2018 International Conference

UNESCO Chair in Technologies for Development: Voices of the Global South

27-29 June 2018 | EPFL. Lausanne, Switzerland

The UNESCO Chair in Technologies for Development hosted by the Cooperation & Development Center (CODEV) at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in Switzerland is pleased to announce the **5th International Conference on Technologies for Development (Tech4Dev 2018)** taking place from 27-29 June 2018 at the SwissTech Convention Center in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Conference in a Nutshell: Voices of the Global South

Tech4Dev 2018 puts the challenges and the potential of the Global South in the center of discussions reflected by its title Voices of the Global South. Indeed, even though the Sustainable Development Goals apply globally, the needs in terms of access to health and financial services, functioning education systems and sustainable urban and natural ecosystems are undeniably more significant in the Global South. In this perspective, it is crucial to listen to and support stakeholders from the regions who are facing these challenges.

Tech4Dev provides an opportunity to:

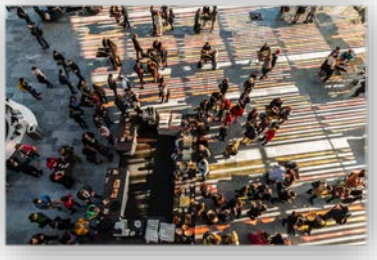
- Present your research at a unique multidisciplinary Conference focused on innovative technology for social impact in the Global South.
- Identify opportunities for collaboration with diverse stakeholders – academics, students, engineers, entrepreneurs, policymakers, practitioners, and social scientists- interested in technological innovation in the Global South.
- Network across disciplines and fields of technology, to promote the development, deployment, adaptation, and scaling of new solutions for the Global South.
- Build capacity among students and young professionals to engage in multidisciplinary problem solving for social impact.
- Participate at the fabulous social event of the conference that will take place in the Lavaux Vineyards, a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

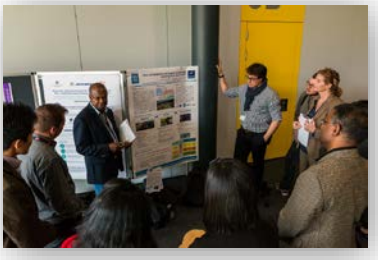
Core Thematic Areas

- Technologies for **Humanitarian Action**
- **Medical Technologies**
- Science and Technology for **Disaster Risk Reduction**
- Technologies for **Sustainable Access to Energy**
- **ICT for Development**
- Technologies for **Sustainable Habitat and Cities**

Crosscutting Themes

- **Innovative business models** for sustainable impact
- Design thinking for **social impact**
- **Tech hubs** in the Global South: opportunities and challenges
- Why do technologies fail: **Learning from failure**





TECH4DEV UNESCO Conference

- From local success to broader implementation: strategies and methods for **successful upscaling**
- **Social inclusion** through technology (e.g. communication, access to health, energy)
- **Academic-public-private partnership**: A recipe for success?
- How to **fund and fundraise creatively**?
- **Innovation** overrated: A buzzword or a way forward?

Why Attend Tech4Dev 2018?

- Participate in a unique multidisciplinary platform
- Gain visibility and share cutting-edge research and case studies from the field
- Learn from and network with 500 participants from over 75 countries
- Find new ideas, potential partners and resources.

Tech4Dev 2018 Core Thematic Areas

1. Technologies for Humanitarian Action

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Innovative approaches to ensure meaningful humanitarian action in the face of limited access (e.g., telemedicine, use of remote sensing, tracking devices)
- ✓ Technologies for essential urban services affected by humanitarian crises (e.g., health, electricity, shelter, water treatment)
- ✓ Beneficiary engagement in a hyper-connected world

2. Medical Technologies

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Innovative medical technologies for low- and middle-income countries (e.g., m-health, phone based diagnostic kits, 3D printing of medical equipment)
- ✓ Technology transfer and involvement of local stakeholders
- ✓ Standards, norms, and regulations affecting access to medical technologies
- ✓ Medical product cost and lifecycle analyses and innovative improvements

3. Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Technologies to assess disaster risks, vulnerabilities, and exposure to hazards (e.g., early warning systems, modeling, mapping)
- ✓ Tools and approaches to reduce damage to critical infrastructure and disruption of basic services
- ✓ Utilization of media, including social media, traditional media, big data, and mobile phone network
- ✓ Eco-engineering

4. Technologies for Sustainable Access to Energy

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Renewable energy sources, energy storage and power management technologies (e.g., smart grids

in the Global South)

- ✓ Enhancing energy quality and efficiency to increase productive use of energy
- ✓ What are the respective roles of the public and private sector in both financing and enhancing energy access, particularly for the poorest?

