



Announcement and Call for Abstracts

West African Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA)

in collaboration with

University of Ibadan

is pleased to announce the

**12th WARIMA International Conference and
Workshops**

at

University of Ibadan, Nigeria

25 November – 30 November, 2018

Theme: Strengthening Research, Innovation Incubation and Knowledge Product Delivery for National and Regional Development.

Sub-Themes:

- Building and strengthening Human Capacity in Research Uptake and Utilisation for National and Regional Development.
- Human Capacity Development for Innovative Research across West African Sub-region.
- Scientific and Technological Research Innovations: A Panacea for National and Regional Development.
- Strengthening Cooperation and Network among West African Researchers to Address Regional Developmental Challenges.
- Developing Expertise in Attracting Grants for National and Regional Researches.
- Capacity Development for Knowledge Product Delivery among West African Researchers.
- Funding Research, Innovation Incubation and Knowledge Product Delivery across Borders.
- Overcoming the Challenges of Strengthening Research, Innovation and Knowledge Product Delivery for National and Regional Development.
- The place of Science and Technology in Strengthening Research, Innovation Incubation and Knowledge Delivery for National and Regional Development.
- The Role of the Humanities in the reinforcement of Research, Innovation Incubation and Knowledge Delivery for National and Regional Development.
- Research Conceptualisation and Publication for Strategic Impact and Improved Institutional Ranking.

Introduction/Background to the Conference and Workshops

West African researchers are best placed to identify and address the challenges of their own nations and provide local, national and regional policy-makers with a broad range of high-quality, relevant evidence to inform decision-making. However, there are still many barriers that prevent these researchers from fulfilling their potentials. Chronic underinvestment in universities and research institutions, lack of access to current research findings, low wages and poor career prospects for researchers are just some of the factors that can hold back research strengthening, innovation incubation and knowledge product delivery for national and regional development in West Africa. Consequently, there has been a growing awareness that strengthening research in the region is one of the prerequisites if development goals are to be met; this, in turn, has given rise to an interest in how research strengthening and innovation incubation work.

Many scholars and researchers within and outside the region have a long history of involvement with research strengthening in West Africa, although the precise nature of their involvement has evolved over time. Research strengthening interventions are designed to fortify the individual, organisations or nations. WARIMA as a sub-regional association prioritises designing of initiatives which can be employed to foster sustainable development in the region. It goes without saying that before any intervention to fortify research, innovation incubation and

knowledge product delivery for national and regional development can be undertaken, a thorough understanding of the national and regional contexts in which the reinforcement is to take place is essential. This forms the *raison d'être* of the forthcoming 12th WARIMA International Conference and Workshops.

The objective of the international conference and workshops is to examine the strategies that could be utilised in strengthening research, innovation incubation and knowledge product delivery for national and regional development in West Africa. Although the focus of the conference/workshops is West Africa, WARIMA still welcomes contributions, lessons and experiences from any part of the world that could enhance the sub-region's achievement of national and regional development through research, innovation incubation and knowledge product delivery.

Contributions may be in either English or French.

About WARIMA

Founded in November 2006, the West African Research and Innovation Management Association (WARIMA) is a professional body for research management in the West African sub-region. It operates at institutional and international levels, as well as across the research-value chain, from research management to commercialisation of research results.

About the University of Ibadan

Established in 1948, the University of Ibadan, UI as it is fondly referred to, is the first University in Nigeria. Until 1962 when it became a full-fledged independent University, it was a College of the University of London in a special relationship scheme. The University, which took off with academic programmes in Arts, Science and Medicine, is now a comprehensive citadel of learning with academic programmes in sixteen Faculties, namely, Arts, Science, Basic Medical Sciences, Clinical Sciences, Agriculture, Renewable Natural Resources, the Social Sciences, Education, Veterinary Medicine, Pharmacy, Technology, Law, Public Health, Dentistry, Economics and Environmental Design and Management. The Faculties of the Basic Medical Sciences, Clinical Sciences, Public Health and Dentistry are organised as a College of Medicine. The University has other academic units among which are: Institute of Child Health, Institute of Education, Institute of African Studies, Centre for Child Adolescent and Mental Health, Centre for Educational Media Resource Studies, African Regional Centre for Information Science (ARCIS), Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (CEPACS), Centre for Petroleum, Energy, Economics and Law (CPEEL), Centre for Sustainable Development (CESDEV), and Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CEI), Institute for Advanced Medical Research and Training (IAMRAT), Centre for Drug Discovery, Development & Production (CDDDP), Centre for Control & Prevention of Zoonosis (CCPZ). A new National Institute for Maternal Child and Neonatal Health (NIMCNH) and Institute for Infectious Diseases are under construction. A new School of Business (UISB) has also taken off. The University, as part of efforts to fulfill the mandate of promoting Nigeria's development, established a Research Foundation (UIRF). In response to recurring threats to peace and peaceful co-existence in Africa, the University established the Institute for Peace and Strategic Studies (IPSS) to provide actionable studies and solutions.

