

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WATER



Second call for Abstracts/Call for Sessions
2020 *Maji* (Water) Week Annual Scientific Conference

Theme:

Water and Climate Change: Ensuring Water Security for All

Convened by Ministry of Water in Collaboration with

Global Water Partnership Tanzania



Tanzania Water Partnership

17-18 March 2020

APC Hotel & Conference Centre (Mbweni)
Dar es Salaam

www.apchotelandconferencecentre.co.tz

IMPORTANT DATES

Start of submission of paper abstracts and proposals for session	5th December 2019
End of submission of paper abstracts and session proposal	14th February 2020
Notification of acceptance of paper abstracts and session proposals	24th February 2020
Start of conference registration	19th December 2019
End of Maji Week (including conference) registration	14th February 2020
2020 Maji Week Scientific Conference	17-18 March 2020

1.0 BACKGROUND

An international day to celebrate freshwater was recommended at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The United Nations General Assembly responded by designating 22 March 1993 as the first World Water Day. Since then, World Water Day has been held annually on 22 March as a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. On this day, member states are called upon to devote this day, as appropriate in the national context, to tangible promotional and public awareness activities including, but not limited to, production of documentaries, organization of conferences, seminars, and expositions related to conservation and development of water resources. In Tanzania, every year, the Ministry of Water has been celebrating the World Water Day by organizing a week-long series of events in various regions under different themes. These events have since been famously known as *Maji Week Celebrations* in Tanzania. However, it is acknowledged that previous *Maji Week* celebrations did not incorporate a scientific conference as part of the events. It is only in 2019 that the *Maji Week* celebrations uniquely incorporated a scientific conference for the first time.

This year, as was the case in 2019, the Ministry of Water will be hosting the Water Week Celebrations in collaboration with partners in the water sector. The following are the events, in sequential order, which will mark the *Maji Week* celebrations:

- i) Day 1 (Monday 16th March 2020): Launching of water projects across the Country;
- ii) Day 2 (Tuesday 17th March 2020): *Maji Week Scientific Conference*;
- iii) Day 3 (Wednesday the 18th March 2020): *Maji Week Scientific Conference*
- iv) Day 4 (Thursday the 19th March 2020): Joint Water Sector Review Mission for WSDP II - which is a dialogue mechanism for Government, Development Partners and other stakeholders
- v) Day 5 (Friday the 20th March 2020): EWURA Day - A national convening for all water utilities;
- vi) Day 6 (Saturday the 21st March 2020): EWURA Day and end of Water Week Celebrations.

2.0 VENUE AND REGISTRATION

The venue for Day 2 - 6 activities will be the **APC Hotel & Conference Centre (Mbweni), Dar es Salaam** (www.apchotelandconferencecentre.co.tz). It is expected that more than 500

participants will convene to observe the *Maji* Week celebrations including exhibition. The APC Centre has modern accommodation facilities and participants of the *Maji* Week qualifies for a discounted rate. However, one can only access the discounted package after registering for the *Maji* Week.

Participants for ALL events marking the 2020 *Maji* Week Celebrations i.e Scientific Committee, Joint Water Sector Review and EWURA Day **MUST** register through the online link indicated below **before 14th Feb.2020**.

<https://forms.gle/Jr1zSNByNCg9GAX46>

There will be NO on-site registration during *Maji* week celebrations and hence all participants are advised to register early enough before the closing date in order to avoid any inconveniences.

3.0. THE MAJI WEEK SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE - RATIONALE

This brief call/concept note focuses on the processes leading to the *Maji* Week Scientific Conference, to be held on 17-18 March 2020 at the APC Hotel & Conference Centre (Mbweni), Dar es Salaam. Global Water Partnership Tanzania will coordinate the *Maji* Week Scientific Conference on behalf of Ministry of Water.

The *Maji* Week conference was conceived as a platform for sharing new knowledge, insights and experience for research undertaken in Tanzania, as well as other countries on water. Most of the researchers and practitioners in the water sector in Tanzania have often presented their work in regional and global forums with minimal sharing of the same in the country. Thus, this second *Maji* Week Scientific Conference is geared towards filling this gap – by providing a national platform where all the research undertaken in Tanzania and beyond on water will be shared for the benefit of adoption and upscaling of some of the innovative ideas and insights in the water sector development processes.

Maji Week Scientific Conference is a flagship event for the Ministry of Water where the Triple Helix Concept on knowledge sharing, learning and interaction between three main actors in the water sector is fully realised. The three main actors are (i) Policy makers (ii) Researchers and (iii) Practitioners as illustrated in the Figure 1

During the *Maji* Week Scientific Conference, practitioners, policy makers, researchers and academicians from across the world gather to network, collaborate, learn and inspire each other. Cognisant is made to the fact that the 2020 has been declared as the year of action on climate adaptation by the global community and hence the conference is uniquely placed to contribute to the worldwide momentum on climate change adaptation and resilience in the water sector.