5. Information and Communication Technologies for Development (ICT4D)

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ ICT for agriculture (e.g., agricultural technologies, irrigation, farming practices)
- ✓ Connectivity and communication (e.g., information networks, information technologies and systems, social media)

6. Technologies for Sustainable Development of Habitat and Cities

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Technological innovation as both the cause and effect of urban development
- ✓ Adaptive urban design: Smart cities (e.g., case studies, business models, and innovative applications)
- ✓ Smart sensor-based networks and applications
- ✓ Capacity building of local government practitioners: Social inclusion and mobility

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please note that there is a certain level of overlap between the six thematic core areas. Proposals for sessions and events can potentially be submitted under several core areas. Please choose the core area closest to your field. The Conference Organizers might regroup sessions, events, and papers during the evaluation process.

This call includes an initial round of paper submissions. Paper submissions should be linked to the initial session topics listed below under section D.

Submission of sessions, events and papers should emphasize the value of technological innovation while also acknowledging the limits of technology in generating inclusive social and economic development. We welcome, in particular, proposals to organize sessions with creative formats and innovative approaches to generating discussion.

	Core Thematic Areas					
	Technologies for Humanitarian Action	Medical Technologies	Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction	Technologies for Sustainable Access to Energy	Information and Communication Technologies for Development	Technologies for Sustainable Habitat and Cities
Crosscutting Themes	Innovative business models for sustainable impact					
	Design thinking for social impact					
	Tech hubs in the Global South: opportunities and challenges					
	Why do technologies fail: Learning from failure					
	From local success to broader implementation: strategies and methods for successful upscaling					
	Social inclusion through technology (e.g. communication, access to health, energy)					
	Academic-public-private partnership: A recipe for success?					
	How to fund and fundraise creatively?					
	Innovation overrated: A buzzword or a way forward?					

A. Call for Breakout Sessions, Papers and Event Proposals

The UNESCO Chair in Technologies for Development invites interested parties from research, industry, public sector or civil society to submit proposals for sessions, papers and events. Proposal for sessions and events should be closely related to at least one of the conference's Six Thematic Core Areas and/or Cross-Cutting Themes, while submission for papers in this initial round should be oriented towards Listed Initial Session Topics (see below under Section D. subsection Initial Session Topics).

Breakout sessions and event proposals will need to provide a clear overview of the proposed session or event under the headings outlined in the **prescribed template** *(see Annex 1).*

- Title of breakout session or event proposal
- Short description, alignment with conference themes, objectives, format and expected outcomes
- Summary of discussion/focus and target audience
- Planned program for event proposals

Criteria for Selection

The following criteria will guide the selection process of sessions, papers or event proposals:

- **Development focus:** The integration of technology with poverty reduction, sustainable development, gender equality, integrity, and ethics.
- **New thinking, findings, or approaches:** The integration of current debates with new ideas and solutions, including lessons from failure.
- **Innovation:** How novel or innovative is the proposal, and how does it advance existing knowledge?
- **Geographical representation:** How do sessions and events incorporate the representation of different geographical contexts in order to provide a wider range of points of view?
- **A Global Team:** We suggest that sessions be co-lead by session leaders from the Global North and the Global South.

Costs

The Conference Organizers will cover the following expenses of the selected Session or Event Organizers (if applicable):

- Waiver of the conference registration fee.
- Accommodation from June 26-30, 2018 with breakfast included (max. 4 nights booked and paid directly by the Conference Organizers).
- Travel expense to and from the Conference for session leaders from the Global South unable to cover these costs.

