



## **African Library & Information Associations & Institutions**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF CONFERENCE & CALL FOR ABSTRACTS FOR PAPERS, POSTERS, IGNITE TALKS & BIG IDEAS PODIUM PROPOSALS**

#### **5<sup>th</sup> AfLIA Conference and 7<sup>th</sup> African Libraries Summit**

A major mandate of AfLIA, as the Library and Information Association for Africa is to build the capacity of librarians and other professionals within the African library sector so that they can clearly read the times and between the lines of trends and developments within the information and knowledge ecosystem. This will then guide librarians in the acquisition of requisite skills and knowledge that will enable them to offer cutting edge needful modern services to people on the African continent for improved lives and sustainable development.

AfLIA will hold its 5<sup>th</sup> Conference and 7<sup>th</sup> African Libraries Summit for:

LIS practitioners in all Library types

LIS educators

LIS policy makers

Organizations and professionals working in partnership with African libraries

#### **A. THEME:**

#### **Future of learning, libraries and sustainable development in Africa**

Subthemes -

- African libraries as digital classrooms and e-learning hubs
- Libraries and equitable access to learning in Africa; present and future
- Online courses, Massive Open Online Courses and African libraries
- Technology-driven teaching, learning and research for sustainable development; fitting libraries into the mix
- Modern curricula, pedagogy, African libraries and sustainable development
- Decolonizing educational content for the future of learning in Africa
- Mapping the digital skills of African librarians for e-learning information service delivery

- Informal education, vocational training, and skill acquisition through libraries
- The Open ecosystem, libraries and the future of learning in Africa
- Place of indigenous knowledge in the future of learning and sustainable development in Africa.
- Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite broadband and the future of learning in Africa
- Libraries and STEM learning in Africa
- Basic literacy, libraries and the future of learning in Africa
- Libraries, inequalities, social justice and the future of learning in Africa
- and libraries in Africa
- Library and information services through digital libraries and open access repositories in Africa
- Library apps in Africa
- African libraries, human resource development and e-learning
- E-learning and digital skills for seniors and life-long learners in African libraries
- Library friendly e-learning platforms
- Paradigm shift through the leadership of library information professionals
- Project management in libraries, an asset for library sustainability

## **B. SPECIAL SESSIONS**

**Papers can also be submitted for these special sessions within the conference. However, please note that the presentations must strictly fall within the ambit of the sessions and will serve as part of the discussion points for the workshops.**

1. UNESCO OER recommendation workshop
2. Libraries, linked data and Wikidata workshop
3. Climate crisis: Manifesto for African libraries workshop
4. Managing perceptions about libraries for stakeholders engagement session

## **C. EXPECTED OUTCOMES**

It is expected that by the end of the Conference and Summit, participants would have been able to:

- ✓ Understand the different strands and possibilities in the future of learning as well as how different library types can navigate the terrain in ensuring that they offer library and information services that will drive learning
- ✓ Explore pathways for turning libraries into digital classrooms and learning hubs.
- ✓ Expand their knowledge as pertain to the roles librarians play in decolonizing educational content for the future of learning in Africa
- ✓ Rethink the place of libraries in driving online courses, MOOCs, technology-driven teaching, learning and research for sustainable development
- ✓ Have enhanced capacity in adopting and implementing UNESCO's OER recommendation
- ✓ Comprehend and be equipped to lead advocacy on public access and digital infrastructure in Africa
- ✓ Understand climate crisis and the role of libraries in education and mitigating the fallout of climate change
- ✓ Learn how Wikidata works and how it can be used to create visibility of library collections
- ✓ Rethink social justice and knowledge equity within the framework of library and information services

## **D. IMPORTANT DATES (DEADLINES)**

### **Papers**

- Submission of Abstracts for papers - 15<sup>th</sup> October, 2022
- Notification of Acceptance/Rejection - 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2022
- Submission of full papers - 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2023
- Submission of presentation slides (PowerPoint) -5<sup>th</sup> March 2023

### **Posters**

- Submission of description for Posters –15<sup>th</sup> October 2022
- Notification of Acceptance/Rejection – 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- Submission of the representation (picture) of full poster – 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

### **Ignite Talks**

- Submission of description for Ignite Talks –15<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- Notification of Acceptance/Rejection –15<sup>th</sup> December 2022
- Submission of presentation slides (PowerPoint) –21<sup>st</sup> February, 2023

### **Big Ideas Podium**

- Description for Big Ideas Podium –15<sup>th</sup> November 2022
- Notification of Acceptance/Rejection –15<sup>th</sup> January 2023
- Submission of full presentation -1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

## **E. GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS FOR PRESENTATIONS**

Kindly note the following guidelines to ensure that quality presentations are made at the 5<sup>th</sup> AfLIA conference and 7<sup>th</sup> African Library Summit.

### **Submission Guidelines**

#### **\*\*\*Plagiarism Check**

Acknowledgement of other people's intellectual work is a cardinal rule of research. It is a criminal offence to take credit for another person's work. AfLIA expects librarians and all authors to duly acknowledge all sources quoted and

used in their papers. Plagiarized works will not be accepted and may incur penalties.

## **1. Papers**

### **a. Requirements and Format**

Proposals must fall within the ambit of the theme and sub-themes and could be written in English, French or Portuguese.

Please note that proposals for the Special Sessions outlined above should be clearly marked \*Special Session 1 or 2 or 3 or 4\*.

