

# Young Scientists' Conference Announcement and Call for Abstracts

Jointly hosted by the:  
Department of Science and Technology  
Academy of Science of South Africa  
South African Young Academy of Science

Date: 28 – 29 October 2019

Theme: Migration, Displacement and Mobility in Africa:  
Complex Issues in Current Times

Venue: Gauteng, Johannesburg



## 1. Introduction

The Department of Science and Technology (DST), the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) and the South African Young Academy of Science (SAYAS) will be hosting the Annual Young Scientists' Conference on 28 – 29 October 2019.

ASSAf, together with its partners, is seeking young scientists based in South Africa to participate in this conference. This multilateral conference will provide a platform for scientific exchange among senior and young scientists in interrogating some of the biggest issues facing migrants today - and what can be done to solve them.

## 2. Background

Recent years have seen global migration policy discussions being increasingly driven by moral panics – public anxiety about issues thought to threaten the moral standards of society. In 2018, two Global Compacts – agreed principles to guide an international response - for (1) 'Refugees' and (2) 'Safe, Regular, and Orderly Migration' were implemented but the ways in which these Compacts will influence policy making and programming at the local level are unknown. In 2019, will these Global Compacts support or hinder the development and implementation of appropriate responses to migration in Africa? Key concerns include the continued side-lining of internal/domestic migration patterns, by far the largest form of movement on the continent, and the role of 'Europe in Africa' in relation to the ways in which the management of migration from Africa to Europe is increasingly being outsourced to African nations. What do these concerns mean for the social and economic development trajectories of the African continent, and for the protection of people on the move? The African Union has declared 2019 as the Year of Migration, Displacement and Mobility in Africa. To this end, this Annual Young Scientist Conference will focus on this theme with the aim of unpacking complex issues in current times in order to provide critical thought for improved ways forward to respond to diverse migration movements across the continent.

## 3. Conference Themes

The conference will explore the following sub-themes:

1. The devil is in the detail: Responding to international migration
2. Reshaping humanitarian aid: The case for a shared responsibility
3. The New Urban Agenda: Migration, livelihoods, social welfare and the case for integrated development plans
4. Re-imagining migration: Big data and opportunities for technological and scientific innovation
5. Social capital, resilience and social networks among migrant groups
6. Researching migration: Developing an African agenda for Africa
7. Gender, Health and Migration

Note: Further explanations of the sub-themes can be accessed on the [ASSAf website](#).

## 4. Eligibility

This call is open to early career researchers who are based in South Africa. Applicants should meet the following criteria to participate:

- Be based in South Africa

- Be under the age of forty (40)
- Be in possession of at least a Masters degree
- Have research interests in the conference sub-themes
- Commit to be present for the duration of the conference
- Submit an abstract that is relevant to the theme of the conference and will be the basis for a presentation at the conference
- Be willing to present and share current research results at the conference

## 5. Conference Participation and Application

ASSAf invites submission of abstracts for oral and poster presentations in one of the sub-themes indicated above. As part of underscoring the importance of addressing the theme of the conference, authors should clearly articulate their focus and argumentation as well as show how their abstract will contribute towards critical understandings and further interrogation of migration. An inter-disciplinary approach is encouraged with an analysis of policy and recommendations for reform and programme designs where there are gaps.

The attached application form should be completed and sent to [Edith@assaf.org.za](mailto:Edith@assaf.org.za) Tel: +27 (0)12 349 6614 by **Wednesday, 31 July, 2019**. There is no registration fee to attend the conference. Further information about the conference will be circulated to successful applicants.

## 6. Call for Abstracts

### 6.1. Abstract Format and Submission

The abstracts should follow the following format:

- Abstract must not be more than 300 words (excluding Title, Author and Institution) in the attached form
- Abstract must be written in English
- Abstract title must be in boldface, capital letters (lowercase) and centered
- Abstract font must be Century Gothic 11 with A4 set up margins
- Abstract must include the following information:
  - Title, Author(s), Institution(s)
  - Name of first-author should be underlined (Please do not underline co-authors)
  - Institutional affiliations, city, province for all authors
  - The superscript numbering must be in front of each initial and surname of each author
- Where appropriate, the text may be structured using the following headings:
  - Introduction or Objectives
  - Methods
  - Results
  - Conclusions

### 6.2. Example of an abstract title

## Assessment of risk factors associated with maternal mortality in rural Tanzania ← 14 pts, centered, lowercase and bold

<sup>1</sup> E Allah, <sup>2</sup>G Mbaruku, <sup>3</sup>K Kahn ← 11pts, centered  
(presenting author to be underlined, number superscript in front of initial and surname)

<sup>1</sup> KEMRI/CDC Research and Public Health Collaboration, <sup>2</sup>Ifakara Health Institute, <sup>3</sup>MRC/Wits Rural Public Health and Health Transitions Research Unit (Agincourt)  
(number superscript in front of organisation)

### 6.3. Oral Presentations

All oral presentations will be conducted in English.

### 6.4. Poster Presentations

Accepted posters will be displayed at the conference venue and full details and specifications will be provided in the abstract acceptance letter.

### 7. Other Presentation formats

These are encouraged for submission to encourage dialogue and different ways of exploring the key issues. These can include literature (including drama, poetry, storytelling and prose), performing arts (among them dance and music), and visual arts (including film and photography). Please detail and indicate these alternative formats to the contact person below for consideration.

### 8. General Conference Information

For any further information on the conference please contact:

Ms Edith Shikumo    Tel: +27 (0)12 349 6614    Email: [Edith@assaf.org.za](mailto:Edith@assaf.org.za)

**Application Deadline: 31 July 2019**

