



**THE AGA KHAN UNIVERSITY**

**Institute for Human Development**

**2<sup>ND</sup> INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**NOVEMBER 7 – 9, 2017**

**SERENA HOTEL, DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA**

**EARLY CHILDHOOD  
DEVELOPMENT IN UNCERTAIN TIMES:  
FROM AWARENESS & EVIDENCE TO  
COMMITMENT & ACTION**

**CALL FOR PRESENTATION**

**PROPOSALS**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 21, 2017**

The attention that the global community is paying to the significance of the earliest years of children's development is very assuring in a world characterized by profound adversity and uncertainty.



Such attention portends hope that nations around the world, particularly in low- and middle-income societies, would make long-term investments in policies, services and interventions that strengthen the foundations for human development and place young children on promising trajectories toward optimal life outcomes.

Signalling increased realization of the cost of inaction, there is growing consensus on the imperative to capitalize on this increased global advocacy – and the emerging science that informs it – to cultivate greater commitment and action at all levels: government, civil society, the donor community, multilateral organizations, and the human services professions.

The Second Conference of the Institute for Human Development (IHD) aims to be a catalyst for translating the hope expressed above into reality, and we invite the field to join us in our pursuit of that objective!

The Institute invites proposals for presentations addressing the primary conference theme and the sub-themes outlined below.

IHD is dedicated to an interdisciplinary pursuit of knowledge on the early years of life, with direct relevance for policies and interventions (within and across sectors) that strengthen the foundation of children's development and enhance the quality of life experiences and long-term outcomes.



Like the inaugural conference held in February 2015, this second conference presents opportunities for engagement around scientific advances, service and policy innovations, and promising practices with relevance for the design, delivery and evaluation of interventions in low-resource regions of the world.



## PRESENTATION THEMES

1. **Interventions:** developmental, health (physical and mental), nutrition, protection, parenting, early learning, integrated approaches, cross-/multi-sector coordination
2. **Developmental assessment/evaluation of children:** instrument development and validation, adoption and adaptation issues, training/professional development, contextual/cultural appropriateness
3. **Meeting the needs of vulnerable and disadvantaged populations:** children with disabilities, children with/affected by HIV and AIDS and other health impairments; children growing up in marginalized communities; children affected by conflict, war, and natural disasters
4. **Capacity building:** workforce development, leadership development, strengthening research, developing national and regional networks; strengthening policy development
5. **Service delivery systems/issues:** public sector, private sector, work-place models (public or private), social franchising

6. **Innovation:** technology utilization, media and communications, policy instruments, and financing models
7. **Implementation science:** programme implementation, monitoring, evaluation; efficacy research, scale-up of interventions/programmes
8. **ECD and the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) agenda:** national responses, implementation challenges, progress monitoring.
9. **Other:**

## PRESENTATION CATEGORIES

- Invited plenary addresses, symposia, and roundtable conversation sessions
- Peer-reviewed symposia and single-paper sessions
- Peer-reviewed poster and media presentation sessions

## PROPOSAL PREPARATION GUIDELINES

Proposals are invited for the following categories: symposia, single papers, and poster presentations/media displays.

### Symposia:

Each symposium session will consist of no more than 3 thematically related papers with a chair or co-chairs and a discussant. Those submitting symposium proposals should avoid selecting contributions based on work related to a single research group or project. The purpose of a symposium is to have perspectives or data sets from different lines of research addressing a common theme/topic. The goal is to have the papers

tell a cohesive story on a set of related questions being addressed by different investigators. Each proposal should have:

1. A separate title page with the symposium's title, the name(s), institutional affiliation(s) and contact information for the chair/co-chairs, the discussant, and the authors of each of the three papers.
2. An integrative introduction (with no author identification) of **no more than 750 words**. It should provide the rationale/objectives for the symposium show how the different papers are related to one another, and state what new insights are/would be shed by the papers collectively.
3. A **400-word** description of each paper, also with no presenter identification. For presentations of original data or synthesis of existing research, the description should specify the questions addressed, the methods used, and the main findings and their interpretation. Descriptions of papers not presenting original data should include clear statements on the conceptual or practical logic behind the work, the evidence base informing the work, the nature of the main issues to be presented, and how they advance knowledge, policy, or practice.
4. An abstract of no more than **200 words** to be included in a conference booklet of abstracts that will be accessible from the Conference Page of IHD's website. Only abstracts from accepted papers will be published in the booklet.

Those submitting symposium proposals are responsible for ensuring that panellists for each paper attend the conference to present their own papers.

