

Makerere University Business School

30th Annual International Management Conference

September 22 – 25, 2026, Kampala – Uganda

The African Knowledge Revolution

CALL FOR PAPERS AND INNOVATIONS

Conference Theme:

“The Knowledge Revolution: Driving Innovation and Sustainable Development in Africa”

1.0 Introduction

In a world shaped by technological advancement, climate uncertainty, and socio-economic disparities, successful economies and societies thrive on strategic use of knowledge to build resilient institutions, drive innovation, promote inclusive growth and sustainable development. In particular, education and research institutions lie at the heart of the sustainable development process, serving as hubs for knowledge creation, exchange and transmission that bridge the gap between theory and practice. Through curriculum design, interdisciplinary research, university-industry partnership, quality assurance and knowledge standards, they nurture innovation ecosystems and entrepreneurship, generate evidence-based solutions, and advance skills, thereby shaping sustainable knowledge economies and societies. Moreover, countries and organizations that have successfully prioritized knowledge and embedded KM practices into their education, health, agriculture, biodiversity, governance, and industry systems provide valuable models and best practices for Africa. China, Singapore and South Korea, for example, have used KM to fuel innovation and economic growth. While Scandinavian countries have applied it in renewable energy and health to promote sustainability. In Africa, South Africa, Rwanda, and Kenya demonstrate how digital and open knowledge platforms can enhance entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, skills development, and institutional efficiency.

The 30th Annual International Management Conference (AIMC) to be hosted by Makerere University Business School (MUBS) from September 22 to 25, 2026 in Kampala, Uganda will bring together global and African scholars, educators, leaders, policymakers, practitioners, entrepreneurs, and innovators to explore how knowledge can be harnessed for sustainable development. The conference is strategically aligned with major global and regional development frameworks, including the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa’s Agenda 2063, which envisions “*an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful Africa.*” The Conference aims to foster meaningful dialogue, strengthen collaboration, and generate actions on how knowledge can be effectively harnessed to build resilient institutions, drive innovation, promote inclusive and sustainable development across Africa and beyond. This conference will thus serve as a learning, collaboration and exchange platform for participants. It is expected to generate new ideas, insights, actions, practices and discourses on strengthening knowledge management and utilization for sustainable development, and highlight the critical role of education and research institutions in advancing and harnessing knowledge in Africa.

2.0 Purpose of the Conference

The purpose of the 30th Annual International Management Conference 2026 is to advance the strategic use of knowledge as a catalyst for innovation, institutional resilience, inclusive and sustainable development in Africa and beyond.

3.0 Specific Objectives

1. Promote knowledge management and utilization in Africa.

2. Foster innovation and sustainable development in Africa and beyond through interdisciplinary research and dialogue.
3. Encourage knowledge collaboration and exchange among academia, industry, government, and civil society to address organizational, sectoral, national, regional, and global challenges.
4. Highlight best practices and emerging trends in knowledge management and utilization from around the world.

4.0 CONFERENCE TRACKS, SUB-THEMES, OBJECTIVES AND TOPICS

Track 1: Knowledge Leadership, Governance & Institutional Transformation

Sub-Theme: Applying Knowledge Management to Strengthen Leadership and Governance.

Objective: Promote knowledge-driven strategies to enhance institutional efficiency, transparent leadership, and sustainable governance.

Topics:

1. Knowledge Leadership and Strategic Decision-Making.
2. Knowledge Governance Frameworks and Institutional Performance.
3. Data Governance, Evidence-Based Policy and Decision Intelligence.
4. Digital Governance and Knowledge-driven Institutions.
5. Knowledge Governance for Transparency, Accountability, and Corruption Detection.
6. Organizational Learning and Institutional Transformation
7. Knowledge Risk Governance and Institutional Memory.

Track 2: Knowledge Management (KM) for Resource Efficiency, Climate Action and Green Growth

Sub-Theme: Leveraging Knowledge Systems for Climate Resilience, Circular Economy, and Green Growth.

Objective: Promote the application of knowledge management in advancing resource efficiency, climate action, green growth, and sustainable development.

