



**Exploring Creative Economies in Africa:
definitions, frameworks and impact.
PhD and ECR First Online Conference**



CALL FOR PAPERS

Cluster of Research Excellence (CoRE) on Creative Economies in Africa PhD and ECR Annual Online Conference

**Online (Zoom)
18th to 19th of July – 2024**

**The conference is supported by the African Journal of Creative Economies
<https://ajce.africa/index.php/ajce>**

CONFERENCE THEME AND OVERVIEW

The Cluster of Research Excellence (CoRE) wants to support research on the role of the creative economies in Africa for sustainable socio-economic development. Creative Economies include research on both traditional sectors (like museums and archives, theatre production, fine art markets, music and crafts) as well as newer, more commercial areas (like online gaming, fashion, and graphic design). The CoRE recognised that creative economies are growing and having a great impact across the continent; there are issues that pose significant challenges to the flourishing of the creative industries in Africa, that need research and policy attention. These issues include access to higher education, funding and investment in innovation, protection of cultural heritage and sustainability. This conference aims to create a space for researchers to share, discuss and debate the aspirations and needs of creative economies in Africa. Our aim is to build on the general CoRE focus on the exchange of ideas, publications, and networking opportunities through conferences, seminars, and workshops and the development of research agendas on the creative economies in Africa.

AIMS OF THE ONLINE CONFERENCE

With this annual PhD and ECR Annual Online Conference, we specifically aim to support young researchers in this area currently undertaking their PhD or recently completing one. We also aim to support Early Career Researchers (defined as 7 years after PhD competition) to share and publish more of their research work as well as fostering future collaborations across participants.

We have also started a new LinkedIn (Closed) Group to facilitate collaboration and knowledge sharing among emerging researchers in this area. Please indicate in your submission form if you would like to be invited to the group.

CALL FOR PAPERS

We are looking for original and innovative research within all cognate departments and at all stages of research that explore the role of creative economies in Africa, connecting with issues of cultural entrepreneurship, policy, socio-economic development, business, technology and social innovation and sustainability agendas. Presentations are invited on (but not limited to) the following topics or issues broadly addressed or investigated within the context of one specific creative field (media, film, festival, dance, visual arts etc.):

- The intersection between education, research and practice on creative economies in Africa;
- The role of creative intermediaries in supporting and enabling opportunities for creative work, careers and business development;
- Theoretical understandings of creative economies in Africa, illustrated by case studies;
- The value of culture and creative economies in African development and how it can be measured and captured;
- The opportunities and challenges of digitalisation and Artificial Intelligence for creative and cultural industries and organisations;
- The establishment, support and evolution of creative hubs and creative clusters in Africa;
- The role of creative economies in African cities and urban development;
- Creative and cultural economy and international development and diplomacy;
- The role of platforms in the monetization and economic development of African creative economies;
- International (global and continental) trade and creative economies
- The value of heritage, museums and the repatriation of African cultural artefacts;
- Understanding the interactions between economic, social and cultural value;
- Value chains in the creative economies across global, national and regional scales.

Although we have specified these areas, researchers are welcome to submit contributions that go beyond them. We only ask that the submissions be focused on the cultural and creative economies in Africa.

PAPERS FORMATS

Format 1: Complete Working Paper

For research and papers that have been completed or are close to submission, we invite participants to pre-record a 15-minute presentation, which will be shared with the conference participants and – if authors are interested – on the Creative Economies in Africa YouTube channel. During the conference, these papers will be organized in panels, and the authors will be invited to reflect on their paper findings, impact and future applications with others working in the same field. The author can also choose to send the full paper (if the abstract is selected) to be reviewed by the conference scientist committee for future publication.

Format 2: Work in Progress

For research and papers which are still works in progress, present a future project or reflect on methodological issues or processes, we invite participants to present a 10-minute presentation during the conference. The session chair will respond to the paper and invite the audience to ask questions and provide feedback on the work in progress.

SUBMISSION

Submissions should include:

- Contact details (name, department and email address)
- Short bio (maximum 100 words)
- Title of research and Abstract (maximum 500 words)
- The preferred form of submission

The online submission form can be found here:

<https://app.onlinesurveys.jisc.ac.uk/s/kings/conference-theme-phd-level-education-in-creative-economies-in-a>

If you have any questions please contact: sulayman.bah@kcl.ac.uk

Key dates

31st May 2024 - Deadline for online abstract submissions

7th June 2024 - Notification of acceptance/rejection

21th June 2024 –Conference Registration opens

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Dr Madinatu Bello, University of Cape Coast, Ghana

Prof. Roberta Comunian, King's College London

Ms Avril Joffe, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Dr Eka Ikpe, King's College London

Prof. Duro Oni, University of Lagos

DrCornelius Onyekaba, University of Lagos

Dr Estrella Sendra, King's College London

Prof Jen Snowball, Rhodes University, South Africa