B. Breakout Sessions

The breakout sessions span over 1.5 hours (90 minutes) and are at the core of the conference. Sessions are intended to be an opportunity for participants to play an active role in generating new knowledge. Session formats are open, but the structure of the sessions must be interactive and memorable to the participants.

The Session Leaders are **responsible for**:

1. Disseminating the Call for papers (extended abstracts) in their own networks.
2. Reviewing, providing feedback, and assisting in the selection of session papers.
3. Informing the paper applicants about the acceptance or the (justified) rejection of their proposal.
4. Distributing the accepted papers of all the presenters within the session.
5. Reminding the presenters about the maximum length of their presentation (10 minutes) and encouraging them to read each other's papers in advance of the session.
6. Reminding the presenters to submit their PowerPoint presentations (or other presentation formats such as videos if applicable) online in advance of the conference and provide feedback to ensure high quality conference presentations.
7. Chairing the Session, including a short introduction on the main goal of the session, a short introduction of each of the presenters, managing the time schedule, leading the discussion, rounding up the discussion, reporting to the plenary moderator, and participating in plenary sessions if requested.
8. Providing potential support for the elaboration of the post-conference publication.

Proposals for Sessions must be submitted online **by September 30, 2017.** Acceptance decisions for the sessions will be made **on October 31, 2017**. A second Call for papers will be launched **on November 11, 2017** and the deadline for online submissions will be on **December 15, 2017**.

Key Dates (Breakout Sessions)

Call for session proposals launched	**18 July 2017**
Session proposals submission closes	30 Sep 2017
Session Leaders receive decision of proposal acceptance	31 Oct 2017
Second call for papers (extended abstracts) launched	11 Nov 2017
Extended abstract submission closes	15 Dec 2017

C. Event Proposals

By hosting an event, you will have the opportunity to engage a wide range of stakeholders in discussions and debate around a topic that falls under one of the **six Thematic Core Areas** or a **Crosscutting Theme** of the conference. Tech4Dev 2018 encourages collaboration with other organizations in order to build partnerships and to bring a diversity of perspectives to the conference.

The content, format, and program for an event proposal is entirely the responsibility of the event organizers, including recruiting presenters and covering costs. As an Event Organizer you will be guided through the planning process by the Conference Organizers. However, all event speakers and attendees must register for the conference and any additional expenses are the responsibility of the Event Organizer. Meeting rooms and audio/visual equipment will be provided by the Conference Organizers. Needs for special arrangements and logistics should be clearly stated under the *Logistics and Special Considerations* headings on this **template** (*see Annex 1*). The duration of an event spans 1.5 hours (90 minutes). The Event Organizer will need to report to the Plenary Moderator with the possibility of being asked to participate in the discussion of the Plenary Session.

In order to ensure a diverse and dynamic program for Tech4Dev 2018 in terms of topics, geographic regions, and formats, the Conference Organizers might propose a merger between similar or complementary event proposals.

Event proposals must be submitted online **by September 30, 2017.** Acceptance decisions will be made **by October 31, 2017**. Event Organizers will need to submit the finalized program (including presenters/speakers) to the Conference Organizers **by January 31, 2018.**

Key Dates (Event Proposals)

Call for event proposals launched	**18 July 2017**
Event proposals submission closes	30 Sep 2017
Notification of event proposal acceptance	31 Oct 2017
Submission of finalized event program to conference organizers	31 Jan 2018

D. Papers (Extended Abstracts incl. Poster Presentations)

Guidelines

- An extended abstract should include:

  - A focused description of research objectives and research methodology, or if appropriate, description of case study objectives and outcomes.
  - Potential development impact
  - Recommendations for future research and application in practice

Please adhere to the 1,000 word limit and prepare your extended abstract using this **template** *(see Annex 2)*. Extended abstracts which do not adhere to these requirements will not be considered.

General Information

- Authors and presenters are invited to submit extended abstracts for papers and poster presentations focusing on research results, case studies, or challenges relevant to the **Listed Initial Session Topics.**
- Submissions of extended abstract:

  - Extended abstracts (1,000 words).
  - Submissions for the first call of extended abstracts should be oriented towards the **Initial Session Topics** (See below).
  - Submission for the second call for papers should be oriented towards sessions that have been accepted during the initial selection process (second call for paper to be launched on November 11, 2017).
  - The selection of posters will be based on the submission of an extended abstract only.

