UNIVERSITY OF DAR ES SALAAM

DANIDA FELLOWSHIP CENTRE

CONFERENCE

on People, Technology and Natural Resource Conservation

Dates:
10th – 11th November 2027

Place:
University of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

Call for Abstracts

INTRODUCTION

Natural resource conservation faces increasingly complex challenges arising from biodiversity loss, climate change, competing resource-use interests, technological change, and inequalities in environmental decision-making. Addressing these challenges requires approaches that combine scientific research, technological innovation, local and Indigenous knowledge, and meaningful participation by the people who depend on natural resources.

Citizen science offers an important opportunity to bridge the gap between scientific knowledge and community experience. By involving citizens in environmental observation, data collection, monitoring, interpretation, and decision-making, it can expand the evidence available for conservation, strengthen environmental accountability, and build trust between scientists, communities, and decision-makers.

Digital technologies include remote sensing, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), mobile applications, digital mapping, artificial intelligence, drones, and early-warning systems can further improve environmental monitoring and conservation planning. However, their benefits depend on inclusive access, ethical data governance, recognition of local knowledge, and equitable participation in decisions about natural resources.

The conference therefore examines conservation not merely as a scientific or technical undertaking, but as a people-centred social process in which communities are active partners in producing knowledge, shaping policy, managing resources, and building resilient social-ecological systems. As an international, interdisciplinary conference with a strong African focus and global relevance the conference distinctively contributes on citizen science as a bridge between technology, community knowledge, and accountable environmental governance and not simply as a method of collecting environmental data.

Conference Theme:

People, Technology and Natural Resource Conservation: Advancing Inclusive and Resilient Social-Ecological Systems through Citizen Science

THEMATIC TRACKS

1. Citizen Science and Environmental Monitoring
2. Digital Technologies for Conservation
3. Indigenous and Local Knowledge Systems
4. Community-Based Natural Resource Management
5. Gender, Youth and Inclusive Conservation
6. Governance, Policy and Environmental Justice
7. Climate Change and Adaptation

IMPORTANT DATES

- Abstract submission – 15th January 2027
- Poster proposals – 20th January 2027
- Acceptance of abstracts notification – 20th February 2027
- Paper submission – 15th July 2027

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Abstracts of original research papers, case studies or professional practice papers are invited on any of the thematic tracks. The abstract should be in English and not more than 300 words and for an extended abstract no more than 500 words. The abstract. It should include title, objectives, methodology, findings, discussion, conclusion and recommendation (if any). The list of author(s) names, affiliation details, e-mail and mobile contact for all authors. Send your abstracts to organizers at the University of Dar es Salaam through the following email address maarifaproject.gotz@yahoo.com.

Contact us

For further information about the conference activities should be e-mailed to
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