Each proposal must be an original work of the speaker(s) and must include:

- Title of proposed paper
- Name(s) of speaker(s)
- Official Title of speaker(s) or Professional role
- Speaker's institutional affiliation, if any.
- Speaker(s) e-mail address, telephone/fax numbers.
- Abstract of the proposed paper.
- Short professional profile (five lines maximum) of speaker(s).

***\*If the proposal for a paper presentation is accepted, the completed paper (10-12 pages) should be scholarly, organized with clear logical presentation of ideas, arguments and points, proof-read and copy edited before submission for review.***

### **b. Abstract**

- Identify the area(s) of interest in the theme and subthemes as well as the Special Sessions 1-4 of the AfLIA conference. Develop a clear understanding of the chosen area(s). Think and search coherently with the appropriate keywords for knowledge and information on the area(s).
- The abstract should be a minimum of 350 words and must not exceed 400 words.

- The abstract should not make references to other works.
- The abstract should not have been part of a presentation in any other conference or previously published online or offline or under consideration for acceptance as a presentation or publication in any other place.
- The abstract should have the following components: objectives/scope of the paper proposal; methods and procedures/process of investigation/research where applicable; results; observations; conclusions; and recommendations.
- The inclusion of at least four keywords is mandatory.

### **c. Technical details**

- Proposals and completed papers should be in Microsoft Word. Papers in other formats will be returned to the author.
- Times New Roman font, 12pt is the standard
- Maintain 1.5 line spacing within paragraphs and 2.0 spacing between paragraphs.
- First line of each new paragraph should be indented.
- Please do not insert headers or footers in your proposals or full papers.
- Ensure that all sources referred to or quoted in the body of the work to be submitted are listed in the references section and vice versa.

### **d. PowerPoint presentation**

PowerPoint slides should have key talking points with appropriate visuals and should not be overly crowded with words.

- Each paper is expected to have 12 -15 slides maximum.
- Slides should be done in Baskerville Old Face 36pt.
- No slide should have more than 30 words.
- If you use pictures or images in your slides, please ensure there is proper acknowledgement of the source in small print underneath the image or picture.

## **2. Posters**

There will be a Poster session at the Conference/Summit.

Poster proposals must address the main theme or sub-themes and could be written in English, French or Portuguese. *Please note that posters are not allowed for the special sessions 1-4.* To submit a proposal to participate in the Poster Session, please provide the following information:

- Presenter's name, institution and email
- Poster title
- Theme of Poster
- Poster description (limit 200 words)
- Goal(s)
- Target audience

Please note that poster presenters are expected to be present to explain what they have put up and to hand out leaflets, or other information materials that they have for those that will visit their posters. Each presenter can therefore present only ONE poster.

**Consider these;**

***Posters should be about new ideas or an application of technology or an activity done;***

***Posters can describe a project that is ongoing or near completion, not one that is yet to start.***

## **3. Ignite Talks**

Short, sharp, passionate, insightful, and inspiring 6 minutes Ignite Talks that are about 'what, how, why and when' as pertains to the theme and subthemes of the conference will also be accepted. These Talks must be accompanied with related, meaningful and impactful visuals (PowerPoint, Spark Adobe, Canva or video clips). Interested in submitting an Ignite Talk proposal?

Here are the requirements –

- Presenter's name, institution and email

- Ignite Talk title
- The subtheme it addresses
- Ignite Talk description (limit 150 words)
- A short video (not more than 10MB) of the presentation (optional)

Importantly;

***The full and final presentation must not exceed 4 slides in timed automatic sequence. Links to videos might be embedded in the slides; however the entire presentation must not go beyond 6 minutes. Also, ensure that each slide has meaningful pictorial content.***

#### **4. Big Ideas Podium**

This is for those that have Big Ideas on how libraries can drive the future of learning in Africa or amazing issues about future of learning with compelling arguments that they would want to share. The Big Ideas Podium is for ***innovative and creative thinkers*** in the profession who can stir others up and help the Africa Library sector see the future of libraries as pertains to learning.

***Note: It requires librarians with artistry in the spoken word –fluency, poetical, dramatic and thought-provoking cadence/delivery.***

To submit a proposal to present on Big Ideas Podium, please provide the following information:

- Presenter's name, institution and email
- Big Ideas title
- The subtheme it addresses
- Big Ideas description -100 words limit that must be accompanied with audio/spoken clip (3minutes maximum). The full and final presentation must not exceed 550 words.

Please note that PowerPoint slides will not be required. Big Ideas presenters will rehearse exhaustively with the conference organizers at the venue before their presentations.

## **F. SUBMISSION OF PROPOSALS**

Please email your proposal(s) and all other enquiries to [programofficer@aflia.net](mailto:programofficer@aflia.net) and copy [secretariat@aflia.net](mailto:secretariat@aflia.net)

## **G. CHANGES, CANCELLATIONS, WITHDRAWALS**

AfLIA views the submission of abstracts for Papers and descriptions for Posters/Ignite Talks/Big Ideas Podium as commitment to register and be present at the 2023 Conference. Nevertheless, if a presentation is accepted and there are situations that prevent the author(s) from being present, it is incumbent on such person(s) to make alternative arrangements for the presentation and communicate such in writing to the AfLIA Secretariat [secretariat@aflia.net](mailto:secretariat@aflia.net); with a copy to [programofficer@aflia.net](mailto:programofficer@aflia.net) at least **6 weeks before the conference.**