

CALL FOR PAPERS

NATIONAL DISABILITY AWARENESS CONFERENCE

The Oppie Bol Foundation (OBF) and the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) are excited to announce the inaugural National Disability Awareness Conference from 22 – 24 March 2023 in Pretoria, Tshwane.

This conference will take a holistic approach to examining the barriers facing persons with disabilities presented by an inaccessible infrastructure (inaccessible public services and transport, inaccessible information, and communication, as well as attitudes and assumptions). The sessions will focus not only on best practice in the public and private sectors, but also examining and presenting solutions to existing barriers and exploring ways of incentivising accessibility and universal design.

Persons with disabilities also contribute to the make-up of our society as equal and active participants. However, like other socially oppressed groups their contribution to the melting pot is seldom taken as valid and worthwhile. One result of such invisibility is that the image created of persons with disabilities by society at large is one of passiveness and dependency. This is associated with the old model which pwd's were not recognised for their abilities and contributions in society.

NDAC IS NOW INVITING PROPOSALS FOR PAPERS TO BE PRESENTED AT THE 1ST NATIONAL INAUGURAL CONFERENCE

NDAC 2023 provides a forum for the exchange of information on current developments, applications and opportunities in the expanding field of disability. It encourages collaboration and cooperation between academics, professionals, researchers, policymakers, and scholars towards mainstreaming disability issues and improving accessibility nationwide.

MACRO THEMES

The overall theme is supported by a series of macro-themes, including:

- Accessibility
- Disability inclusion - creating a disability inclusive culture where the value of diversity contributes meaningfully to innovation and competitiveness
- Reviewing strategies for disability inclusion
- Encouraging disclosure through awareness and policy support
- Disability sensitisation and awareness
- Providing mobility for the blind
- Invisible disabilities in the workplace
- Managing employees with disability
- Technology for a better life

In addition, we welcome both traditional papers and other media, such as artwork, documentary film, music.



GUIDELINES FOR THE SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS FOR THE NATIONAL DISABILITY AWARENESS CONFERENCE

The following guidelines are intended to assist authors in preparing their abstracts.

GENERAL

The OBF and HSRC invites contributions from scholars, researchers, policymakers, implementors, regulatory bodies, civil society, the private sector, professionals and other educators, community activists and others living with, interested in and concerned with disability.

FORMAT OF ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

- While priority will be given to contributors on the suggested themes, presentations on other relevant topics will also be considered.
- All papers will be reviewed by an NDAC panel in a blind review.
- Proposals will be judged according to their relevance, as well as on the strength of the idea and potential interest.
- Authors are encouraged to submit abstracts for short papers, based on practical experience, applications, case studies and best practice.
- The abstracts of the accepted papers will be published on the NDAC website. By submitting an abstract, authors agree to its publication on the NDAC website.
- The final version of the presentation (Powerpoint) must be submitted in electronic format at least one week prior to the scheduled date of presentation.

- Abstract of proposed paper (no more than 400 words)

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IMPORTANT DATES

Submission of abstracts: 10 February 2023
Notification of applicants: 24 February 2023
Submission of full papers: 10 March 2023

Proposals should be sent via email to:
info@oppiebol.org.za / lluzipho@hsrc.ac.za

Please note that all presenters must be registered for the conference and that all expenses, including registration for the conference, travel, accommodation etc. are the responsibility of the presenter. No financial support can be provided by NDAC.

PROPOSALS SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING DETAILS

- Name/s of author/s
- Name of presenter (only one presenter per paper will be allowed, unless pre-arranged with the committee)
- Company / institution/ affiliation / contact information
- Address / telephone number / cell phone number / e-mail address / full title of paper