Figure 1: The Triple Helix Concept – interaction of main actors in the water sector

4.0 THEME

The theme for this year's *Maji* Week Scientific Conference is: ***Water and Climate Change: Ensuring Water Security for All***. Water is an important element in the climate change mitigation puzzle but the single most important component in adaptation. It is evident that climate change has continued to manifest itself through water and its impacts has widely been experienced in key sectors e.g water, agriculture, and energy. Changes in water availability will impact food security and may lead to instability in social-economic fabrics and trigger displacements of people. Water is clearly vital for the healthy functioning of socio-ecological systems, and every day we acquire new levels of understanding about the interrelationship between water and climate dynamics. Although sufficient water for human consumption is indispensable, an over-abundance of water, caused by extreme events, for example, floods can destroy houses, crops and cities. Similarly, an under-supply of water may lead to droughts.

In this regard, paper presenters are advised to align their presentations in the context of the sub-themes as highlighted in 4.1. We welcome presentations and contributions from researchers and practitioners detailing their work undertaken in Tanzania, and other countries as well, in the past 2 years.

4.1 Sub-themes

a) Water Resources Governance in a Changing Climate

In this sub-theme, participants are invited to submit papers in the following topics:

- i) Institutional attributes for advancing water security in the face of climate change.
- ii) Climate change vulnerability and adaptation analysis in water resources governance
- iii) Climate induced human behaviour and water related institutions and governance

- iv) Influence of climate change on partitioning of the hydrological cycle and accrued impacts
- v) The role of Artificial Intelligence in adaptation to climate change
- vi) Managing transboundary water resources in the realms of climate change
- vii) Managing extreme hydrological events in a changing climate
- viii) Climate analytics, information and decision-support systems in water governance
- ix) International climate finance and adaptation in the water sector
- x) The interface between Indigenous knowledge and Science in adaptation to climate change
- xi) Gendered hydro–dimension of climate change impact and adaptation in water governance
- xii) Gender strategies in coping with climate change in water sector

b) Nature Based Solutions for Adaptation to Climate Change

This sub-theme invites submissions that address:

- i) Mainstreaming and integration of Nature Based Solutions concept in catchment management and planning for sustainable management of water resources in a changing climate
- ii) Role of Nature Based solutions in enhancing conservation of water resources
- iii) Innovations and capacity building processes in Nature Based Solutions in managing water resources in a changing climate
- iv) Identifying indicators for assessing the effectiveness of Nature Based Solutions and addressing related knowledge gaps in the water sector
- v) Evidence of Nature Based Solutions to adapt to climate change
- vi) Implementation of Nature Based Solutions in rural and urban landscapes to improve water security and increase beneficiation of water resources
- vii) Nature Based Solutions for ensuring sustainable sanitation
- viii) Understanding existing barriers, limits and potential opportunities for increasing the scale and effectiveness of Nature Based Solutions in the water sector
- ix) Gender dimensions of Nature Based Solutions in a changing climate

c) Water Energy Food Security Nexus in a Changing Climate

In this sub-theme, we invite papers on the following topics:

- i) Mainstreaming WEF in planning and adaptation strategies
- ii) WEF multi-criteria analysis and impact assessment
- iii) Use cases on application of WEF concept in project management and appraisal
- iv) Institutional alignment and coordination in maximizing WEF benefits
- v) Dimensions of WEF security in a changing climate
- vi) Equilibrium and interactions between NEXUS sectors
- vii) Modelling the NEXUS mechanism in data scarce environment and changing climate

d) Mobilizing investments for a water secure future in a changing climate

This sub-theme invites submission of papers that address, but not limited to, the following areas:

- i) Potential funding opportunities for climate resilient water projects

- ii) Quantifying economic contribution of water sector in development processes
- iii) Risks of heavy reliance on donor funding for national or basin-level water-related interventions
- iv) Sustainable pathways for investing and monitoring water supply and sanitation projects
- v) Home-grown solutions for mobilizing resources in water supply and sanitation projects
- vi) Innovative and promising examples of water governance financing mechanisms based on water use and water pollution fees
- vii) Reducing the investment gap in water infrastructure and financing water governance costs.
- viii) Acceleration of project preparation for climate resilient water investments at national and transboundary levels.
- ix) Gender sensitive Public Private finance partnerships in water infrastructure
- x) Mobilising climate resilience water partnerships and knowledge generation for inclusive water governance
- xi) Mainstreaming gender, youth and social inclusion in development and water investments projects.

5.0 SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS

One may submit a research-based, policy-based or practitioner-oriented abstract as well as that focus on amalgamating policy, research and practice under any of the sub-themes described above.