Topics:

1. KM for Climate Adaptation and Resilience.
2. KM for Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency.
3. Knowledge Systems for Biodiversity Conservation and Natural Resource Management.
4. KM for Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security.
5. KM for Renewable Energy and Green Technology Transition.
6. Data Management for Resource Efficiency, Climate Action and Sustainable Development.
7. Policy Learning, Governance, and Financing for Green Transformation

Track 3: Digital Knowledge Management and Socioeconomic Development

Sub-Theme: Driving Socioeconomic Transformation and Development through Digital Knowledge Management Systems and Technologies.

Objective: Explore how digital knowledge management systems, emerging technologies, and data-driven ecosystems can strengthen institutional governance, foster innovation, enhance industrial capacity, and promote inclusive and sustainable development.

Topics:

1. Digital Government and Knowledge-Based Public Services
2. Data Analytics and Evidence-Based Decision-Making
3. Cybersecurity, Privacy, and Trust in Digital Knowledge Management Systems
4. Digital Knowledge Capture, Accessibility, Interoperability and Integration.
5. Knowledge Ecosystems, Emerging Technologies and Innovation performance.
6. Digital Transformation and Knowledge Management.

7. Global Benchmarking and Best Practices in Knowledge-Driven Digital Transformation.

Track 4: Indigenous Knowledge, Cultural Heritage, Hospitality and Tourism Development

Sub-Theme: Preserving, Integrating, and Leveraging Indigenous Knowledge for Cultural Heritage and Sustainable Tourism Development

Objective: Promote the documentation, preservation, and integration of indigenous knowledge with scientific practices to enhance cultural heritage, tourism, and hospitality development.

Topics:

1. Documentation and Preservation of Indigenous Knowledge.
2. Integration of Indigenous and Scientific Knowledge.
3. Intellectual Property Rights and Indigenous Knowledge Benefit-Sharing.
4. Cultural Heritage and Tourism Development.
5. Managing Visitors' Knowledge and Experiences in Hospitality Management.
6. Language, Knowledge Decolonization, and Localization strategies.
7. Global Best Practices and Case Studies.

Track 5: Managing Knowledge for Health and Social Wellbeing

Sub-Theme: Leveraging Knowledge Management to Enhance Health Systems, Social Protection, and Community Wellbeing.

Objective: Promote the use of knowledge management to improve healthcare delivery systems, social protection, mental wellbeing, and equitable access to health services.

Topics:

1. Knowledge Management and Health Information Systems.
2. Knowledge Translation in Healthcare.
3. Health Knowledge Digitization and Knowledge-based Innovation.
4. Knowledge Inclusion, Social Protection and Wellbeing Systems.
5. Knowledge Sharing Platforms, Mental Health and Community Wellbeing.
6. Knowledge-Driven Health Policy, Governance, and Capacity Building practices.
7. Global Best Practices and Case Studies.

Track 6: Cross-Border Knowledge Networks and South-South Cooperation

Sub-Theme: Leveraging Regional and Transnational Knowledge Partnerships and Networks for Sustainable Development

Objective: Explore how cross-border knowledge networks and South–South cooperation can strengthen regional development, innovation, and collaborative learning.

Topics:

1. Regional Knowledge Sharing and Collaboration Mechanisms.
2. African Knowledge Partnerships.
3. Cross-Sectoral Knowledge Partnerships.
4. Lessons from Asia and Other Regions.
5. Diaspora Knowledge Networks.
6. Transnational Knowledge Partnerships and Innovation Networks.
7. Best Practices and Case Studies of South-South Knowledge Exchange.

Track 7: Knowledge Entrepreneurship and MSME Development

Sub-Theme: Leveraging Knowledge and Innovation for Sustainable Entrepreneurship and MSME Growth.

Objective: Explore knowledge-driven approaches that enhance entrepreneurship and MSME growth in agriculture, trade, industry, and service sectors.

Topics:

1. Knowledge-Based Entrepreneurship and Startup Ecosystems.
2. Strategic Knowledge Management Capabilities and MSME Growth.
3. Entrepreneurial Learning, Skilling and Youth-Led MSMEs.
4. Knowledge Infrastructure, Sourcing and MSME Development.
5. Digital Platforms, Networks and Entrepreneurship Knowledge Exchange.
6. Global Best Practices and International Case Studies.