- Extended abstracts should be clear, concise, and written **in English.** The abstract must be well written and should be checked by someone well versed in English writing.
- Submissions for paper presentations might be invited to present a poster instead. Presenters of a **poster** will be expected to make a 3-minute presentation during the plenary *Poster Presentation Session* at the Conference.

- The conference attendees will evaluate and select the **"Best Tech4Dev 2018 Poster."**
- All presenting authors who are accepted for either a paper or poster presentation **MUST** be registered and the conference fees fully paid **by March 16, 2018**. Arrangements and payment of travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of the participants.

Initial Session Topics

1. Session Title: "Sustainable habitat and cities: data management and appropriate geospatial technologies for cities of the Global South"

Session leader: Eléonore Labattut

Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

The contribution of geographic information technology (GIT), information and communication technologies (ICTs) and the growing use of data by cities have led to a major renewal of urban planning, urban management and urban governance. However, what is the actual dissemination of these tools and technologies in the world? Are GIT, ITC, Big Data Analysis accessible to cities in the South, especially small and medium-sized cities? Indeed, the latter are facing major challenges of population growth and spatial extension, and they too often face a scarcity in human and material resources, including technological infrastructure, qualified human resources and a significant lack of data. This session proposes to discuss the issues of access, appropriation and the need to develop adapted and cost-effective technologies to improve decision making and urban planning. It will also question the information and digital divide between major and small or medium sized-cities of the South.

2. Session Title : "Sustainable habitat and cities: Learning from the slum"

Session Leader: Prof. Jean-Claude Bolay

Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

Slums are present in all cities of the world, with a massive presence in the Global South. They are not at the margin of the contemporary process of urbanization; but are now fully part of the urban landscape, contributing to the identity and the urbanism of cities. Regarding the slums as symptomatic of the ongoing transformations of the cities, the session will focus on the very heart of the urban fabric. We invite communications having a critical look on this complex reality, open to social, environmental and economic dimensions as well as at the constructive and spatial aspects of slums. It will allow to recognize the key actors of this central process of urbanization, among them slum's dwellers, and highlight their innovations, to define from the South priority actions in urban development. What can we learn from the slums, and how to improve the cities for all their dwellers?

3. Session Title: "Data science and machine learning for development and humanitarian action"

Session Leaders: Robert West, DLAB, EPFL, and Klaus Schönenberger, EssentialTech, CODEV, EPFL.

Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

It is widely anticipated that data science in general, and machine learning in particular, will revolutionize our society as a whole. Due to ever larger and more fine-grained data sets, as well as advances in computing hardware and learning algorithms, we are bound to see a whole new world of opportunities to bring about ground-breaking changes, which could expedite the development of low- and middle-income countries. This session will look into promising applications of data science in development and humanitarian action.

4. Session Title: "Access to energy for All: measuring impact beyond kWh"
Session leader: UNESCO CHAIR in Energy for Sustainable Development, Politecnico di Milano
Co-Session leader(s): To be determined

In the Agenda 2030 energy is considered an instrumental right for unleashing development, supporting local enterprises and new jobs, improving health and education, in addition to ensuring access to other basic needs. Despite this relevance, the huge numbers of those living without modern energy services are not likely to change in the near future. Therefore, it is of paramount importance to assess performance and long-term impact of energy project, not only in terms of energy services provided, but also in terms of contribution to local development and improvement in the community livelihoods. These metrics may highlight directions for the formulation of new projects and future strategies for both donors and policy makers. The session will deepen the discussion on 1) What are the standards used by the scientific community? 2) If and how can we compare them? 3) How to develop effective model-based and evidence-based methodologies?

