

Call for Proposals (CFP)

10th Toyin Falola Annual International Conference on Africa and the African Diaspora (TOFAC) 01 - 03 July 2020 (arrival 30 June 2020)

by the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), in association with the University of Namibia (UNAM)

Development, Democracy and Resources

Africa has the unique position of being a continent with a wealth of natural resources. However, this places Africa in a complex developmental situation. Some note that 'the resources curse' of the continent is the cause of its trajectory of negative development. Others perceive the resources endowment as an opportunity to conquer the 21st century. **The relationship between resources, democracy and development, is highlighted by the system of effective or ineffective democracies of the continent's 54 states.**

The 2020 TOFAC intends to critically examine the highly intricate and contested processes of resource development and democracy building in Africa. Furthermore, the conference will reflect on the construction of effective and ineffective political systems that are intimately linked to movements of colonialisation, coloniality and de-colonialisation. The primary aim of TOFAC is to reflect on the multifaceted relationship between resources, development and democracy, as well as their effects on contemporary Africa and African societies.

The questions will also focus on how resources can be recast, in respect to the continent's future. Simultaneously, the conference intends to create an intellectual space for examining the complex

economies that exist in the region, including informal, illegal and foreign ones. Beyond the specific emphasis on Africa, the overarching focus of the conference is to engage with the effects of the global political economy and Africa's role within that context. Additionally, the histories of resources and resource development, by both indigenous and non-indigenous populations, will be explored.

Scholars are invited to examine diverse aspects of foreign aid and investment channels that flow into the continent's politics and businesses. This includes tackling conversations surrounding dead aid and corrupt governments that hold unsavoury positions within African economies.

Critical topics of how political unrest, terrorism, extreme terror formations and civil wars relate to the extraction and exploitation of resources and the impact on Africa's safety and security, will be addressed. Participants are invited to critically analyse the role of pan-African campaigns in the process to democratisation and facilitation of inter-regional trade.

From the viewpoint of Africa's economy and development, issues relating to aviation, and marine resources exploitation

will be interrogated particularly in view of the losses to the economies of resources rich countries. Further, themes of gender and diversity, especially the role of women and youth in the economy and their access or lack thereof to micro-loans and other financing systems, will be interrogated. This further correlates with the role of women in the political sphere and democracy building, both as voters and leaders. The objective of these dialogues is to pluralise the narratives on certain assumed and ambiguous positionalities.

Following the tradition of past years, the conference will provide a platform for scholars from various disciplines and geographical locations to interact, exchange ideas, and receive feedback. Submitted papers will be assigned to various panels according to theme, topic, discipline, or geographical focus. **Thematically focused panel proposals (with 3-5 participants) are encouraged.** TOFAC 2020 will particularly welcome postgraduate students and emerging scholars to attend and present their work. TOFAC aims to support publications from this conference and selected papers will be published in a series of book volumes.

We invite submissions on the following sub-themes:

1. Histories of African democracies and dictatorships
2. Resource governance and distribution
3. Land, legacy and leadership
4. Nationalist formations and the state in Africa
5. Minorities, nationalism and regionalism in Africa
6. Citizenship, nationality and identity politics
7. Sustainable development and Africa's industrialisation agenda
8. Environment management and resource attrition
9. Mining, resources and effects of colonisation
10. Water resources management and regional economies
11. Climate change, conflict and security issues
12. The politics of resource allocations – access, exclusion and ring-fencing
13. Migrant workers, human rights and labour politics in Africa
14. Economic nationalism and processes of development
15. African feminisms and politics of gender in Africa
16. Women empowerment in business
17. Foreign direct investment in Africa
18. Micro-loans and foreign banking systems in Africa
19. The business of Africa in local and global contexts
20. Effects of international and inter-regional trade in Africa
21. Illegal economies and illicit financial markets in Africa
22. African movements of liberalist economics
23. African big businesses and consumer patterns
24. Branding Africa, consumerism and youth entrepreneurship
25. Philanthropy, politics and elections in Africa
26. Political economy of resource development
27. Marine economy
28. Africa - China relations and the global world order
29. African bilateral and multilateral trade agreements
30. Migrations, internally displaced persons and human trafficking
31. Terrorism, organised crime and instability in Africa
32. Aviation safety and security in Africa
33. Maritime safety and security in Africa
34. Pan-Africanism and Africa identities in the 21st century
35. Heritage management, tourism and culture
36. African innovation systems, creative industries and future business
37. Africa and the Fourth Industrial Revolution (A4IR)
38. Africa 2.5 Africa's generation Z and African futures

Proposals for additional sub-themes and other ideas from participants are welcome. Submissions will be accepted for paper presentations; posters and performative, and artistic productions.

Each individual proposal must include:

1. Title of the work and an abstract of up to 200 words
2. Name of presenter (underline surname)
3. Mailing address
4. Phone number
5. Email address
6. Institutional affiliation
7. Three to five keywords that best characterise the themes and topics relevant to your submission.

Proposals for panel sessions (3-5 presenters) must include:

1. Title of panel and a collective summary of 250 words on panel's theme, including separate titles for individual work
2. A 200-word abstract for the presentation of each speaker
3. Mailing address
4. Phone number
5. Email address
6. Institutional affiliation of each presenter

NOTE: Participants are required to follow these guidelines.

Proposals will be accepted via email only: tofac2020@nust.na. Kindly copy Professor Alinah Segobye at asegobye@nust.na and Dr Richard Iroanya at riroanya@unam.na

Take note of the following:

- A mandatory non-refundable registration fee will be payable immediately upon the acceptance of the abstract. Registration fees will cover the conference programme, a conference t-shirt and bag, admission to the panels, workshops, and special events, as well as transportation to and from the hotel and conference events.
- Registration includes refreshments for all three days, cultural events and a closing banquet. Details of the conference fees will be communicated in due course.
- Participants will be responsible for their own transportation, accommodation and visa costs including the conference registration fee. Reasonable hotel rates will be negotiated and information communicated well in advance. Participants will also be responsible for cost for post-conference tours.
- The conference organisers will not be liable for any additional costs incurred by participants other than what will be communicated and updated on a regular basis.
- The official conference website (under construction) will feature additional information.

Proposals will be accepted from 01 September 2019 to 30 March 2020.

Enquiries

Conference coordinators:

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