PRME Chapter Africa

World Tour Research Paper Development Programme 2024

Thursday 23 May 2024 – Online at 2pm Central Africa Time

7am (CST) | 8am (EST) | 1pm (GMT) | 1pm (CET; WAT) | 2pm CAT | 3pm (EAT)

There is no charge for this event

CALL FOR PAPERS AND PARTICIPANTS

The PRME World Tour Research Paper Development Programme is a partnership between PRME and two of the world’s leading international journals in the responsible management and business-in-society field, Business & Society and Journal of Business Ethics. It offers PRME Regional Chapters a research paper development workshop during 2022-2024 at the invitation of the PRME Secretariat and co-organised with the PRME Regional Chapters and the PRME World Tour Organizing Committee, which consists of senior scholars and is chaired by former co-editor for Business & Society and Professor at University of Bath (UK), Andrew Crane.

As part of the series, PRME Chapter Africa will be hosting a PRME World Tour Research Paper Development Workshop on Thursday, 23 May 2024. The focus of the workshop will be on responsible management research in Africa and by African scholars.

The objective of the PRME World Tour is to support early- and mid-career scholars in bringing research to publication, as part of the field’s commitment to relevant and timely research insights that advance responsible management and sustainable development around the world. The PRME World Tour also has a more general ambition of supporting the professionalisation of the scholarly field of responsible management research, by increasing the range of voices heard as authors and representing concerns too often marginalised or excluded from the most prestigious journals.

The workshop is open to African scholars across the continent as well as to researchers in the African diaspora, in order to encourage submissions from African scholars across the world.

We invite you to be part of this special initiative. The targeted audience includes PhD students, newly graduated doctors, post-doctorate researchers, early career, mid-career, and senior scholars.

The workshop is at no charge for all participants. Your institution does not need to be a member of PRME Chapter Africa to participate.
WORKSHOP AGENDA
The workshop will consist of two parts, as follows:

Part 1: OPEN SESSION (from 14:00 CAT to 16:30 CAT)
[7am (CST) | 8am (EST) | 1pm (GMT) | 1pm (CET; WAT) | 2pm CAT | 3pm (EAT)]
The registration link can be found at the end of this document.

The first part is an open session and we welcome anyone who would like to join us. It consists of two activities, an editors’ panel and a roundtable panel discussion.

Welcome and Introduction: (14:00 to 14:10)
Editors’ panel: (45 minutes 14:10 to 14:55 CAT)
The initial part of the workshop begins with experienced editors discussing how to craft a research question that not only adds substantial value to the existing body of knowledge but also incorporates regional context as a distinguishing factor. This approach may help to create theoretical contributions that resonate with international peer-reviewed management journals. The panel will feature current and former editors, associate editors, and editorial board members from general management journals such as the Journal of Management Studies and the African Journal of Management, as well as specialised business and society journals such as Business & Society, and Journal Business Ethics.

Q&A with editors (30 minutes 14:55 to 15:25)
Breakouts rooms will be available for Q&A with the editors.

----- Short break (10 minutes 15:25 to 15:35) -----

Roundtable Panel Discussion: (55 minutes - 15:35 CAT to 16:30 CAT)
Topic: Publishing responsible management research in top journals: Challenges and opportunities for African scholars
The second section will consist of a round table of highly respected and well-known scholars who have expertise and experience of publishing on sustainability, climate leadership, environment issues, business ethics, grand challenges, sustainable supply chains, and specifically, knowledge about these issues in an African context. The panellists all have experience in publishing this type of research in high-ranking journals. The audience will have an opportunity to use the online chat function or to directly ask questions to panel members.

--------- BREAK (15 minutes – 16:30 to 16:45 CAT) ---------

PART 2: CLOSED SESSION (from 16:45 CAT to 18:45 CAT )
[9:45 (CST) | 10:45 (EST) | 15:45 (GMT) | 15:45 (CET; WAT) | 16:45 CAT | 17:45 (EAT)]
The submission link can be found at the end of this document.