Track 8: Education, Human Capital Development & Knowledge Societies

Sub-Theme: Strengthening Knowledge Societies through promoting Knowledge Management in Education and Human Capital Development.

Objective: Advance education and human capital development by integrating knowledge management into curriculum design, quality assurance, skilling, vocational and lifelong learning systems.

Topics:

1. Knowledge Management and Human Capital Development.
2. Knowledge Management Education and Professional Development.
3. Linking Competence-Based Education, Employability and Knowledge Systems.
4. Open Knowledge, E-Learning and Distance Education.
5. Knowledge Translation, Transmission and Diffusion.
6. Knowledge Standards and Quality Assurance.
7. Knowledge Societies, Communities of Practice and Lifelong Learning.
8. Global Best Practices and Case Studies.

Track 9: Knowledge-Driven Procurement and Logistics for Sustainable Development

Sub-Theme: Leveraging Knowledge in the Transformation of Procurement and Logistics practices, processes and systems.

Objective: Enhance procurement and logistics performance through knowledge-based innovations that promote transparency, efficiency, and sustainability.

Topics:

1. KM for Sustainable Procurement and Green Supply Chains.
2. Knowledge Capture and Transfer in Procurement Processes.
3. Knowledge-Driven Procurement and Logistics Platforms.
4. KM for Emergency and Humanitarian Procurement and Logistics.
5. Local Supplier Knowledge and Inclusive Procurement.
6. Cross-Sectoral and Global Best Practices.

Track 10: Doctoral Colloquium

Sub-Theme: Advancing Research Excellence: Building Knowledge for Innovation and Sustainable Development.

Objective: Provide a platform for doctoral students and early-career researchers to present, refine, and advance their research insights through feedback, mentorship, and engagement with leading scholars.

Note: All topics across the conference tracks are open to doctoral student submissions, comprising knowledge-based contributions to digital and institutional transformation, MSME development, green growth, inclusive and sustainable development of all forms organizations, sectors and regions.

Track 11: Knowledge Economics and Accounting for Trade, Industry, and Financial Transformation

Sub-Theme: Leveraging Knowledge Economics and Accounting Intelligence for Competitive Trade, Industrial Growth, and Financial Resilience.

Objective: Promote the application of knowledge economics, accounting frameworks, and financial intelligence in enhancing trade competitiveness, industrial productivity, and financial transformation.

Topics:

1. Transitioning from Resource-Based to Knowledge-Based Economies.
2. Knowledge Economics and Value Creation.
3. Accounting for Knowledge Assets and Intangibles.
4. Competing in the Global Knowledge Economy.
5. Harnessing Financial Intelligence for Sustainable Economic Transformation.
6. Leveraging the Informal Business Sector Knowledge for Economic Growth.
7. Best Practices and Comparative Case Studies of Knowledge Economies.

Track 12: Knowledge Management (KM) for Gender, Youth & Inclusive Development

Sub-Theme: Empowering Women, Youth and Marginalized Groups through Knowledge Management

Objective: Encourage knowledge-driven strategies for gender equality, youth empowerment, and social inclusion.

Topics:

1. KM for Gender Equality and Social Inclusion.
2. Youth Knowledge Ecosystems and Skills for the Future of Work
3. Digital Knowledge Platforms for Women and Youth Empowerment
4. Knowledge Diversification, Innovation and Inclusive Development
5. Ethics of Knowledge Production and Sharing in Inclusive Development
6. Knowledge Impact Measurement for Inclusive Development
7. Case Studies of KM Initiatives targeting Women, Youth and Marginalized Groups

Track 13: Knowledge Industries, Services, and Global Market Competitiveness

Sub-Theme: Leveraging Knowledge in the Development of Industries, Services and Global Markets.

Objective: Advance knowledge-driven marketing, branding and international business practices that enhance the competitiveness of products and services, strengthen global market access and economic transformation.

