



## **Placing Africa Firmly in the Realm of Sustainable Development Goals**

### **7th African Unity for Renaissance International Conference**

The 7<sup>th</sup> African Unity for Renaissance International Conference will take place on the 21<sup>st</sup> to the 24<sup>th</sup> of May 2017 while Africa Day Expo will be on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2017. The conference seeks to bring together established researchers and scholars in the fields of sustainable development, economics, green economy & renewable energy, environment and systems sciences to interrogate Africa's response to the new development agenda as specified in the SDGs and Africa's Agenda 2063. Participants will converge in Pretoria to develop Africa's approach to Sustainable Development Goals.

**Conference Theme:** Placing Africa firmly in the realm of Sustainable Development Goals Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) has replaced the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) as a new, post-2015 development agenda. Concurrently, the African Union (AU) has established a blueprint for Africa's development in the form of Agenda 2063. In the presence of these two development pathways, a new shift in the balance of emphasis on Africa's development aspirations has evolved, with interface between social and natural sciences/applied sciences becoming pivotal in the achievement of sustainable development goals.

It is generally agreed that Africa made significant strides under MDGs. This was achieved with limited science and technology support. As such African countries have realized that much more can be achieved if social and natural sciences as well as technology are equally leveraged. With this awareness it is being contended that for African countries to be able to attain sustainable development goals, the interface between social sciences and technologies need to be supported by serious investment consideration in science and technology.

The 7th African Unity for Renaissance International Conference seeks to bring together established researchers and scholars in the fields of sustainable development, economics, green economy & renewable energy, environment and systems sciences to interrogate Africa's response to the new development agenda as specified in the SDGs and Africa's Agenda 2063. Participants will converge in Pretoria to develop Africa's approach to Sustainable Development Goals. Discussions will be guided by following themes:

- Review of the Millennium Development Goals: How Africa has performed
- Poverty and inequality
- Climate change and environmental uncertainty (including hazards and disasters)
- Science and Technology models for achieving Sustainable Development Goals
- Systems thinking and Systems Models for developmental planning to achieve Sustainable Development Goals
- Peace and Security as a basis for achieving Sustainable Development Goals
- Investment approaches and models for achieving Sustainable Development Goals
- Strength, Opportunities and Weaknesses in African economies that may hinder or promote the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals
- Emerging trends of development patterns under Sustainable Development Goals
- Renewable Energy as a catalyst for achieving Sustainable Development Goals

**Conference dates:** The conference will take place on the 21st to the 24th of May 2017 while Africa Day Expo will be on the 25th of May 2017. Interested presenters must submit their abstracts to Rodney Managa at [rmanaga@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:rmanaga@hsrc.ac.za) or Tsholofelo Madise at [tmadise@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:tmadise@hsrc.ac.za)

### **Abstracts Specification, Deadline for submission, PhD Colloquium**

Abstracts shall provide: The title in a concise form, intended Conference theme, name of authors, affiliation of authors, corresponding e-mail address. The abstract should not be more than 500 words, Arial, single spacing. The scientific committee will review all submitted abstracts and authors will be notified within two weeks after the deadline for submission Important dates.

Deadline for submission of abstracts 30 November 2016. Submission of full papers 30 March 2017. Registration closes on 30 April 2017 PhD Colloquium for the first time the African Unity for Renaissance International Conference will run a PhD colloquium. PhD students and post-doctoral researchers are encouraged to submit abstract as well. The format and deadlines for abstracts is similar to the one specified for conference participants. This PhD colloquium aims to provide opportunities for PhD students to: receive feedback on their research from their peers, senior scholars and other experts, identify and learn how their research can achieve practical impact in the sustainable development space, interact and form networks with peers, senior scholars and other experts with various perspectives and from different institutions and countries. Abstracts for PhD colloquium should be submitted to Kathatso Twala at [ktwala@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:ktwala@hsrc.ac.za)