5. Session Title: "ICTs for Environment: challenges and opportunities of transdisciplinary research for development"
Session Leaders: Clémence Bouleau
Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

ICTs have a great potential to tackle and improve environmental issues worldwide, and they have been used for this purpose for a number of years. This session gives the floor to successful, but also to failed projects related to environmental issues in which ICTs were used as part of the solution: what were the key factors for success or the limitations and challenges that could not be overcome? We will look at how to avoid the "rich towards poor country" approach in the field of ICTs, and how the "voices of the South" are creating an innovative cooperation approach. Inclusive projects that deal with the following issues are welcome in this session: sustainable environment and ecosystems, ICTs in agriculture, pollution and waste management, control of pesticides, resource preservation, re-greening deserts and landscape restoration, ecosystems preservation as a means to preserve fishing/hunting/gathering resources for people across the globe. All projects presented in this session should have a collaborative "North/South" approach aiming at global sustainability. This session will also put forward inputs and lessons learned from documented failures

6. Title of Session: "Disaster Risk Reduction: the Elusiveness of Resilience"
Session Leader: Dr. Silvia Hostettler, Cooperation and Development Center, EPFL
Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

Natural disasters such as drought, landslides and floods will increase in the future. At the same time, interventions aimed at increasing resilience remain complex. We do not yet have a clear picture of what works where, under what conditions and how the best trade-offs can be determined. Resilience may increase due to concrete measures such as soil stabilization measures, but also due to more accurate vulnerability or impact assessments identifying the most effective interventions. Furthermore, social media (facebook, twitter) and crowdsourcing (data collection on hazard events through mobile phones) for gathering data on hazard events and building social networks are quickly becoming new interdisciplinary research tools worth further investigation. This session will focus on the following question: What are the positive and negative, intended and unintended, direct and indirect impacts that assessments and actual resilience measures can have on vulnerable communities?

7. Session Title: "Technologies for Non-Communicable Diseases in Developing Countries"
Session Leader: Solomzi Makohliso, EssentialTech, CODEV, EPFL
Co-Session leader(s): To be determined

Besides infectious diseases, an emerging and potentially greater health challenge is in the form of non-communicable diseases (NCDs). Non-communicable diseases (NCDs) have become a universal threat to health with disproportionately higher rates in low and middle income countries (LMICs). According to WHO, over 80% of cardiovascular and diabetes deaths, 90% of COPD deaths and two thirds of all cancer deaths occur in LMICs. This session aims to focus on the main NCDs in LMICs, notably cardiovascular diseases (CVD), diabetes, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) and cancers. In particular, to explore technology-based developments and innovations aimed at combating the NCD challenges in LMICs.

8. Session Title: Medical Devices: "Technologies for mother and child health"
Session Leader: Klaus Schönenberger, EssentialTech, CODEV, EPFL.
Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

Many important medical devices, which are essential to primary healthcare, are still not available in much of the developing world. Even those technologies, which are well proven in industrialized countries, often fail to deliver their essential function, when they are deployed in low and middle-income countries. The important difference between these contexts and needs calls for innovative approaches in both the technologies themselves and in the way they are deployed (business models). Many medical devices are important for healthcare; this session will focus especially on those technologies, which can have a major impact on mother and child health. Innovations that were (or are in process to be) successfully transferred, deployed and scaled-up are of particular interest.

9. Session title: "Strengthening the research-policy nexus in the implementation of the SDGs"
Session leader: Dr. Gabriela Tejada, Cooperation and Development Center (CODEV), EPFL
Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

The 2030 Agenda enhances the role that science plays in sustainable development. However, there is a need for new models of science-policy interface that can shape national agendas more strongly and help evidence-based policy advance the SDGs. This session brings together several stakeholders who will present programmes and practices that have reinforced science and policy interconnections and research focused on the SDGs. By identifying main obstacles and enablers in the production and implementation of policy-oriented research towards the 2030 Agenda, we will see how different actors are addressing this challenge. We welcome contributions based on experiences from researchers, policy makers, funding agencies, international organizations and civil society. There will be a particular focus on successful multi-stakeholder partnerships that have effectively worked towards the 2030 Agenda and on the role that research-funding agencies have played in backstopping science connected to the SDGs and the integration of the findings into policy action.