Topics:

1. Knowledge Industries and international Competitiveness
2. Trade and Export Competitiveness of Knowledge-Intensive Services.
3. Outsourcing, offshoring and Globalization of Knowledge Services.
4. Leveraging International Market Intelligence for Competitiveness.
5. Marketing and Branding of Knowledge Products and Services.
6. Customer Relationship and Experience Management for Knowledge Services.
7. Global and Regional Value Chains for Knowledge-Intensive Services.
8. Digital Marketing Platforms for Knowledge Industries and Services.
9. Best practices and case studies.

Track 14: Side Event - Knowledge for Development Partnership Meeting

Sub-Theme: Co-Creating Africa's Knowledge Future: Building Strategic Partnerships for a Continental Knowledge Agenda.

Objective: To bring together key stakeholders to co-develop a Continental Knowledge Agenda for Africa and lay the foundation for establishing the Knowledge Management Africa Association as a platform for sustained knowledge collaboration, capacity development, and innovation across the continent.

5.0 Submission Guidelines for Abstracts, Papers, and Innovations

a). The conference invites competitive scholarly papers, case studies, policy briefs, and innovation displays that advance the conference theme. Submissions should:

- i. Be in English, 3000 - 5000 words, and in MS Word.
- ii. Demonstrate practical application of knowledge management in addressing local, regional, or global development challenges.
- iii. Highlight innovation, digital transformation, green or inclusive growth solutions.
- iv. Align with the conference tracks and sub-themes.

b) Selected submissions will be featured in oral presentations, panel discussions, poster exhibitions, and innovation showcases, following international best practices in peer review, knowledge dissemination, and interdisciplinary engagement.

c) Attendance will be hybrid, offering both on-site and virtual participation options to ensure global accessibility.

6.0 Important Dates:

	Activity	Deadlines
1	Submission of paper, exhibition, and innovation abstracts	2 nd April, 2026
	Abstract acceptance/ /non-acceptance	15 th April, 2026
2	Submission of Full Papers. Camera-ready, should not exceed 7,000 words, APA (7th Edition) formatting guidelines.	20 th May, 2026
	Notification of paper acceptance	10 th June 2026
3	Confirmation of Attendance Final payment for registration	30 th June, 2026
4	Conference dates	Tuesday 22 nd – Friday 25 th September 2026, in Kampala, Uganda
5	Excursion at selected Uganda tourist sites	26 th September 2026

Submissions of Abstracts, Papers, and Innovations

All Conference submission should be uploaded at the submission link on the conference website:

<https://aimc.mubs.ac.ug>

Publication Opportunity: Papers presented at the conference may be published in the *Makerere Business Journal* subject to peer review.

For Further Information Visit:

website: <https://aimc.mubs.ac.ug>

7.0 Conference Participation Fees (includes registration, breakfast and lunch)

	Category	Fees per delegate
1	International Participants	US\$200
2	Local Participants	UGX 400,000
3	International Students	US\$150

4	Local Students	UGX 200,000
5.	Online participation	US\$100

Please note that this amount does not include accommodation. The booking and payment of accommodation is a (separate) responsibility of the delegate. Payment deadline **30th June 2026**

8.0 Leisure and Tourism Activities

Uganda is a premier tourist destination, offering a rich variety of cultural, historical, and natural attractions. On 26th September 2026, an optional guided tour will be arranged for participants who confirm in advance. Highlights of the excursion include:

- Source of the River Nile (including a boat cruise)
- The Railways Museum
- Busowoko Falls
- Uganda Museum
- Equator
- National Parks

Note: This excursion is self-financed and is not included in the conference registration fee.

9.0 PAY TO THE FOLLOWING BANK ACCOUNT:

1	Account Name:	MUBS – DOS A/C
2	Account Number:	9030006349543
3	Bank Name:	Stanbic Bank Uganda Limited
4	Branch Name:	Lugogo
5	Swift Code:	SBICUGKXXX

Kindly scan and email proof of payment for the attention of AIMC Conference -2026 Chair at: 30aimc@mubs.ac.ug and copy deanmanagement@mubs.ac.ug Or alternatively use our efficient EFT.

10.0 CONFERENCE CONTACTS

For correspondence and enquiry, please contact;

30 AIMC Conference -2026 Chair

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