

Ensuring Availability and Sustainable Management of Water and Sanitation for All

To be co-hosted with **KNUST**, in Kumasi Ghana
11th-15th July 2016

Call for Papers and other contributions

The WEDC International Conference is a comprehensive and interactive learning event, which provides continued professional development for water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) sector professionals.

The conference is a valued and respected platform for reflection, debate and exchange of knowledge and ideas which are rooted in practice. Our programme includes three days of presentations and discussion of peer-reviewed content. This is alongside two days of focused capacity development workshops designed to develop skills and knowledge in topical areas, which have been jointly identified and developed with sector stakeholders.

In 2016 we consider our respective contributions to the achievement of the recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). We invite partners, and those conducting significant or innovative programmes and projects with interesting experiences, to share those with us. A variety of formats during our event help to facilitate this and our collective learning, including discussion of peer reviewed papers, poster or espresso slot presentations, side events, or capacity development workshops. These are alongside a fun social programme to support networking.

We welcome you to join us in Kumasi, to meet and discuss these important issues with your peers.

11-15 July 2016



**Loughborough
University**

Our programme includes the following options for contributions

Papers and Discussion Sessions

From Monday to Wednesday a variety of briefing and refereed papers will be presented and discussed. Papers will be grouped thematically, and sessions will include both types of papers.

Briefing papers may be direct accounts of projects, or programmes and aim to share successes and failure of approaches and field experiences including lessons learnt. Top quality **refereed papers** from global WASH leaders are structured to incorporate new knowledge, clear rigorous methodologies and analysis. Lively and constructive discussions are common, such that experiences from the floor complement those presented and enhance the collective learning experience. Details of submission process and deadlines are provided below.

Espresso Slots

A number of these discussion sessions are also dedicated to mixed topic espresso slot presentations. This innovative and popular format allows presenters to introduce strictly four slides in five minutes, followed by discussion time. Please note that presentations must be received a minimum of a day in advance of presentation – provided that spaces are available. Slides are reviewed beforehand and will be included in the Conference Proceedings. Please send your slides to J.Fisher1@Lboro.ac.uk

Posters

Posters are simple summaries of a relevant topic or project, reviewed by the Editor. These will be prominently displayed during the conference, with time allocated for dedicated discussions. Posters can be submitted for review by the Editor up to the end of May 2016. Please send your posters to R.J.Shaw@Lboro.ac.uk for review. Hard copies of posters which have passed the review should be handed in for display during registration in Loughborough. Poster preparation guidelines are available from http://www.wedconference.co.uk/author_info.html

Side Events

Side events are a 1.5 hour slot in the early evening (typically 17.30 – 19.00). International agencies, programmes or projects share results, introduce new approaches, or consult with the conference audience on emerging topics in the sector, using various formats. We aim to include an exciting variety and balance of topics in our side event programme, and ask that conveners allow for some flexibility on the timing of preferred slots to help us to programme this. There are side event opportunities on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. These are in high demand, so we also ask conveners to download the proposal form and apply for these by 1st March 2016: <http://www.wedconference.co.uk/exhibition.html>

Exhibition

Exhibitors enjoy a unique and valuable opportunity to meet and interact with a global practitioner WASH audience, see cutting edge developments, products, services and approaches, particularly during break times when delegates meet and mingle in the exhibition area. Typically our delegates number around 400, from more than 40 countries, and include a diverse range of professionals and decision makers. See the following link for further details and a booking form: <http://www.wedconference.co.uk/exhibition.html>

Capacity Development Workshops

Following the successful launch of our capacity development workshops during our 2013 conference, we have maintained this aspect of our programme. Workshops will take place on Thursday 14th and Friday 15th July. We invite partner organisations to submit proposals for workshops. These may be of full or half day duration. Two field visit options will also be offered to participants. The capacity development application form can be found on our website.

Topics

We particularly welcome submissions which will contribute to the following specific thematic discussions:

1. **Leadership in WASH**
2. **How to mainstream equity and inclusion within institutions**
3. **WASH services in the transition from emergency to development**
4. **Disaster risk management – implications for WASH**
5. **Transformative technologies in WASH**
6. **How to instigate menstrual hygiene management**
7. **How to instigate and sustain hygiene behaviour change**
8. **How to link WASH, nutrition and health**
9. **How to measure sustainability of WASH Services**
10. **Faecal Sludge Management**

We also welcome contributions on any aspect of WASH in emerging economies, including, but not restricted to: sanitation and wastewater, faecal sludge management, water treatment, water supply, solid waste management and urban drainage, sector and project financing, institutional development, capacity building and training, knowledge management and dissemination, equity and inclusion – reaching underserved groups, community-based approaches, climate change adaptation.

Key dates

Deadline for initial paper submissions and Capacity Development Workshop proposals on or before **15th February 2016**. We aim to review papers and provide comments within three weeks of submission.

Revised papers to address review comments, to be resubmitted by authors not later than **21st March 2016**.

Deadline for Side Event applications: 1st March 2016.

Posters should be received by the Editor by **31st May 2016**.

Exhibition space is limited and will be allocated on a first come first served basis.

It is vital that the deadline dates for submissions are adhered to in order to allow time for reviewers to assess the papers and to give authors opportunity to make corrections, and to ensure the inclusion of papers in the conference pre-prints and the programme.

Accepted papers and posters to be presented at the conference will appear in the pre-prints. Afterwards, the Proceedings will be available on a CD and all presented papers will be available for free download from the WEDC Knowledge Base.

Provisional programme

Day	Morning	Afternoon	Evening
Monday 11th July	Registration / Conference opening ceremony / Paper and discussion sessions		Four parallel side events
Tuesday 12th July	Paper and discussion sessions	Paper and discussion sessions	Four parallel side events, followed by networking night
Wednesday 13th July	Paper and discussion sessions	Paper and discussion sessions	Four parallel side events, followed by the Gala Dinner
Thursday 14th July	Capacity Development Workshops (themes to be announced)		
Friday 15th July	Capacity Development Workshops (themes to be announced)		

The unique features of the WEDC International Conference

- Conference sessions are facilitated by sector experts, who dedicate equal time to presentation and facilitated discussion ensuring that key lessons are identified, and that the collective experiences from participants are shared to enhance the learning of both presenters and the audience.
- Our focus on sharing of practice and experiences seeks to actively encourage constructive dialogue and debate between researchers and practitioners. This helps to ensure that future research addresses the needs of practitioners and that practitioners are aware of the latest research findings.
- Our open access database of conference papers is a unique repository within the sector and enables sharing of current experiences beyond the conference audience with up to 14,000 downloads per month.
- Our audience is predominantly (more than 70 percent) from low- and middle-income countries; as such, experience is shared by people working in similar contexts, where lessons and good practice are more readily transferrable.

Please see our website for further information, including our conference overview video, fees, accommodation and guidance for authors and the paper template: <http://www.wedcconference.co.uk>

Sign up/login to MyWEDC to make sure you receive future postings. <https://wedc-knowledge.lboro.ac.uk/index.html>

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