The second part of the workshop is specifically for authors who have submitted a work-in-progress paper that has been accepted by the organising committee.
In order to apply for the CLOSED SESSION of the workshop, you need to submit a work-in-progress paper that you are targeting for journal submission.

**Format:**
This part of the workshop will be conducted in small groups where authors will receive direct feedback on their work in progress paper from invited mentors who are all experienced scholars and are editors, associate editors, editorial board members, authors, and reviewers for leading management journals.

**Mentors:**
Each paper will be assigned two mentors.
All authors and their mentors will receive a Zoom link and will be allocated to a specific breakout room.

**Paper submissions:**
Submissions may be made in several formats, including:
1. Extended abstract – between 2,000 and 4,000 words
2. Work-in-progress papers – between 4,000 and 10,000 words

The extended abstract should include a clear research question, and sections on theoretical background, and methodology.
A work-in-progress paper should be further developed and include the above as well as a results or findings section or it may be a completed paper that is still in draft form.

We welcome both empirical papers (quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods) and purely theoretical work.

The word count includes references. Please structure your paper with appropriate headings and with double line spacing.

**Scope of papers**
Accepted papers MUST be in the broad field of responsible management, and business in society, for example:
- Responsible management | Ethical leadership | Business ethics
- Sustainability | UN SDGs
- Climate leadership | climate action | mitigation | adaptation
- Just transition in Africa
- Corporate responsibility | CSR
- Impact investing | funding for mitigation and adaptation
- ESG and Reporting (Climate-related | Nature-related | Social | Environmental | Governance-related)
- Social Enterprise | Entrepreneurship
- Responsible Consumption and Production | Circular economy
- Social Justice | Human Rights
- Business and the natural environment; biodiversity
- Decolonising management studies in Africa

Priority will be given to papers that:
- are high quality work-in-progress;
- have potential for publication in top-tier journals;
- present studies in or about Africa; and
- are focused on topics related to the Sustainable Development Goals (UN SDGs).
**Submission requirements:**
A condition for acceptance is that at least one author is from any Higher Education Institution (HEI) located in Africa or at least one author is from the African diaspora\(^1\) and doing academic research at an HEI outside Africa. The HEI does not need to be a member of PRME.

Note that submissions will not be reviewed blind, so please include a cover page with authors’ identification (names, institutional affiliation, ORCID).

Please indicate your institutional affiliation and whether your submission is as a researcher in Africa or from the African diaspora.

Please also indicate on the cover page which paper format you are targeting, an extended abstract or a work-in-progress paper. This is for ease of matching with mentors.

Lastly, indicate in your submission which journal(s) you are targeting and why the paper fits the journal aims and scope. A short paragraph will suffice and there is a section on the submission form to include this detail.

The deadline for submission has been extended to Tuesday 30th April 2024, 23:59:00 CAT. Please register and submit your paper at this [LINK](#).

Successful authors who will be invited to the paper feedback sessions will be informed by 3 May 2024.

**IN SUMMARY**
The workshop, which will be held online, and hosted at the Gordon Institute of Business Science, University of Pretoria, on behalf of PRME Chapter Africa.

- Date: Thursday 23 May 2024.
- Start time: 14:00 CAT
- Please register to attend the OPEN SESSION at this [LINK](#).
- Please submit your papers [HERE](#).
- For the CLOSED SESSION, participation is by invitation only, exclusively to the authors of the selected papers. A Zoom link will be provided for accepted authors.

If you have any questions, please contact Dr Kelly Alexander of the PRME Chapter Africa World Tour Organising Committee, at alexanderk@gibs.co.za.

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\(^1\) The African diaspora is defined by the African Union as “people of Africa origin living outside the continent, irrespective of their citizenship and nationality and who are willing to contribute to the development of the continent ...”. [https://au.int/en/diaspora-division](https://au.int/en/diaspora-division)