

Population and Reproductive Health Dynamics under Covid-19 in sub-Saharan Africa

Call for Papers

The NRF Covid-19 and Sexual and Reproductive Health Research Network

Demography and Population Studies Programme, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa

Department of Epidemiology and Medical Statistics, University of Ibadan, Nigeria

Department of Demography and Social Statistics, Obafemi Awolowo University, Nigeria

Population Geography Research Group, University of Nigeria

Calls for papers for a conference on **Population and Reproductive Health Dynamics under Covid-19 in sub-Saharan Africa**. The Conference will interrogate and produce policy-relevant evidence on how the Covid-19 pandemic has affected several sexual and reproductive health outcomes and processes in sub-Saharan Africa, and their implications for the achievement of international development agenda such as the Sustainable Development Goals and the AU Agenda 2063. The Conference aims to become the knowledge hub for social demographic research that examines the actual impact of emerging pandemics on population and reproductive health in sub-Saharan Africa

Given current developments in curtailing the Covid pandemic, including progress in vaccinations across the world, the Conference is proposed as **in-person and will be hosted at the University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, South Africa from March 14 to March 16, 2022**. Should this not be feasible, the conference would be held virtually. The Conference Secretariat will keep all registrants adequately updated on this.

Sub-Themes

The Conference will focus on all aspects of population health, sexual and reproductive health and rights, and population and development in sub-Saharan Africa as affected by Covid-19. These include healthcare access, gender, fertility and family planning, ageing, household structure, migration etc.

Features

1. Both theoretical and data-driven papers will be considered for presentation from researchers and practitioners in related fields - Demography, Population Science, Sociology, Public Health, Human Geography, Economics, Regional Development, etc.
2. The conference program will include a set of keynote speakers.
3. The Conference will be preceded by a Methodological Capacity-Building Workshop on Social Science Research and Publishing for emerging scholars in the region
4. A limited number of **Travel Awards** will be provided to assist conference participants (presenters, discussants, chairs). Information and eligibility criteria will be provided to authors of accepted submissions.
5. Accepted papers will be included in a Scopus/Web of Science indexed journal special issue after appropriate peer review

Paper Submission and Deadline

Interested participants are to submit both a **short (250 words) and extended (2-3 pages) abstracts** as email attachments to COVIDSRH2022@wits.ac.za by **30th September, 2021**. Submissions must include a description of the research objectives, the data and research methods, some preliminary results and their intersections with the conference theme, and the policy relevance of the research. The official language of the conference is English.

Key Dates:

1. Abstract submission closing: 30th September, 2021
2. Notification of accepted abstracts: 31st October, 2021
3. Opening of travel award application: 1st November, 2021
4. Closing of travel award application: 15th November, 2021
5. Notification of travel award recipients: 1st December, 2021
6. Opening of conference registration portal: 6th December, 2021

Funding

The conference is funded by the **NRF Covid-19 Africa Rapid Grant Fund**

Further Enquiry

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