

Call for Session proposals

Deadline for Session proposals: Extended to 30th November, 2015

Please use iseabstracts@cns.mak.ac.ug to submit your proposal.

Anyone who has an interest in the themes of the Congress (see below) and shares the [vision of the ISE](#) may submit a Session Proposal.

To enhance diversity and bridge perspectives, we encourage sessions co-chaired by two individuals who are not from the same background where feasible (for example, an indigenous and non-indigenous scholar, or a scientist and a practitioner). The Congress Organizing Committee will work with session chairs to suggest or match possible co-chairs.

What kind of sessions can be proposed?

A 'session' is a group of thematically-linked presentations or contributions that together explore, discuss, or portray a common idea or theme from different perspectives. Sessions should be up to 90 minutes in length (shorter sessions can be proposed). They can take place during the day (*i.e.*, in the main congress program), or they can take place in the evening as an optional activity. Please indicate if you have a preference and Congress organizers will accommodate to the extent possible.

We encourage many formats of communication and interaction designed to facilitate multidisciplinary exchanges, intercultural discussion, and bridging of worldviews. Examples include (but are not limited to):

- Speakers (presenting with or without PowerPoint or slides)
- Posters
- Storytelling
- Film
- Demonstrations (artisanal craft, food or medicine preparation, carving, *etc.*)
- Art (carvings, paintings, other)
- Performance (dance, chant, singing, drumming, drama, other)
- Multimedia
- Talking circle

Sessions that include a diversity of formats will be welcomed.

What are the responsibilities of session chairs or co-chairs?

The Session Chairs are responsible for all the organizational aspects of the Session including soliciting and selecting contributions, and liaising with session participants to ensure timely submission of abstracts, electronic presentations if relevant (*e.g.*, PowerPoint), and final papers or other finalized contributions.

- Session Chairs will attend the 15th ISE Congress, set the order of presentations, assist with set up, and moderate their session.
- Session Chairs will collaborate with the Congress Organizing Committee to finalize the Session program.
- Session Chairs will coordinate the submission of final papers, posters or other formats as appropriate for the Congress Proceedings.
- Once accepted, Session programs cannot be changed (barring extreme circumstances).

What are the criteria for selection?

For acceptance of your Session Proposal, the Congress Organizing Committee will use the following criteria:

- Does your proposal fit the Congress themes? Does it contribute to the diversity and richness of the Congress?
- Can your proposal be accommodated within the meeting venues and available audio-visual equipment or other space and equipment needs?
- Does your proposal complement other contributions and activities or does it overlap with other proposals? If it overlaps, can the chairs of similar sessions and the program subcommittee collaborate to create a mutually acceptable program?
- Is your proposal consistent with the [vision of the ISE](#) and the principles of the [ISE's Code of Ethics](#)?
- If appropriate for the format of your session, are you and the presenters contributing in your session willing to contribute to the Congress Proceedings?

Preference may be shown to proposals that are co-chaired by ISE members and/or by local community members (*e.g.* from Uganda). **All successful session chairs will be required to join or renew their ISE membership before the congress.** Individual presenters within sessions are not required to be ISE members.

In addition to sessions proposed by Congress participants, the Congress Organizing Committee will also organize sessions.

Submission Requirements

Please use this checklist BEFORE you submit your proposal

Your proposal must include:

- Your name, organizational affiliation, mailing address, e-mail address and telephone number **PLUS** the same for your co-chair if you have one.
- If you have a session co-chair, please indicate whether they have confirmed their participation. It is acceptable to submit the name of an unconfirmed co-chair as long as you have at least initially contacted them and received their permission to include their name on your proposal.
- A short, descriptive session title (please avoid colons and subtitles).
- A description, in not more than 500 words, of the objectives of your session and how it fits in the Congress themes or how it contributes to the Congress. Please, read the Congress themes carefully.
- The format for the description text should be font-size **12pt** and the font **Times New Roman** or **Times**, single-spaced.
- A list of all proposed session participants, including their names, affiliation, and e-mail address, and whether their participation is confirmed.
- A proposed title and/or brief description of each session participant's contribution.
- The proposed format of the participant's contribution (*e.g.*, presentation, poster, film, demonstration, *etc.*).
- Please indicate if your presenters are willing to contribute to the Congress Proceedings (if appropriate for the format of the contributions). For example, a paper, a video or recording of a performance or

demonstration, a digital copy of a poster, or other material as is appropriate for your contribution.

Chairs may be asked to work with the Congress Organizing Committee to build a mutually agreeable session program prior to final acceptance.

Congress themes

The congress theme is “**Ethnobiological knowledge for improved human wellbeing and development**”.

It goes with a tagline of “**Together keeping continuity from our roots**”. This emphasizes the efforts that must be taken to learn from cultural heritage and knowledge for wellbeing of humanity.

The knowledge amassed through experience, research, education, and blending is essential for livelihoods now and in the future.

Congress sub-themes include:

- Culture and education
- Ethnobiology and economic development
- The science behind traditional practices
- Traditional medicine, spirituality and the law
- Traditional medicine and modern medicine
- Culture at the crossroads
- Gender roles and issues in resource management
- Ethnobiological knowledge and intellectual property
- Transmission and survival of indigenous languages
- Indigenous Knowledge systems and food security
- Policy evolution and natural resource management
- Bioprospecting and international law