



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION & THE COPPERBELT UNIVERSITY

THE 2<sup>nd</sup> NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

---

**3-5 December 2025**

**Venue:** Garden Court, Kitwe

**CALL FOR ABSTRACTS**

**I. Background**

Research and innovation are critical for socio-economic development, as they introduce new ideas, technologies, processes, perspectives, and skills into the economy. Therefore, the Ministry of Education introduced national symposia on research and innovation in to be held annually. The first symposium was held in 2022 at the University of Zambia. The 2<sup>nd</sup> National symposium on research and innovation will be co-hosted by The Copperbelt University and the Ministry of Education on the theme **“Setting the Agenda for Economic Transformation through Research and Innovation”**. This theme pursues the socio-economic transformation agenda as espoused in the 8<sup>th</sup> National Development Plan (2022-26) with the following questions: What can research and innovation contribute to the national development agenda? How can the academia-industry-government partnerships in research, innovation and development be strengthened? Consequently, this national symposium provides an opportunity for educationists, researchers, policymakers, government officials, and industry to come together to share research results and innovations, contributing to the national agenda for economic transformation. **Researchers and graduate students are invited to submit abstracts on any of the proposed sub-themes.**

**II. Sub-themes**

**1. Environment and sustainable development**

This sub-theme will tackle research and innovation as it pertains to:

- Sustainable mining and value creation
- Sustainable infrastructure development
- Sustainable natural resource management
- Renewable energy and emerging technologies, e.g., battery and electric vehicles
- Climate change, education, adaptation and mitigation
- Sustainable cities and the circular economy

## Conference Call 2025

- Climate change impacts on ecosystem dynamics
- Ecological interactions and sustainable ecosystems
- Microbial diversity and ecosystem functioning
- Genetic engineering for conservation of biological diversity

### **2. Food security and health**

This sub-theme will tackle research and innovation as it pertains to access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food all year round and climate change:

- Agricultural production; pollinators and sustainable agriculture
- Post-harvest technologies
- Food and nutrition security
- Health and poverty reduction.
- Gender equality
- Rural and urban livelihoods; tackling vulnerability and pandemics
- Biotechnological Innovations for Sustainable Agriculture
- Climate change and vector-borne diseases
- Vector biology, control and surveillance tools; insecticide and drug resistance
- Epidemiology and vector-borne disease pathogens

### **3. Entrepreneurship, employability, and business development**

This sub-theme will tackle research and innovation as it pertains to:

- Job creation and entrepreneurship
- Business development
- Sustainable fiscal policy and reforms
- Debt management strategies
- Monetary and financial sector policies

### **4. Higher education and skills development**

This sub-theme will tackle research and innovation as it pertains to:

- Higher education, industry and employability
- Reforming the higher education curriculum
- Emerging technologies and pedagogy
- ICTs and digital innovations in teaching and learning management
- Artificial Intelligence, generative technologies and education

### **5. Partnerships in research and innovation**

This sub-theme will tackle research and innovation as it pertains to:

- Creating and managing partnerships
- Value creation networks
- Research and innovation infrastructure
- Academia-industry-government partnerships

## **III. Symposium format**

The symposium will be in the following formats:

## Conference Call 2025

- Key note addresses in plenary
- Short paper presentation in parallel sessions (15-20mins)
- Exhibitions to show case innovations or products
- Poster presentation

### IV. Call and guidelines for Abstracts

**Sub-theme:** All authors should specify the sub-theme the paper is addressing

**Mode of presentation:** Oral or Poster (indicate one)

**Proposed title:** The title should be succinct, informative and relevant (15 words limit).

**Authors, affiliations and e-mails:** All abstracts should contain the name/s, institution, and e-mail addresses of authors

**Key Words:** List 3-5 key words

**Length & font:** Abstracts should be between 150-200 words. Use font Times New Roman 12 and 1.5-line spacing.

**Submission:** All abstracts should be submitted through: [2NSIR@cbu.ac.zm](mailto:2NSIR@cbu.ac.zm); [shumba.overson@cbu.ac.zm](mailto:shumba.overson@cbu.ac.zm) in copy. The Conference Programme and Book of Abstracts will be prepared and shared electronically.

### V. Important Dates

1. Closing date for authors to submit abstracts: **7 November 2025**
2. Deadline for notifying acceptance abstracts: 17 November, 2025

### VI. Registration fees and bank details

The registration fees per conference delegate are **K3000 for researchers** and **K2000 for registered students**. Registration fees cover conference package only; the package includes morning and afternoon teas, lunch, water, and conference bag. Accommodation, dinners and transport are the responsibility of the delegate. **Payment should be made to the following bank details:**

**ACCOUNT NAME:** CBU DDEOL ACCOUNT

**BANK:** ZAMBIA NATIONAL COMMERCIAL PLC

**ACCOUNT NO.:** 1638040500163

**BRANCH:** CBU AGENCY- KITWE BUSINESS CENTRE

**SORT CODE:** 010245

**SWIFT CODE:** ZNCOZMLU

Proof of registration payment and/or receipts should be submitted through: [2NSIR@cbu.ac.zm](mailto:2NSIR@cbu.ac.zm); [shumba.overson@cbu.ac.zm](mailto:shumba.overson@cbu.ac.zm) in copy.

### VII. Conference Proceedings

Authors of accepted abstracts have the option to prepare and submit full papers that will be peer reviewed for inclusion in the Conference Proceedings or in a University Journal in 2026.