10. Session Title: "Opportunities and Challenges in Quality (Rigorous) Impact Evaluations: Lessons from the academia and the field"

Session Leaders: Marina Cracco
Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

Description: Quality (Rigorous) impact evaluations are increasingly gaining prominence in development evaluation. These evaluations focus on clear causation or causal attribution by establishing the counterfactual. "Assessing the effects produced by an intervention, the net impact, requires a comparison of what has occurred with the intervention implemented – i.e. the factual – with the situation without the intervention – i.e. the counterfactual" – Silvestrini et al. 2015. However, establishing a counterfactual, overcoming selection bias, and contamination problems in the context of technology for development interventions come with its challenges. The aim of this session is to present examples of quality (rigorous) impact evaluations and to provide a valuable opportunity to discuss the challenges and opportunities when developing evaluations establishing counterfactuals for development interventions (Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction, ICT, Sustainable and Renewable Energy, Sustainable Habitats and Cities, etc.). The session also hopes to bring together participants interested in this topic.

11. Session title: "Seed funding to encourage transdisciplinary partnerships towards the SDGs"

Session leader: Dr. Gabriela Tejada, Cooperation and Development Center (CODEV), EPFL
Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

Funding schemes are crucial for promoting science as driving force of sustainable development. CODEV's Seed Money Programme funds applied research related to world development challenges and encourages knowledge co-creation in transdisciplinary partnerships associating local actors in countries in the Global South. While there is interest in cooperation of this nature, there is also reluctance by the actors concerned as well as difficulties in securing further funding. This has made it hard for researchers to build long-lasting partnerships and generate change. How do other similar funding instruments encouraging research focused on the SDGs work? How do they get relevant actors involved in the co-creation of knowledge? How effectively do they generate impact? This session brings together researchers, local actors, funding agencies, and other interested parties in order to jointly explore the effectiveness of this type of funding instruments, and to discuss collaboration experiences and challenges encountered by researchers and partners involved.

12. Title of Session: "Development Engineering: Training Global Engineers"

Session Leader: Dr. Silvia Hostettler, Cooperation and Development Center, EPFL
Co-Session Leader(s): To be determined

The complexity of the challenges humanity is facing calls for a vital revision of the way academia educates future professionals. Engineers not only need to excel in their discipline; they also need to be able to work efficiently in any context. We need to innovate the education of future engineers who are capable to design technologies that are appropriate, affordable and robust to genuinely foster local development and reach the SDGs. This session will discuss emerging multidisciplinary pedagogical approaches that are human-centered, combining engineering and social disciplines to address development challenges. We will discuss the potential and the challenges linked to integrating new courses such as Development Engineering / Global Engineering / Sustainable Engineering in traditional curricula. Our questions will be: 1) What are the main expected learning outcomes for a global engineer? 2) What are the key elements for effectively designing such educational courses? 2) How can we build institutional support for such courses/degrees?

13. Session title: "Can MOOCs and OER transform Higher Education in the developing world?"
Session leader: Dr. Dimitris Noukakis, CODEV, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne
Co-session leader(s): To be determined

The advent of a connected society with the ubiquitous use of smartphones, tablets and mobile computing, is about to profoundly transform tertiary education in the developed countries. Whether available as MOOCs, Youtube videos, online webinars or all kind of digital documents, educational material is readily accessible in most developed countries. University students as well as seasoned professionals may educate themselves by simply accessing the resources available online, for free or at a fraction of traditional education offers.In the global South, students, professionals and education providers take little advantage of these opportunities. On top of limited broadband connectivity, lack of information and well-entrenched behaviors at the higher education ecosystems prevent the leverage of digital education. This session will bring together specialists of higher education to present relevant initiatives in developing countries and discuss the challenges andopportunities for the governments, academic institutions, university faculty members, as well as the students.

14. Session title: "Open science: an opportunity for the global south?"
Session leader: Dr. Luc Henry, Scientific Advisor, EPFL
Co-Session leader(s): To be determined

Open science could be considered a two way process. How can we put mechanisms in place to allow scientific discoveries to travel from high-income countries to low-income countries, but also vice-versa, in an open and fair way? What can be learned from technologies developed in the Global South, that could often be relevant to other places? What are promising initiatives enabling access to global knowledge through open science? What are the main obstacles? How do language barriers hinder the benefits of open science?

