



# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## Third National Research Dissemination Conference 2026

Dates: **23-24 September, 2026**

Venue: **Mzuzu University, CODEL Complex**

**Theme:** Leveraging the attainment of MW2063 and MIP 2030 through transformative research, technology and innovation

### Preamble

The role of the academic and scientific community has never been more pivotal than now as Malawi marches towards becoming an inclusively wealthy and self-reliant industrialised upper-middle-income nation as envisaged in the aspirations of Malawi 2063 (MW2063). This journey requires more than just policy; it demands a robust evidence base fueled by transformative research and the fearless application of technology and innovation.

Building on the successes of two previous gatherings, Mzuzu University is honoured to host the 3rd National Research Dissemination Conference under the theme **“Leveraging the attainment of MW 2063 and MIP 2030 through transformative research, technology and innovation”**. This flagship event serves as a strategic bridge between the laboratory and the landscape, on the one hand, and between the classroom and the community, on the other hand. By aligning directly with the National Research Agenda, this conference seeks to dismantle the silos that researchers, policymakers, industry leaders and development partners operate in by bringing all of them together, recognising that transformative research is not merely about discovery, but about impact.

### a) Conference Sub-themes

Scholars, innovators, practitioners and students are invited to submit abstracts to this premier platform to showcase home grown solutions that address the socioeconomic challenges of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Malawi. The abstracts could be on original full research papers, research-in progress, posters or lightening talks (short 5-minute presentations) that have not previously been presented elsewhere, and make original contributions to the theme of the conference. Topics of interest include, but are not limited to, the following broad areas:

#### i. Science, technological innovation and industrialisation

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Internet of things (IoT)
- Sustainable technologies and industrial systems
- Pure and applied sciences
- Biotechnology and innovation

## **ii. Environmental resilience and sustainability**

- Ecology and indigenous knowledge systems
- Water sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
- Climate change and disaster risk management
- Food security and agricultural commercialisation
- The 21<sup>st</sup> Century built environment
- Natural resource management

## **iii. Society and development**

- Effective governance systems
- Language and development
- Economics and accountability
- Information for development
- Heritage and reforms

## **iv. Resilient health care systems**

- Mental health and societal well-being
- Mobile health and tele-medicine
- Patient care and public health
- Complementary health services
- Alternative medicine
- Eye care and oral health
- Epidemics and emerging health issues

## **v. Tourism, culture and heritage**

- Leisure and recreation
- Destination branding and marketing
- Ecotourism
- Food, identity and culture
- Emerging trends in hospitality
- Arts and crafts

## **vi. Human capital development**

- Education, policy and practice
- Technology in education
- Inclusive education
- Open Distance and e-Learning
- Education and skills development

## **b) Format of abstracts**

An abstract with a maximum of 350 words in length **must** consist of:

- Purpose
- Methodology/approach
- Findings
- Conclusion and recommendations
- Originality/value of contribution
- Keywords of between 4 and 5
- Paper type (e.g., research paper, literature review, case study, conceptual paper, etc.).
- The title page which should include the title of paper followed by name(s), qualification(s), affiliation(s) and the e-mail of the author(s).

A template for submitting abstracts can be downloaded at <https://conferences.mzuni.ac.mw/mzuni-research-conference-2026-call-for-abstracts/>

## **c) Procedure for submitting abstracts**

All abstracts should be submitted electronically through the conference platform <https://conferences.mzuni.ac.mw>. For further clarifications on abstracts and papers, kindly contact Chairperson of the Editorial Committee, Dr. Aubrey Chaputula, using email address: [researchconferences@mzuni.ac.mw](mailto:researchconferences@mzuni.ac.mw).

## **d) Conference proceedings**

Accepted papers will undergo blind peer-review and they will be published as conference proceedings.

## **e) Important dates**

- Deadline for the submission of abstracts: 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2026
- Communication of decisions: 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2026
- Deadline for submission of Power Point Presentations: 11<sup>th</sup> September, 2026
- Deadline for submission of full papers: 31<sup>st</sup> August, 2026
- Conference dates: 23<sup>rd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2026

## **f) Conference Fees and Registration**

Conference fees which will cover conference materials, teas and luncheons are as follows:

- Malawian based presenters : K300,000
- Malawian based students : MK150,000
- International presenters : \$200

### **g) Payments**

Payments should be made to the following bank account:

Bank: National Bank of Malawi, Mzuzu Branch, P.O. Box 20, Mzuzu.  
Account Name: MZUNIREC, Mzuzu University, Private Bag 201, Luwingu,  
Mzuzu 2, Malawi.  
Account No.: 1007578888  
Swift code: NBMAMWMW

### **h) Venue**

The conference will be held at CODEL Complex at **Mzuzu University, Malawi.**

### **i) Travel and Visa Requirements**

Participants are expected to make their own travel arrangements. However, SADC residents do not require entry VISA to travel to Malawi. For those requiring visas, it is advisable to apply in good time to the Malawian Embassy in their respective countries. The Conference Organising Committee will facilitate letters to confirm the hosting of the conference.

### **j) Accommodation**

The costs for travel, accommodation and incidentals are the responsibility of the participants. Participants are expected to make their own accommodation arrangements.

For more information, please contact the Chair, Main Organising Committee, Prof. Fanuel Kapute, Phone: 265 999 916 110; Email: [kapute.f@mzuni.ac.mw](mailto:kapute.f@mzuni.ac.mw)

For more details about the Conference, visit: <https://conferences.mzuni.ac.mw>