### Stand-Alone/Single Papers:

These are individual papers (with one or more authors) that are not connected to other papers. Once accepted, however, papers will be clustered into sessions with 2 to 3 presentations. Single-paper proposals should have:

1. A separate page with the paper's title, the name(s), institutional affiliation(s), presentation category or categories (if presentation addresses more than one category), and contact information (e-mail address and phone number) for each author
2. A **400-word** description with no author identification. For presentations of original data or synthesis of existing research, the proposal should specify the questions addressed, the methods used, and the main findings and their interpretation. Proposals for non-data-based presentations—such as those focusing on practice, programme development/ implementation, or policy issues—should include clear statements on the conceptual and/or practical logic and evidence informing the work, the nature of the main issues to be presented, and how those issues advance knowledge, practice, and/or policy.
3. An abstract of no more than **200 words** to be included in a conference booklet of abstracts that will be accessible from the Conference

Page of IHD's website. Only abstracts from accepted papers will be published in the booklet.

### **\*\*Special note on stand-alone paper submissions:**

As is often the case in conferences with multiple categories, it might become necessary, depending on the volume of submissions, to accept some paper presentation proposals in the poster category. When this happens, submitters will be given the opportunity to agree to present the paper as a poster or withdraw the proposal.

### Poster Presentations and Media Displays:



We expect poster presentations and media displays to constitute the largest category of accepted proposals. Poster and media displays will last for a period of 90 minutes in a dedicated space. Priority will be given to papers reporting data. However, programme/project descriptions and policy initiatives are welcome as well.

Assigned space for each poster will be no more than **4 feet by 4 feet**.

For posters reporting data, the **400-word** description should specify the questions addressed, the methods used, and the main findings and their interpretation.

For papers not designed primarily to present data the **400-word** description should include clear statements on the conceptual and practical logic and objectives informing the work, the nature of the main issues to be presented, and how those issues advance knowledge, practice, and/or policy.

Each poster presentation proposal must be accompanied by an abstract of no more than **200 words** to be included in a conference booklet of abstracts that will be accessible from the Conference Page of IHD's website. Only abstracts from accepted papers will be published in the booklet.

For media presentation, the **400-word** proposal must clearly describe the nature of the "product", the technology involved, whether such technology will be brought in by the presenter, the nature of demonstrations anticipated, if any, and the maximum number of people who can be at a the display for demonstrations at any given time. Space for media presentations will be allotted on the basis of the nature of the technology and need for demonstration. Each media presentation proposal must be accompanied by an abstract of no more than **200 words** to be included in a conference booklet of abstracts that will be accessible from the Conference Page of IHD's website. Only abstracts from accepted papers will be published in the booklet.

## SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS:

All information identifying submitters and their institutional affiliation should be restricted to the cover/title page of the submission. The cover page you prepare must include the following elements:

1. Title of the proposed presentation
2. Name of submitter(s), institutional affiliation(s), and e-mail and telephone contact information
3. Category of presentation (select one for the following):
  - Symposium (the cover page for a symposium should include the overall title of the symposium and the titles of each of the three papers to be presented in the session)
  - Single paper
  - Poster
  - Media display
4. For those submitting paper presentation proposals, indicate whether you would agree to present your paper as a poster if it is accepted in that category. Indicate one of the responses below on the title page:
  - A. Will present paper as poster, if so determined through the review process (be assured that selecting this option will in no way affect the review decision)
  - B. Will rather withdraw the proposal than present it as a poster (be assured that such a decision will not prejudice any other submissions you make now or to future IHD conferences).

Follow the descriptions and guidelines provided for each of the presentation categories and prepare your content pages accordingly. It is important that you follow the guidelines closely, including the limits on word count, or your proposal might not be reviewed.

Submitters are responsible for editing the content material to ensure that there are no grammatical, structural or typographic errors. Proposals which do not meet this requirement might not be reviewed.

## SUBMISSION LIMITS

There is a limit of two proposals for each person/team making a submission, and each must be submitted separately.

## WHERE/HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR PAPER

Click this [link](#) and follow the instructions to submit your proposal(s). If you have more than one proposal to submit, each should be submitted separately. **Only upload document with all elements of the proposal.**

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE:** Friday July 21, 2017  
Notifications will start on: **Monday, September 4, 2017.**

**CONFERENCE LOCATION:** Safari Park Hotel, NAIROBI KENYA, with additional accommodation arrangements at reasonably priced hotels close to the conference venue.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Additional information on the conference will soon be available on IHD's website: <https://www.aku.edu/ihd/ihd-conf/Pages/home.aspx>

## CONTACT US:

[ihdconf2017@aku.edu](mailto:ihdconf2017@aku.edu)



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