



Announcement & Call for Abstracts

The West African Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA)

in collaboration with

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research of the Republic of Cote d'Ivoire and the Strategic Research program (PASRES)

is pleased to announce

11th WARIMA International Conference and Workshops

at the

Felix Houphouët Boigny University, Abidjan

January 21-26, 2018

Theme: Trans-boundary Research and Innovation Management in West Africa: Issues and Context

Sub-Themes:

- Science, Technology, Innovation and ECOWAS Regional Integration
- Migration Policies and their Impact on Research and Innovation Management
- Research in Languages, Linguistics, literature, cultural studies and regional integration
- Research in gender and development in the ECOWAS region
- Driving ECOWAS development through Entrepreneurship
- Mentoring the next generation of Researchers for Sustainable Development
- Research Infrastructure and Impact on Trans-boundary Research and Innovation
- Funding Research and Research Management across borders
- Research and Innovation Ecosystems in West Africa
- Case Studies of best and scalable practices in Research and Innovation Management that can impact ECOWAS Integration and Development
- Role of Science, Technology and Innovation in the implementation of the SDGs ECOWAS

Introduction/Background to the Conference and Workshops

West Africa is a uniquely diverse sub-region even though colonial boundaries have often divided single ethnic groups between and among two or more States. Countries in the sub-region have so many things in common, ranging from ecology, culture, religions etc. According to Wikipedia, despite the wide variety of cultures in West Africa, from Nigeria through to Senegal, there are general similarities in dress, cuisine, music and culture that are shared extensively within groups in the sub-region. This long history of cultural exchange predates the colonization era of the region that can be approximately placed at the time of the Ghana Empire (proper: Wagadou Empire), Mali Empire or perhaps before these empires. However, the most obvious difference among the constituent countries of West Africa is language.

For us at the West African and Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA), we see the strive to regional integration as not insurmountable. WARIMA recognizes that in spite of the abundance of topical researchable issues that can contribute to the collective development of the sub-region, there are just oases of research collaborations going on among individuals and institutions in the sub-region. For example, of the over 500 potential member institutions within West Africa, only 34 institutions are registered members of the West African and Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA) (barely 6% of its potential). **Of this number, there were none from Francophone, West Africa which together constitute a significant block in the sub-region until November 2015 and December 2016 when Cote D'Ivoire, Togo, Benin Republic and Senegal participated at the 9th and 10th WARIMA conferences which were held in Accra, Ghana and Banjul, Gambia respectively.**

To address these concerns and to enhance regional integration, WARIMA encouraged Cote D'Ivoire to host the 2017 and 11th WARIMA conference, appropriately; therefore, the theme for this conference is **Trans-boundary Research and Innovation Management in West Africa: Issues and Context.**

The objective of this theme is to examine the status of Science, Technology, Innovation and Research Management in West Africa with the view to analyze the **Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Treats** that abound. It also aims to examine the urgently needed collaborative Research and Innovation that will unleash the desired regional integration and development in the sub-region. Though the focus of the conference is West Africa, WARIMA shall welcome contributions, lessons and experiences from any part of the world that will enhance the sub-region's achievement of the **Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2014)**. Contributions may be in English and French.

The sub-themes that will be addressed include:

- Science, Technology, Innovation and ECOWAS Regional Integration
- Migration Policies and their Impact on Research and Innovation Management
- Research in Languages, Linguistics, literature, cultural studies and regional integration
- Research in gender and development in the ECOWAS region
- Driving ECOWAS development through Entrepreneurship
- Mentoring the next generation of Researchers for Sustainable Development
- Research Infrastructure and Impact on Trans-boundary Research and Innovation
- Funding Research and Research Management across borders
- Research and Innovation Ecosystems in West Africa
- Case Studies of best and scalable practices in Research and Innovation Management that can impact ECOWAS Integration and Development
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About WARIMA

The West African Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA) was established in November 2006 as a professional body for research management in the West African sub-region. It operates at institutional and international levels, as well as across the research value chain, from research management to commercialisation of research results.

About Felix Houphouët Boigny University

Created on January 9, 1964, the National University of Côte d'Ivoire became the Félix Houphouët-Boigny University on August 8, 2012. It succeeded the "Center for special studies" created in 1958 and the Center of Higher Education, Created on September 11, 1959.

A prime player in the socio-economic and cultural development in Côte d'Ivoire, The Félix HOUPHOUET BOIGNY University is a Public Administrative Institution of Higher Education and Research. The university is headed by a president, currently Professor Abou Karamoko, assisted by three vice-presidents and a secretary-general. The Félix HOUPHOUET BOIGNY University provides teaching and research missions to sixteen (16) structures, including 13 training and research units (UFR), two (2) autonomous research centers, a continuing education school and few institutes.