The University of Ibadan Postgraduate School is well acknowledged within and outside the country as one of the largest in Africa and the flagship of Postgraduate Education in Nigeria as it produces the much-required human resources for the entire Nigerian University system, the

Nigerian public and private sectors and beyond. The Postgraduate School enrolment is about 50% of the entire student enrolment. University of Ibadan produces an average of 3,000 Master & 250 Ph.D degrees every year. The University currently hosts the Pan African University Life & Earth Sciences Institute on behalf of the West African Sub-region. This is an initiative of the African Union. The main thrust of the University for the 21st century is *to be a world-class institution for academic excellence geared towards meeting societal needs*. Today, the University is consistently ranked among the prestigious Universities in the world.

There are twelve Halls of Residence which provide accommodation for about 30% of the population of students in the regular studies mode, and three others are under construction with the support of the FG Revitalisation Funds. The University has 1212 housing units, out of which of which 609 units are occupied by senior staff and 603 units by junior staff. The University of Ibadan is, therefore, a truly complex organization. Its governance is based on the Committee System; all the Boards and Committees report to Council and/or Senate to carry out its main functions of teaching, research and community service, the University has been providing to a large extent, basic services like electricity and water supply, security, health facilities and other municipal services to its staff and students.

Through its alumni and alumnae, the University of Ibadan has, in the past six decades contributed significantly to the political, industrial, economic and cultural development of Nigeria. These graduates, staff and students are making great impact on the world through their new discoveries, innovations and inventions in science, medicine, agriculture, business and technology. No doubt, the University's commitment to academic excellence enables them to fly high.

Target Participants

This Conference and Workshops are targeted at all who are involved in research and innovation management in various institutions as well as those interested in undertaking cutting-edge research. These include:

- Vice-Chancellors, Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Directors of Research Institutes
- Provosts/ Deans of Faculties/Colleges
- Research Directors
- Technology Transfer Professionals
- Senior Academics and Researchers from Universities and Research Institutes
- Research Administrators; Policy Makers in Government, Parastatals and Non-Governmental Organisations
- Other Categories of Individuals (including early-career researchers) Desirous of Acquiring Skills in Research Management.

Call for Abstracts/Papers

Abstracts are invited from interested participants on any topic within the context of the conference theme and sub-themes.

Guidelines

Abstracts must not exceed **300 Words** and must follow the following format:

1. Word processing should be with MS Word, Font size 12 pts Times New Roman, 2.5cm margins all round, justified margins and double spaced.
2. The abstract should be submitted by email as an attachment to warima2018@gmail.com, with a copy to Mrs Teju Ajao @ warimaoffice@yahoo.com. This is mandatory as only abstracts received by email will be processed.
3. All contact details (including cell phone, email, mailing address) should be provided to ensure that presenters can easily be reached.

Pre-Conference Workshops

The Conference will be preceded by some pre-conference workshops on the following topics:

- Building and strengthening Capacity in Research Uptake and Utilisation for National and Regional Development.
- Benchmarking Performance Indicators for Reflective Assessment of West African Research Universities.
- Best Practices in Research Quality Assurance

Venue

The venue of the Conference and Workshops shall be the Conference Centre, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Nigeria.

How to Apply

Interested participants are required to visit the WARIMA **website** <http://www.warima.africa>; complete the registration form and submit it not later than **Friday, 24 August, 2018** for early bird registration and **Friday, 5 October, 2018** for late registration.

Registration Fees for the Conference

- Early bird registration: **USD \$300** per participant
- Late Registration: **USD \$350 per participant. Late Registration closes on Friday 5 October, 2018.**

For the Workshops:

- Free (Registration for the conference would be the ticket for admission into the workshops).

Note: Senders of funds are expected to indicate the purpose of payment on the disbursement documents.

Payment Procedure:

- Participants must pay by Bank Transfer. Bank details will be supplied in the second announcement.

All participants are required to send a copy of the receipt detailing the appropriate fund transfer by e-mail to olanikeadeyemo@hotmail.com, and a copy to warimaoffice@yahoo.com. A confirmation mail will be sent once the transfer of the appropriate registration fee is verified from the Bank. The original of the transfer receipt and the confirmation mail should be retained as proof of payment for registration.

Important Dates

Note the following important deadlines:

Activity	Date
Conference announcement/call for abstracts	Monday, 9 April, 2018
Deadline for submission of abstracts	Friday 24 August, 2018
Notification of acceptance of abstract	Friday 28 September, 2018
Submission of full paper	Friday 26 October, 2018
Closing for early bird registration	Friday 24 August, 2018
Closing for late registration	Friday 5 October, 2018
Arrival	Sunday 25 November, 2018
Pre-conference workshops	Mon 26 November, 2018
Conference	Tue 27- Wednesday 28 November, 2018
Departure	Fri 30 November, 2018