



UNIVERSITY OF GHANA  
LEGON

## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

**4<sup>th</sup> SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**

**Theme:**

**“Socio-Economic Transformation for Accelerated and Sustainable Development of Africa”**

**11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> April, 2018**

Globally, efforts aimed at achieving accelerated and sustained economic growth are faced with challenges. While the Sustainable Development Goals emphasize the need for economic development that alleviates extreme poverty, the goals would be meaningless if drivers of socioeconomic transformation are not critically examined, especially in low-income countries in Africa. In order for developing countries to catch up with global development trends, and to benefit from global integration, there is the need to focus on socio-economic transformation. Although Africa is presently in the midst of a transformation, the core question is: how can Africa's *socio-economic* development be charted in a way that it becomes socially-balanced, sustainable and resilient. Such transition economies do not only offer a test case for concepts and theories, for broader ideas and for the methods of scientific enquiry of key drivers of transformation, but also for the multiplicity of ideological interpretations. The socio-economic transformation discourse, have been shaped by divisions between right-wing elites who espouse market-led approaches and their left-wing counterparts who favour state-led approaches to development.

This gulf in ideologies notwithstanding, it is imperative for African countries to accelerate the pace of creating and generating jobs, increasing labour productivity and promoting socio-cultural transformation. Structures, instruments and policies for socio-economic transformation need to be designed and implemented through a suitable blend of state and market friendly policies. Although the potential to accelerate socio-economic transformation for sustainable development is enormous, social science research is better placed to investigate new opportunities that can be explored and harness international best practices to enhance Africa's prospects.

It is against this background that the Dean of the School of Social Sciences, University of Ghana and the Chair and Organizing Committee of the 2018 School of Social Sciences International Conference are inviting abstract submissions on topical issues under the broad areas of Socio-Economic Transformation and Sustainable Development. We particularly invite papers that combine empirical findings with theoretical reflections under the following sub-themes:

1. Entrepreneurship and Sustainable Employment
2. Financial Innovation, Institutional Building and Productivity
3. Structural Economic Transformation and Growth
4. Information, Innovation and Technological Advancement
5. Education, Health and Human Capital Development
6. Policy and Social Change
7. Politics, Transformational Leadership and Good Governance
8. Climate Change and Clean Energy
9. Cultural Change and Dynamism
10. Rural transformation, Urban Dynamics and Mobility
11. Poverty Dynamics, Inequalities and Inclusiveness
12. Gender and Socio-Economic Transformation
13. Vulnerability and Social Protection
14. Attitude, Behaviour and Institutional Change

The above themes are by no means exhaustive; other topics relevant to the theme are welcome. We are especially interested in new research that addresses emerging issues related to the central theme. The conference will have plenary, parallel, and poster sessions.

### **Instructions for Submitting an Abstract**

You are invited to submit an abstract at the conference website <http://www.ugconferences.org/sss-conference/>. The abstract should not be more than 250 words and should highlight objectives, methodology and findings. Conceptual and theoretical papers will also be accepted. Authors should indicate which sub-theme(s) they are submitting to.

The submission must also contain the title of the paper, and the name, affiliation, and email address of the author (s) who is making the submission.

## Conference Fees

Participants/Presenters	Type	Early bird 05/02/18 – 28/02/2018	Standard 29/02/18 – 5/04/18
University of Ghana participants	Faculty	GH¢100	GH¢150
	Students	GH¢40	GH¢60
Other Local participants	Faculty/Others	GH¢150	GH¢200
	Students	GH¢50	GH¢80
International participants	Faculty	\$150	\$200
	Students	\$100	\$150

Authors are encouraged to collaborate to form panel sessions. A panel comprises four papers. Submissions for panel presentations should include a summary of 250 words maximum and an abstract for each paper / presenter. The panel organizer will be informed of the decision regarding the panel before individual panel members will be contacted. Faculty members are strongly encouraged to team up with graduate students to form panels.

## Summary of Important Dates

- ❖ Call for Abstract: **Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2017**
- ❖ Abstract Submission deadline: **Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2018**
- ❖ Notice of acceptance of Abstract: **Monday, 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2018**
- ❖ Full paper submission for those who wish to be considered for the special issue of journal: **26<sup>th</sup> March, 2018**

## Additional Information

All participants should register online. Payment includes a conference package (snack, lunch, conference brochure, cocktail,) and can be made at the Dean's Office, School of Social Sciences (*see Catherine at the General Office*). Mobile money number is **+233 (0) 556 314 438**. International participants should email [sssconference@ug.edu.gh](mailto:sssconference@ug.edu.gh) for mode of payment.

- All enquiries including accommodation should be directed to the email address [sssconference@ug.edu.gh](mailto:sssconference@ug.edu.gh) or call **+233 (0) 556 314 438**.