Review and Selection Criteria

- The Scientific Committee will review all abstract submissions. Abstracts will be evaluated according to a review criteria based on quality, potential impact, innovation, relevance, and presentation.
- The submitting author will be considered as the corresponding author of the abstract. The corresponding author will receive all correspondence concerning the abstract and is responsible for informing the other authors on its status.
- Notification of acceptance will be sent to authors **on January 31, 2018**.
- Poster presenters will be notified **by January 31, 2018** and given the technical specifications.
- Authors will have additional time to integrate any reviewer feedback before submitting the final version of the extended abstract **by March 2, 2018.**

Financial Support

Some level of financial support may be available for **session leaders and authors of high quality papers from developing or emerging countries** who are not able to cover attendance costs**.** Financial support may be granted partially or in its entirety. The following expenses may be covered:

- Waiver of the conference registration fee.
- Shared accommodation on campus **from Tuesday 26 to Saturday 30 June 2018** (max. 4 nights booked and paid directly by the Conference Organizers).
- A maximum contribution of 1,200 Swiss Francs upon receipt for an economy class, round-trip air ticket to Geneva plus train travel Geneva Airport-Swiss Tech Hotel-Geneva Airport. As per EPFL rules, reimbursement for travelling expenses will only be effected after attendance at the conference, by bank transfer and upon presentation of receipts.

Financial support will **NOT** cover visa, insurance, meals outside of those included under the conference registration fee, local travel, or any other costs incurred by the authors for their private needs.

The decision to award a grant (either full or partial) will be made by the Conference Organizers based on the quality, originality, and relevance of the **submitted session, event or paper**. The decision is final and no further correspondence will be entered into.

Authors are advised that there are no guarantees that any financial support will be awarded as funding available to the Conference Organizers is very limited.

Authors are strongly encouraged to identify alternative sources of funding to attend the conference.

Key Dates for Papers (Extended Abstracts)

First open call for papers (extended abstracts) launched	**18 July 2017**
Second open call for papers (extended abstracts) launched	11 Nov 2017
Extended abstract submission closes	15 Dec 2017
REVIEW BY SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE OF EXTENDED ABSTRACTS	15 Dec-31 Jan 2018
Author notification for Extended Abstracts and poster presentations	31 Jan 2018

Annex 1: Form to Submit a Session or Event Proposals

Name:
Title:
Affiliation:
Telephone Number:
Email:
Address:

Brief Bio (max. 80 words) of Session Leader or Event Organizer:

Submission Type:

☐ Breakout Session Proposal ☐ Event Proposal

Core Conference Theme:

☐ Technologies for Humanitarian Action
☐ Medical Technologies
☐ Science and Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction
☐ Technologies for Sustainable Access to Energy
☐ ICT for Development
☐ Technologies for Sustainable Habitat and Cities

Crosscutting Theme:

☐Innovative business models for sustainable impact
☐Design thinking for social impact
☐Tech hubs in the Global South: opportunities and challenges
☐Why do technologies fail: Learning from failure
☐From local success to broader implementation: strategies and methods for successful upscaling
☐Social inclusion through technology (e.g. communication, access to health, energy)
☐Academic-public-private partnership: A recipe for success?
☐How to fund and fundraise creatively?
☐Innovation overrated: A buzzword or a way forward?

Title of breakout session or event proposal (max. 10 words)

Abstract
Short description, including alignment with conference themes and objectives (max. 200 words – text will be used in promotional material)

Questions leading the discussion (max. 200 words)

Objectives
What will the audience take away/gain from your session/event (max. 100 words)

Session Format

Describe the format of your session. How will you structure the session and make it memorable for participants? (100 words)

Diversity and Prespective

How diverse are the voices and the perspectives that will be featured in your session, when looking at gender, geographical context, ethnicity, sector and institution? (200 words)

Logistics and Special Considerations

Are there any special room set-up considerations we should be aware of? (Please note: our configuration options are limited and requests may not be accommodated). (50 words)

Proposed Program (applicable only for Event Proposals)

Proposed agenda, format, name and affiliation and email address of potential speakers

Annex 2: Extended Abstract Template (First Round)

Please indicated only one of the predefined session themes

Initial Session Topic: Please tick on the box in front of the topic of your interest