Target Participants

This Conference and Workshops are targeted at all who are involved in research and innovation management in various institutions as well as those interested in undertaking cutting edge research. These include (but are not limited to):

- Vice-Chancellors, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Directors of Research Institutes
- Provosts/ Deans of Faculties/Colleges
- Senior academics and researchers from Universities and Research Institutes
- Research Administrators; Policy Makers in Government, Parastatals and Non-Governmental Organizations
- Other categories of individuals (including early-career researchers) desirous of acquiring skills in research management.

Call for Abstracts/Papers

Abstracts are invited from interested participants on any topic within the context of the conference theme and sub-themes.

Guidelines

Abstracts must not exceed **300 Words** and must follow the following format:

1. Word processing should be with MS Word, Font size 12 pts Times New Roman, 2.5cm margins all round, justified margins and double spaced.
2. The abstract should be submitted by email as an attachment to: Malik Bakayoko @ malik.bakayoko@inovis-ci.com with a copy to Mrs Teju Ajao @ warimaoffice@yahoo.com. This is mandatory as only abstracts received by email will be processed.
3. All contact details (including cell phone, email, mailing address) should be provided to ensure that presenters can easily be reached.

Pre-Conference Workshops

The Conference will be preceded by two days parallel pre-conference workshops on the following topics:

- Creativity, Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Practice
- Professionalisation of Research and Innovation Management

Venue

The venue of the Conference and Workshops shall be The Pôle Scientifique et d'Innovation of University Félix Houphouët in Bingerville, Abidjan.

How to Apply

Interested participants are required to complete the registration form and submit not later than **Friday 10th November, 2017** for registration.

Registration Fees

For the Conference

- USD \$300 per participant

For the Workshops (To be sponsored by WHO)

Registration for the conference would be the ticket for admission into the workshops

Note: Senders of funds are expected to indicate the purpose of payment on the payment documents.

Payment Procedure

Participants must pay by Bank Transfer. Bank details to be supplied later.

All participants are required to send a copy of the receipt detailing the appropriate fund transfer by e-mail to contact@inovis-ci.com and a copy to warimaoffice@yahoo.com and malik.bakayoko@inovis-ci.com

A confirmation mail will be sent once the transfer of the appropriate registration fee is verified from the Bank. The original of the transfer receipt and the confirmation mail should be retained as proof of payment for registration.

Important Dates

Note the important deadlines:

Activity	Date
Deadline for submission of abstracts	Friday 10 November, 2017
Notification of acceptance of abstract	Thursday 30 November, 2017
Submission of full paper	Friday 15 December, 2017
Closing for registration	Friday 10 November, 2017
Arrival	Sunday 21 January, 2018
Pre conference workshops	Mon 22-Tues 23 January, 2018
Conference	Wed 24-Thur 25 January, 2018
Departure	Fri 26 January, 2018

Accommodation

The following are good hotels close to the conference venue:

Heden Golf Hotel

Website: www.golfhotel-ci.com

Tel: (+221) 22-43-10-44

Cost: 150 Euros/Night.

Email: golfhotel@-ci.com

Villa Mia

Website: www.villamia-abidjan.com

Tel: (+225) 47-23-49-97

Cost: 120 Euros/Night.

Villa Mango

Website : www.agoda.com/villa_mango/Abidjan

Tel: (+225) 47-54-43-65

Email: villamangococody@gmail.com

Cost: 120 Euros/Night.

Villa Anakao

Tel:(+225) 49-74-21-13

Cost/ 107 Euros/Night.

Website: www.villa-anakao.com

Email: caroline@villa-anakao.com

Conciergerie Hotels Achenbach

Website: www.iroko.com

Tel: (+225) 22 - 42 -74-61

Cost: 100 Euros/Night.

Email: Achenbach@iroko.ci

Residence Dippoka

Website: <http://www.dippoka-ci.com>

Tel: (+225) 22-52-50-50

Cost: 80 Euros/Night.

Email: dippoka@avisoci

Hotel Belle Côte

Website: www.hotelbellecote.ci

Tel: (+225) 22-50-27-60

Cost: 65 Euros/Night.

Residence Penda

Website: www.agoda.com/fr-fr/residence-penda/Hotel/abidjan-ci

Tel :(+225) 44-58-58-71

Cost: 45 Euros/Night.

Contact Person (Abidjan)

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