Abstracts should have the following attributes:

- i) A maximum of 350 words
- ii) The format for all text should be font size 12, Times New Roman and single-spaced
- iii) The title should be no more than 16 words in title case
- iv) Author's names should be written in such a way that the initials appear first followed by the last name.
- v) The authors names should indicate one corresponding author* (with an asterisk) and the email and phone number of the corresponding
- vi) The affiliations of authors should be shown through letter superscripts (such as ^{a,b,c}).
- vii) Authors should clearly indicate the sub-theme under which their abstract/paper should be considered
- viii) The abstract should include a clear statement of the issues addressed, the research methodology and a concise summary of the findings and conclusion.
- ix) Five keywords should be included in alphabetical order at the end of the abstract.

• Selection process and criteria

All abstracts should directly link to one conference sub-theme. Authors should make every effort to craft a well written abstract without grammatical or spelling errors and ensure that the abstract is easy to read and understand. We suggest that authors keep sentences simple, use the active voice and spell out any abbreviations or acronyms. Abstract review criteria include clarity, supporting evidence, scientific rigour, relevance, potential significance, innovation or usefulness in the water sector and allied fields.

6.0 CALL FOR HOSTING SESSION(S) OR EVENT(S)

We invite submissions for proposals to organise session(s) or partnership event(s) at the 2020 *Maji* Week Scientific Conference. Proposal for sessions or events should have details of proposed presenters and topics, including who will moderate/chair along with the desired format of the session. We welcome sessions that are purely research-based, policy-based or practitioner-oriented, as well as sessions that focus on amalgamating policy, research and practice in their agenda. We invite calls for Open and Closed sessions. **Hosting a session(s) or partnership event(s) will attract a fee and applicants of sessions are advised to get in touch with the Scientific Conference Committee for information on payment and further instructions on managing their sessions.**

- **Types of Sessions**

In an Open Session, the session organisers define the topic and format of the session, invite one or more speakers to moderate/chair the session, but advertise for and accept contributions from the wider community through their own networks. All contributions for an open session will need to be submitted via the conference abstract submission process. The conference Steering Committee may also suggest additional contributors to the session.

In a Closed Session, the session organisers define the topic and format of the session, and invite all speakers/contributors in the session. In closed sessions, the session organisers will manage submission of papers/abstracts but will be required to submit the details of all the speakers/contributors and topics or titles of presentations to the *Maji* Week Scientific Committee.

7.0 SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA FOR SESSIONS

The main criteria for selection of sessions will be quality, relevance, diversity and inclusivity. We particularly welcome sessions that:

- i) Facilitate dialogue between research and government, civil society, international agencies and business/private sector
- ii) Contribute to a diverse and balanced programme that focuses on solutions and innovations in the water sector
- iii) Link climate action to sustainable water resources development, investment and planning.
- iv) Contribute to a conference programme with a wide range of topics, stakeholders, scales and regions
- v) Showcase examples (case studies, best practices, tools) or research that are internationally applicable in the water sector
- vi) Involve a partner organisation from a different country or organisation community
- vii) Fit a 90-minute time slot or otherwise as will be determined by the structure of the conference programme. It is also possible to arrange for two or three linked sessions around a particular topic

8.0 SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS FOR SESSION PROPOSALS AND ABSTRACTS

All session proposals and abstracts should be addressed to: 2020 Maji Week Scientific Committee and submitted through majiweek.2020conference@gmail.com and copy to dorisia.mulashani@maji.go.tz before **14th February 2020**. The abstracts or proposals will

be reviewed by experts and the corresponding author will be notified of outcome of the review process not later than **24th February 2020**. All session proposals and abstracts will be reviewed by at least 3 members of the *Maji* Week Scientific Conference review panel who will make the final decision on whether the submission/abstract will be accepted or not. If an abstract will be accepted, the authors will be requested to prepare an oral or poster presentation.

9.0 CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE

By submitting an abstract, authors agree to publication of the abstract in conference materials such as Book of Abstracts. Authors also agree to publication of photos, video recordings or live streaming of the presentations.

10.0 MAJI WEEK CONFERENCE YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD

An honorary *Maji* Week Conference Young Researcher Award will be given to the best youth presenter (under the 35years) who will demonstrate exceptional oral presentation skills, insight of subject matter, articulation in response to questions etc. There will be a winner in each sub-theme thus making a total of four sub-winners from which the overall *Maji* Week Young Researcher Award Winner will be nominated based on a scoring criteria that will be developed by the Scientific Committee. An adjudication team will be availed in all sessions to assess all youth presenters. There will also be an award of the Best Poster Youth Award as well of which will be determined through as adjudication process.

11.0 TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

All participants should make arrangements and manage their travel and accommodation. Registered *Maji* Week participants are advised to take advantage of the discounted accommodation rates at the APC Hotel & Conference Centre. Registered participants can communicate with ktabitha@apchotelandconferencecentre.co.tz and copy to rezina@apchotelandconferencecentre.co.tz or call +255 716 363865 with regards to accommodation at the APC Hotel & Conference Centre.

12.0 CONTACT INFORMATION

For more information about the conference please contact the following:

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