

# Knowledge Management Africa Conference

## May 04-07, 2009 Dakar, Senegal

### CONFERENCE THEME

#### “Knowledge to Reposition Africa in the Global Economy”

Knowledge Management Africa (KMA) invites the submission of papers for its Third Biennial Conference KMA 2009: “**Knowledge to Reposition Africa in the Global Economy**”. Papers which focus on the application of technologies in addressing the conference theme are strongly encouraged.

Researchers, practitioners, private and public institutions, and civil society organizations seeking to influence the creation of new knowledge communities and networks across political and social borders in the rejuvenation of Africa are invited to participate.

High quality submissions on all topics related to ‘**Knowledge to Reposition Africa in the Global Economy**’ are encouraged. Of particular relevance for the conference will be papers that explore how the application of knowledge management tools and techniques has impacted on development challenges in institutions, communities, civil society or enterprises. Interdisciplinary, applied and theoretical research findings that reflect best practice and lessons learnt relevant to Africa are sought.

### CALL FOR ABSTRACTS AND PAPERS

Knowledge Management Africa is an initiative that aims to utilise knowledge as a key resource in development, with a view to enhancing governance and service delivery in Africa by establishing KM platforms, creating access to existing networks, and facilitating the sharing and utilisation of knowledge.

#### Sub-themes

On the basis of the broad conference theme statement above, papers and presentations for KMA 2009 are invited within the following key sub-themes:

- Knowledge management and Economic challenges – this includes issues around banking and finance, agriculture and agro-industry, economic integration, energy, ICT, tourism and transport systems.
- Knowledge management and Social challenges - this includes education, public health, food security, water supply, employment, gender and youth.
- Knowledge management and the Environment – this includes climate change, desertification, soil salination, urban waste, air, water and noise pollution.
- Knowledge management and Governance – this includes KM impacts on service delivery in public sector institutions, in creating opportunities for local engagement in improved conditions for local people, and in dealing with post-conflict situations.
- Emerging Technologies and innovative schemes – this includes frontier technologies such as Biotechnologies, Nanotechnologies, ICT, etc... together with innovative opportunities such as Techno-Entreprise Incubators, Technopoles, Science and Technology Parks, creatives cities, etc...

The above sub-themes will form ‘**tracks**’ according to which a number of conference sessions will be organised.

Papers dealing with cross cutting issues such as technology, institutional development and capacity building, human resource development, employment, infrastructure and IKS will be absorbed within the appropriate conference sub-themes.

Papers focussing on issues that are critical in Africa, such as food security, health, energy and transport, are welcomed.

Papers from women and the youth will receive special consideration.

Research papers and papers that share practical experience/best practice/lessons learnt are especially invited.

### SUBMISSION DETAILS

#### Abstracts:

Submitted abstracts should be in English or in French which are the conference languages and strictly limited to between 100 and 500 words, including keywords.

All abstracts should be received by the Conference Secretariat by 30 November 2008.

Abstracts must include the following:

- Title of paper
- Full names of author(s)
- Organisational affiliation
- Full postal address, e-mail address and contact telephone number for the first author
- Number of words
- Conference track for which the paper should be considered

(**Please note:** Correspondence regarding submissions will be conducted only with one author designated with this role. Unless otherwise specified, the first author will be taken to be the corresponding author.)

File type for abstracts: MS Word for Windows, Arial, size 12

#### Full papers:

- To be submitted only on acceptance of abstracts.
- The paper should not be more than 5,000 words.
- Full papers will be peer reviewed. Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be requested to submit a draft paper for review prior to submission of the final paper. The submission deadline for all final papers is 28 February 2009.

File type for papers: MS Word for Windows, Arial, size 12

#### Submissions:

Send all abstracts and papers in English or in French by e-mail attachment to KMA web page

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### IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The peer reference group of the conference committee will consider all abstracts received by the submission deadline. The authors whose abstracts are accepted will receive notification to prepare and submit a draft paper. Draft papers will be reviewed by the peer reference group. Authors will receive comments and suggestions which they must take into account before submitting their full paper before the deadline for paper submission given above.

Each paper will be double-blind reviewed by members of the peer reference group to ensure that required standards are met; that the proposed subject of the paper's abstract has been followed, that the paper is of a suitable length, that the standard of English or French is adequate and that the paper is appropriately referenced. Papers that are accepted will be published in the conference proceedings

provided at least one author registers and presents the work at the conference and presents the work at the Conference. Conference proceedings will be published on a CD, which will be made available to all conference participants. Selected papers will be published in a book.

### Knowledge Management Africa's Biennial Conferences

Knowledge Management Africa (KMA) exists to design ongoing knowledge exchange on an African stage in a managed way through structures and platforms created by the participants themselves. Knowledge is a valuable resource that holds the potential for sound governance, socio-economic development and service delivery in Africa. KMA's goal is to establish knowledge management platforms, create access to and augment existing knowledge networks and forums, and to facilitate the sharing and utilisation of knowledge across the African continent.

The biennial conferences of KMA bring together policy-makers, development institutions, donors, international agencies, academics, sector professionals, and civil society organizations for knowledge dissemination and exchange to shape the future of Africa.

### The Inaugural Conference 2005 “Knowledge to address Africa's development challenges”

The Inaugural Conference KMA 2005 “**Knowledge to address Africa's development challenges**” was held in the city of Johannesburg, South Africa from 28<sup>th</sup> February to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2005. This conference was inspired first and foremost, by the timely call by a new generation of African leaders who are convinced and dedicated to a new beginning in Africa. This was a successful conference which led to the production of the first KMA publication, 2005 Conference proceedings, institutionalisation of KMA and strengthening of relationships between and amongst African countries. One of the significant outcomes of this gathering was to highlight an urgent need for the creation of endogenous knowledge solutions for the development agenda of Africa.

### The Second Biennial Conference KMA 2007 “Knowledge to remobilize Africa”

The Second Biennial Conference KMA 2007 was hosted by the Ministry of Planning and National Development, Government of Kenya, in partnership with the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), the University of the Witwatersrand and was supported by a number of other agencies and institutions. It was held in Nairobi on the 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> July 2007 and deepened KMA's role as a mediator in the sustainable transfer of knowledge through knowledge communities and electronic infrastructure.

The Conference focused on exploring practical implementation strategies and examining working models and theories that advance the way in which Africa harnesses its knowledge potential. This conference culminated in signing of the Nairobi Declaration, which aimed to institutionalise KMA in the continent, the KMA 2007 Book, which captured all the proceedings and resolutions of the conference.

### The Third Biennial Conference KMA 2009 “Knowledge to Reposition Africa in the global Economy”

This third KMA conference will build on the development gains achieved thus far but will also identify gaps, especially technological, in sustainable development that hamper greater progress in Africa. It is in this context that the third KMA conference to be held in Dakar in 2009 will focus on **how knowledge can be used to reposition Africa in the global economy.**

KMA Conference Partners :

Development Bank of Southern Africa, Government of Senegal, African Regional Centre of Technology (ARCT), National Academy of Science and Techniques of Senegal (ANSTS).