☐1. Data management and appropriate geospatial technologies for cities of the Global South
☐2. Sustainable habitat and cities: Learning from the slum
☐3. Data science and machine learning for development and humanitarian action
☐4. Access to energy for all: measuring impact beyond kWh
☐5. ICTs for Environment: challenges and opportunities of transdisciplinary research for development
☐6. Disaster Risk Reduction: the Elusiveness of Resilience
☐7. Technologies for Non-Communicable Diseases in Developing Countries
☐8. Technologies for mother and child health
☐9. Strengthening the research-policy nexus in the implementation of the SDGs
☐10. Opportunities and Challenges in Quality (Rigorous) Impact Evaluations: Lessons from the academia and the field
☐11. Seed funding to encourage transdisciplinary partnerships towards the SDGs
☐12. Development Engineering: Training Global Engineers
☐13. Can MOOCs and OER transform Higher Education in the developing world?
☐14. Open science: an opportunity for the global south?

Title

[Times New Roman font, 12pt, bold, left aligned]
Use a concise title. Capitalize the first letter of first word and all other words except prepositions, conjunctions, and articles. Do not use acronyms, abbreviations, and initials in a title.

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[Authors: Times New Roman font, 10pt size, First Name, Surname, Affiliations numbered in superscript, Presenting author bolded, separated by comma]

Presenting author's email address: john.smith@abc.ch

Biography of Presenting Author **(80 words): Submissions must be accompanied by an 80 word biographical paragraph of the presenting author. This information will be used by the Session Leader for introduction purposes or may also be published in conference literature.**

Abstract: **Please provide a short clear description of the main facts or ideas that you are including in your extended abstract. This summary should not exceed 100 words.**

Keywords: **This section should contain maximum 3-5 keywords that are written in Times New Roman font, 10pt size, and separated with commas.**

Extended Abstract

[Insert text of extended abstract, Times New Roman font, 10pt size, single-spaced, left, and right justified. Leave a line between paragraphs but do not indent]

- **Extended abstracts should be clear, concise, and written in English. The English must be well written and should be checked by someone well versed in English writing.**
- **The Extended Abstract should be aligned with the focus and the objectives of the session under which they are submitted.**

- **The extended abstract must not exceed 1,000 words and should be structured as follows:**
    - **A focused description of research objectives and research methodology, or if appropriate, description of case study objectives and outcomes**
    - **Potential development impact**
    - **Recommendation for future research and application in practice**

- **Abbreviations should only be used for common terms. For uncommon terms, the abbreviation should be given in brackets after the first full use of the word.**

- **Supporting figures, tables, and images (no more than two figures and two tables) may be included in the extended abstract. Tables, figures should be centered, positioned in the text, not at the end, numbered consecutively (e.g., Table 1.1 + heading; Fig. 1.1 + legend) and cited in the text in the correct order.**

- **References may be cited in the text as follows: e.g., one author: (Miller 1991), two authors: (Miller and Smith 1994), three authors or more: (Miller et al. 1995) or "xxxx Miller (1991) xxx xxx." All citations in the text should agree with the reference list to be included at the end of the extended abstract and all entries in the reference list should be mentioned in the text. References listed in alphabetical order as per examples below.**

References

Book
Calfee, R. C., & Valencia, R. R. (1991). APA guide to preparing manuscripts for journal publication. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Book chapter
O'Neil, J. M., & Egan, J. (1992). Men's and women's gender role journeys: Metaphor for healing, transition, and transformation. In B. R. Wainrib (Ed.), Gender issues across the life cycle (pp. 107–123). New York: Springer.

Journal article
Harris, M., Karper, E., Stacks, G., Hoffman, D., DeNiro, R., Cruz, P., et al. (2001). Writing labs and the Hollywood connection. Journal of Film Writing, 44(3), 213–245.

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Abou-Allaban, Y., Dell, M. L., Greenberg, W., Lomax, J., Peteet, J., Torres, M., & Cowell, V. (2006). Religious/spiritual commitments and psychiatric practice. Resource document. American Psychiatric Association. http://www.psych.org/edu/other_res/lib_archives/archives/200604.pdf. Accessed 25 June 2007.

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