



THE 6th SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE ON WETLAND MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, AUGUST 2023

ARUSHA, TANZANIA

Introduction

The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has among others, mandate to coordinate and disseminate information that relates to environmental research and management in Tanzania. In collaboration with other stakeholders, NEMC has been organising scientific conferences in the country with different themes as a way of implementing this mandate. The first five conferences focused on agriculture, mining and environment, coastal and marine ecosystem, climate change and biosphere reserves.

These Conferences have come-up with potential and significant impact to the overall environmental management and people's livelihood in the country. At the national level, issues that were discussed in the conferences contributed to the development of the new National Environmental Policy (NEP 2021) and paved a way to the development of the National Environmental Master Plan for Strategic Intervention (2022-2023). In addition, various research proposals aimed at minimizing pollution to the environment were developed. This is in-line with a project that was developed to reduce environmental health risks related to harmful chemicals (mercury, pesticides) and plastic waste management. Also, through the conferences, NEMC has been accredited as National Implementing Entity (NIE) for Adaptation Fund projects and a new site (Rufiji-Mafia-Kibiti-Kilwa) is proposed to be included in the global network of biosphere reserves.

NEMC is now organising a 6th scientific conference focusing on "**Wetland Management for Sustainable Development**". The focus of this theme is based on the current status of wetlands in the country. These ecosystems have rapidly degraded in the last 30 years as a result of over-extraction of natural resources, urbanization and pollution emanating from intensive agriculture, livestock keeping and mining activities. These changing patterns threatens livelihoods, disturbs ecological settings and undermines the prospects of these ecosystems that contribute to the sustainable development of the country.

The conference is scheduled to take place from 28th – 31st of August 2023, Arusha Tanzania. This event will bring together resource persons from Local, Regional and International levels, to share their experiences and knowledge on the most recent research and issues linked to Wetland Management for Sustainable Development.

Objectives

Main objective of the conference is to provide a forum for various stakeholders (private sector, public sector, academia, practitioners and NGO's) to share experiences and contemporary knowledge on research, best practices and case studies. Specifically, the conference will:

- Provide an opportunity for all stakeholders to discuss challenges and environmental issues related to Wetland management for the purpose of formulating recommendations on relevant management actions;
- Facilitate the documentation of current scientific knowledge and experiences through publication of quality scientific papers, proceedings and other means of information dissemination and sharing;
- Encourage national, regional and international networking: on wetland as also advocated in the Ramsar Convention on wetlands and environment; and
- Raise public awareness on the importance of Wetlands management for sustainable environment and socio-economic development.

Participants

The conference is expected to bring together about 300+ scientists, conservation managers, wildlife conservation stakeholders/partners, wetland practitioners, and decision makers drawn from the private, public, academia and Non-Governmental Organizations working in the Tanzania, Africa and worldwide.

Conference Outputs

A number of tangible outputs expected, include:

- Conference proceedings;
- Improved regional and international networking on wetland;
- Priority issues identified and recommendations for further actions including policy advice, and priority areas for research;
- Strategy for evaluating and monitoring of the existing wetlands in the country established;
- Raised public awareness;
- Identified means for financing wetland activities.

Submission of Abstracts, Papers and Power Point Presentations

For authors who wishes to participate, please submit your Abstracts by 25th April, 2023 while full papers and power point presentation will be submitted to the Secretariat not later than by 17th May 2023. Presentations during the conference will be subject to the submission of full papers by presenters. The length of each full manuscript should not be more than 12 pages including references (single-spaced). For poster presentation, the poster size should not exceed 120 cm x 90 cm. Instructions to authors during preparation of full papers are available through a link which will be attached. Power point presentations will be 20 minutes and must be submitted to the secretariat via the conference email at conference@nemc.or.tz.

Abstracts should be limited to a maximum of 300 words for both oral and poster presentations. Specifically, the abstract should be organized as follows; title, name(s) of the author(s) and addresses, brief background/objectives of the study, methodology, results, and conclusion. Keywords should not be more than five arranged in alphabetical order. Address of correspondent author should be indicated. Authors of accepted

abstracts will be notified by 30th May, 2023. The abstracts and full paper are aligned with the following themes:

Themes and Possible Sub-Themes

a) Water Resources Management

i) Water resources and water catchment, importance and impacts; ii) Ecohydrology and watershed management iii) Water conservation (re-use and recycling); iv) Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) studies; and v) Hydrological studies of wetlands ecosystems, coastal wetlands and estuaries.

b) Conservation aspects and challenges

i) Environmental pollution; ii) Health, safety and diseases; iii) Climate change impacts (mitigation and adaptation); iv) Information, communication and awareness; v) Restoration of degraded land/areas; vi) Conflicts on resource use and management; vii) Planning, Modelling and Monitoring; and viii) Unsustainable extractive industries.

c) Policy, legal and Institutional Frameworks

Policy development and regulatory requirements; ii) Coordination and implementation of policies; and iii) Compliance and Enforcement.

d) Socio-economic aspects

i) Employment opportunities; ii) Cultural, gender and youth engagement; iii) Traditional/indigenous knowledge; iv) Resources use and management; and v) Stakeholder involvement in conservation.

j) Sustainable financing mechanisms and strategies

i) Branding and value addition (marketing) and ii) Financing.

k) Conservation and industrialization nexus

i) Impacts from industrial pollution; and ii) Prospects and opportunities.

Conference Fees

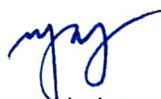
The Conference Fee is Tshs. 270,000/= for East Africans: 250.00 USD for Non-East Africans and Tshs. 200,000/= for Tanzanian Students. Late registrations for all categories mentioned above will pay an additional cost of 30% of the early registration fees.

All correspondences and enquiries that include submission of abstracts for oral and poster presentation should be sent to: conference@nemc.or.tz. The use of individual emails (i.e to NEMC staff personal emails) will not be considered.

For further information, please contact:

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Issued by



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