristic economic analysis • Models of predictions • Sustainable politics
17. Global Politics and International Relations	These papers are to address specific questions of and not limited to: • Public administration and the global community • The global economic impact of the Ukraine-Russian war • The sovereignty of states • Global civil society • The spillover effects of globalisation
18. Sovereignty, Defense, Safety and Security	The papers in this category are to talk to issues relating and not limited to: • United Nations Security Council • Military interventions for global and regional peace • Military role in peacekeeping • Peace and border controls • Sovereignty of African states

19. Modern States and External Economic Dependency	Papers in this category shall focus on and not limited to: • The role of modern states in effective Economic administration • The modern State and the state of public service delivery • The modern State and the Economic dependence • The modern State and international relations
20. Education, Information Technology, Communication, Language, Media and Journalism	Papers in this category should focus on and not limited to: • The role of educational institutions in the country's economy • Information and communication technology and security of the State • Technology, economy and political solutions • Media economics • Media and politics • Journalistic influences and public opinions
21. Land Development and Agriculture	Papers in this category should focus on and not limited to: • Land ownership • The economy of land and the public • Land administration and governance • Land expropriations and agricultural economy • Land economics
22. Business, Procurement and Entrepreneurship	Papers in this category should answer to issues pertaining and not limited to: • Business and the economy • Entrepreneurship development and the economy • Business and politics of public Administration
23. Public Procurement and Corruption Challenges	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Procurement in public administration • Supply chain practices • Value for money in public procurement • Procurement corruption

24. Human Resources and Labour Practices	Papers in this category should focus on issues pertaining and not limited to: • Labour movements • Human Resources • Labour politics • Labour Economics • Trade Unionism
25. Trade Unionism and Organisational Challenges	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Nominations and elections of union leaders • Unions and transformative leadership in educational institutions • Unions and organisational performance • Unionism and management of organisations
26. Public Health and Social Development	Papers in this category should focus on and not limited to: • Status of Health Conditions • Public Health policies • Public Health programmes • Health facilities and access • General administration of health schemes and policies
27. Public Transport, Logistics and Management	Papers in this category are to focus and not limited to: • Public transport policies • Transport Economics • Public transport research • Public sector transport management • Cross Border Transport
28. Higher Education Governance and Student Affairs	Papers in this category are to focus on issues relating to and not limited to: • The role of the State in higher education • Governance in higher education • Higher education and public administration • Higher education student affairs and the economy

29. Arts, Heritage and Tourism	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • The current and future of heritage sites • Cultural tourism • Appreciation of nature • Monuments • Global tourism issues
30. Artificial Intelligent, Research Ethics and Knowledge Integrity	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Policies on the use of Artificial intelligence • Artificial Intelligence and research ethics • Integrity of knowledge in the era of Artificial Intelligence • Abuse of Artificial Intelligence tools for research • The effect of Artificial Intelligence on research • Artificial Intelligence and new innovation • Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Postgraduates and academia
31. Manufacturing, Oceanic and Marine Economy	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Oceanic Economy • Marine Economy • Manufacturing Economy
32. Disability, Human Rights and Quality of Life	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • Accessibility and inclusion • Economic empowerment • Policy and advocacy • Family and caregiving
33. Legislatures, Political Parties and Functions	Papers in this category are to look at and not limited to: • The effective roles of legislature • Law making functions and challenges • Opposition politics and opposition debates • Effective functions of oversight bodies • Coalitions and Governments of National Unity

34. State Capture, Commercial Crime and Global Syndicates	Papers in this category should focus on and not limited to: • State Capture and detrimental economic effects • Forms of State Capture • Global Commercial Crime and Networks • Global Criminal syndicates and the economy
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2. SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

Delegates can submit abstracts of less than 350 words on any one or combination(s) of the specific themes stated above. However, each delegate can only submit a maximum of three (3) abstracts. Abstracts should be sent to the Conference Chair at: lpadaconference@gmail.com / info@ipadaconference.co.za.

3. PAPER SUBMISSION & PUBLICATION OF THE CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Authors who need their papers to be published in the conference proceedings would have to submit their full papers before the due date. Papers to be considered for publication will undergo a rigorous triple blind peer review process. Only papers that receive favourable review from the Specialist referees selected by the Organising Committee will be considered for publication. Selected papers will be published in the ***International Conference on Public Administration and Development Alternatives***. ISBN: 978-1-0492-4357-3 (print) and ISBN: 978-1-0492-4358-0 (e-book).

4. MANUSCRIPT GUIDELINES

Abstract: Delegates are expected to submit abstracts of not more than 350 words in line with above stated themes. Submission of abstracts should constitute two pages: 1) Title page that includes Title of submission, Name of Author, Affiliation and Contact Information as well as the Theme of their choice; 2) the second page must only have the Title of the Paper proposed and the Abstract. The submission date of this part is **30 April 2026**.

