

THE 4TH INTERNATIONAL BIENNIAL MACROECONOMICS SYMPOSIUM (IBMS26)

CALL FOR PAPERS/ ABSTRACTS

THEME

CLIMATE CHANGE, SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND
MACROECONOMIC DYNAMICS IN AFRICA

SIDE TRACK

**SYMPOSIUM SIDE TRACK:
ENTREPRENEURSHIP, INNOVATION, AND INCLUSIVE
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA**

VENUE

**HILTON GARDEN INN
UMHLANGA ARCH HOTEL,
DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA**

DATES

**22-23
SEPTEMBER
2026**

Entrepreneurship is a key driver of economic development, innovation, and job creation, thereby contributing to a nation's overall growth and prosperity (Crudu, 2019). It plays a vital role in addressing socio-economic challenges, such as unemployment, poverty, and inequality, and promotes economic inclusion and transformation (Abdulkareem et al., 2023). Embracing an inclusive approach to entrepreneurship is now widely recognised as a crucial strategy for achieving the interconnected Sustainable Development Goals, for example, SDG 8, 5, 1, and 10. SDG 8 promotes "sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all", while SDG 5 promotes "gender equality and empowers all women and girls" (United Nations, 2025a). The inclusive entrepreneurship philosophy provides equal opportunities to all marginalised groups, such as youth, women, ethnic minorities, people living with disability and ex-convicts, to establish and grow business ventures, and assists them in overcoming systemic structural barriers, regardless of individual characteristics and contextual differences (Pilková et al., 2016; Wu et al., 2022).

Sustainable entrepreneurship development requires adaptability to climate change, technological advancements, environmental considerations, and policy uncertainties (Odeyemi et al., 2024). A multi-stakeholder approach that incorporates various stakeholders and integrates economic, social, technological, and environmental considerations is, therefore, necessary to drive the sustainability agenda.

Accordingly, this side track brings together scholars and practitioners to share contemporary research and debate the future of entrepreneurship, innovation, and inclusive sustainable development in Africa.

We invite papers and abstracts exploring, but not limited to, the following themes:

- Entrepreneurial ecosystems for sustainable development
- Inclusive entrepreneurship and sustainable development
- Entrepreneurial policy frameworks for sustainable development
- Climate change, resilience and green entrepreneurship
- Innovation and sustainable entrepreneurship development
- Entrepreneurship education for sustainable development
- Social entrepreneurship and sustainable entrepreneurship
- Entrepreneurial finance, inclusivity and sustainable development
- Technological advancements and entrepreneurship development
- AI, entrepreneurship and sustainable development

IMPORTANT DATES

Closing date for abstract submissions	28 February 2026
Early Bird Closing date	17 April 2026
Late Registration closed	15 May 2026
Feedback on abstracts: Two weeks after submission	

REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

Abstracts and/or full papers **clearly marked SIDE-TRACK** must be submitted online at [Abstract Submission - IBMS26](#) –

CONFERENCE LANGUAGE

The working language of the symposium is English.

REGISTRATION

Please note that your conference registration will only be finalised after your payment of the registration fee is received and verified. The conference registration fee includes the following: registration, conference material, lunch, and gala dinner. There will be no refunds but delegates can send substitutes at no additional cost.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES

CLASSIFICATION	EARLY REGISTRATION FEES	LATE REGISTRATION FEES
Postgraduate Students	R3 500.00	R4 500.00
Local delegates	R5 500.00	R6 500.00
International delegates	US\$400.00	US\$500.00

SPONSORS/EXHIBITORS PACKAGES AND FEES

For more information on sponsorships and exhibition opportunities, please contact members of the Organising Committee or **Ms Andiswa Dladla** (DladlaA2@ukzn.ac.za).

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