

STRATHMORE  
UNIVERSITY  
**2<sup>nd</sup> RESEARCH  
& INNOVATION  
CONFERENCE**

2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> November



2020



**Strathmore**  
UNIVERSITY

*theme:*

## ***Collaborative research for sustainable development***

### ***thematic areas***

Theoretical and practical papers are invited in the following areas.

1. Information technology.
2. Public policy and governance.
3. Clean energy.
4. Mathematical applications.
5. Tourism and hospitality.
6. Law and justice.
7. Health and healthcare management.
8. Humanities and social sciences.
9. Business, management and finance.

### ***submission instructions***

Abstracts should be submitted, in English, at this link:  
<https://bit.ly/2I3Ziye>.

Each abstract should have titled sections for the background, methods, findings, interpretation and funding disclosure (refer to the sample provided on the next page). It should be no more than 350 words.

All submitted abstracts will undergo peer review and the authors of accepted papers will be contacted with further details.

### ***conference fees***

Symposium fees are as shown below:

- SU undergraduate students: **KES 1,000** (USD 10)
- SU graduate students: **KES 5,000** (USD 50)
- SU staff: **KES 10,000** (USD 100)
- Regular (East Africa): **KES 15,000** (USD 150)
- Regular (international): **KES 20,000** (USD 200)

### ***payment methods***

#### **MPESA**

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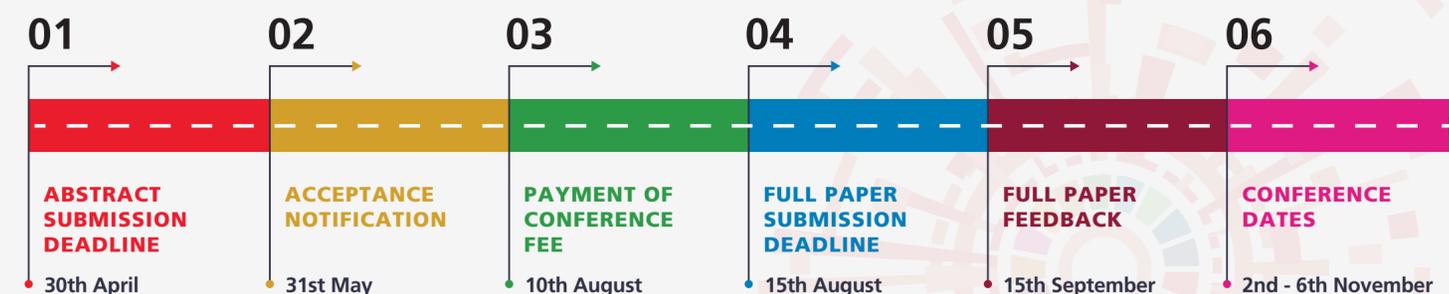
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### ***contact***

Address all enquiries to [research@strathmore.edu](mailto:research@strathmore.edu).

# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

### ***key dates***



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CALL FOR  
ABSTRACTS

## *sample abstract*

(Republished from [The Lancet](#))

### Preparedness and vulnerability of African countries against importations of COVID-19: a modelling study

#### Abstract

**Background:** The novel coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) epidemic has spread from China to 25 countries. Local cycles of transmission have already occurred in 12 countries after case importation. In Africa, Egypt has so far confirmed one case. The management and control of COVID-19 importations heavily rely on a country's health capacity. Here we evaluate the preparedness and vulnerability of African countries against their risk of importation of COVID-19.

**Methods:** We used data on the volume of air travel departing from airports in the infected provinces in China and directed to Africa to estimate the risk of importation per country. We determined the country's capacity to detect and respond to cases with two indicators: preparedness, using the WHO International Health Regulations Monitoring and Evaluation Framework; and vulnerability, using the Infectious Disease Vulnerability Index. Countries were clustered according to the Chinese regions contributing most to their risk.

**Findings:** Countries with the highest importation risk (ie, Egypt, Algeria, and South Africa) have moderate to high capacity to respond to outbreaks. Countries at moderate risk (ie, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Sudan, Angola, Tanzania, Ghana, and Kenya) have variable capacity and high vulnerability. We identified three clusters of countries that share the same exposure to the risk originating from the provinces of Guangdong, Fujian, and the city of Beijing, respectively.

**Interpretation:** Many countries in Africa are stepping up their preparedness to detect and cope with COVID-19 importations. Resources, intensified surveillance, and capacity building should be urgently prioritised in countries with moderate risk that might be ill-prepared to detect imported cases and to limit onward transmission.

**Funding:** EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation Horizon 2020, Agence Nationale de la Recherche.



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