The Paper: Full papers should be submitted on or before **31 July 2026** for peer review consideration. Papers should be written in Arial 12pt, 1.5 line-spacing and justified margins with the following guidelines:

- The paper should include title page (title, author(s) names, and affiliations), abstract including five keywords (350 words), the main body, conclusion and references.
- The length of the paper should be confined to a range of 4500-6000 words.
- The title of the paper should be descriptive and concise. Authors are encouraged to avoid wordy titles.
- Papers should be divided into subheadings and be paginated.
- Authors are limited to submitting a maximum of three (3) papers for presentation at the conference. No more than two (2) papers will be published in the Conference proceedings.
- The editorial team will subject all abstracts and papers to a triple blind peer review, although the decision of the editorial team on the acceptability of the paper cannot be contested.

5. REFERENCE STYLE

1. The reference style required for submission is strictly *Harvard*. Authors are required to follow this style specification consistently. The editorial team will reject papers with faulty referencing.
2. For *direct quotations*, authors should use double quotation marks (and a single quotation for within the quotes) and page numbers should be provided for direct quoted material as illustrated below:

“Public administration is concerned with application of resources to deliver political ends” (Sebola, 2023:45).
3. Where multiple-sources citations are used within the text, they should be arranged chronologically in the years they are published (Sebola, 2020; Tsheola, 2021; Molokwane & Sebola, 2022; Mamabolo and Hlongwane, 2023). Authors should observe closely the use of alphabetic order for sources published in the same year (Mamabolo, 2023; Sebola, 2023; Tsheola & Sebola, 2023).
4. Multiple-Authors (more than two): Authors are advised to mention all the authors at first use within the text and state first author’s surname *et al.* in subsequent uses (all authors must be mentioned in the list of references). Authors are advised to use ampersand (&) instead of the word “and” for multiple authors sources (Sebake & Ramolobe, 2024).
5. Where there is more than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year, they should be identified using letters “a”, “b” and so on, after the year of publication (Motubatse, 2024a) or (Motubatse, 2024b).
6. References should be arranged in alphabetic order at the end of the paper; under the heading References; and this heading and citation details or references should not be numbered.
7. Acknowledgements should be inserted at the end of the paper just above the list of references, under the heading acknowledgements and should not be numbered.
8. Reference layout:
 - a) Book: Sebake (2023) - Author as part of text; (Sebake, 2023) – Author as not part of the text; Sebake (2023:150) – Direct quotation; Sebake (2023, cited in Mudau, 2023:119) – indirect quote within quote. Sebake, B.K. 2023. *Governance in the 21st Century: A guide for developing Countries*. London: SAGE.
 - b) Edited Books: Sebola M.P. & Tsheola J.P. (eds.). 2024. *E-governance in complex organisations*. Cape Town: Juta & Co.
 - c) Chapter in Edited Book: Ndou, S.D. 2024. The Complexity of networked organisations. In Sebola M.P. & Tsheola J.P. (eds.) *E-governance in Complex organisations*. Cape Town: Juta & Co.
 - d) Journal Article: Mamabolo, M.A. 2023. Government and Society at the Edge of Chaos: *Journal of Complex Socials*, 32(1):344-362.
 - e) Institutional Authors: Republic of South Africa – RSA (1996) – first use RSA (1996) – subsequent use: Republic of South Africa (RSA), 1996. *The Constitution of the Republic of South Africa*. Pretoria: Government Printers.
 - f) Internet Sources: The Republic of South Africa (RSA), 2013. Growth and employment indicators. <http://www.polity.org.za/govdocs/policy/grow/>. Accessed 14 January 2024.

6. REGISTRATION FEES

Fees		
Delegates	National Delegates	R 7 250
	International Delegates	\$ 430

7. PAYMENTS OF REGISTRATION FEES

Registration fees are payable through the following bank details:

Name: International Conference on Public Administration and Development Alternatives

Reference: *Authors Names and Manuscript number*

Bank: Standard Bank

Account: 10107088191

Branch: Polokwane

Branch Code: 052548

Swift Code: SBZAJJ

NB: Make sure that you state the reference on the deposit slip. Kindly email proof of payment to: ipadaconference@gmail.com / info@ipadaconference.co.za

8. IMPORTANT DATES

Important Dates	
Submission of Abstracts	30 June 2026
Submission of Full Papers	31 July 2026
Submission of Revised Papers	30 September 2026
Conference Registration Fees	30 June 2026
Gala-Dinner	10 September 2026
Conference Days	8-11 September 2026

9. CONFERENCE VENUE

**SOUTHERN SUN ELANGENI & MAHARANI,
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA**

Central Reservations Office

Telephone: 031 362 1300

Email: Busisiwe.Shabane@southernsun.com.

Contact Person: Busisiwe Shabane

10. ACCOMMODATION/ BOOKINGS

Delegates are responsible for arranging and paying for their own accommodation. Arrangements can be made directly with the **Southern Sun Elangeni & Maharani** on the above-mentioned contacts.

11. CONTACT PERSONS

For further details about the conference, you can contact:

Chair: Prof Mokoko Sebola

Tel: 015 290 2853

Cell: 082 085 6556

Email: ipadaconference@gmail.com
info@ipadaconference.co.za

Admin: Malemela Mamabolo

Tel: 015 290 2853

Cell: 072 430 8194

Email: ipadaconference@gmail.com
info@ipadaconference.co.za



Moses Kotane
Research Institute