

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF WATER**



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**Call for Abstracts and Workshop Proposals  
2023 International *Maji* Scientific Conference**

***Theme:***

***Water Above, On, and Below the Ground: The Concerns of it All***

**Convened by Water Institute**



**8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023**

***Ubungo Plaza Conference Centre, Dar es Salaam***

## IMPORTANT DATES

Start of submission of paper abstracts	05 <sup>th</sup> October, 2022
End of submission of paper abstracts (3 <sup>rd</sup> call)	31 <sup>st</sup> January, 2023
Notification of acceptance of paper abstracts (Start)	20 <sup>th</sup> December, 2022
Start of conference online registration	5 <sup>th</sup> October, 2022
End of conference online registration	1 <sup>st</sup> March, 2023
<b>2023 International <i>Maji</i> Scientific Conference</b>	<b>08<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023</b>

### 1.0 BACKGROUND

An international day to celebrate freshwater was recommended at the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The United Nations General Assembly responded by designating 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1993 as the first World Water Day. Since then, World Water Day has been held annually on 22<sup>nd</sup> March as a means of focusing attention on the importance of freshwater and advocating for the sustainable management of freshwater resources. On this day, member states are called upon to devote this day, as appropriate in the national context, to tangible promotional and public awareness activities including, but not limited to, production of documentaries, organization of conferences, seminars, and expositions related to conservation and development of water resources. In Tanzania, the Ministry of Water in association with existing Water Stakeholders has been celebrating World Water Day by organizing a week-long series of events in various regions under different themes every year. These events have since been famously known as *Maji* Week Celebrations in Tanzania. The *Maji* week celebrations started to incorporate a scientific conference in 2019 that with unfortunate was not held in the year 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 pandemic, however in 2022 the scientific conference proceeded successfully. The 2022 *Maji* Scientific conference organized by the Water Institute, was attended by over 400 professionals of varying background, and stakeholders to the water sector. Over 60 papers were presented, through means of oral, virtual and posters. The conference community gained new insights to pursuing water resources management for sustainable water supply and sanitation services as the main theme read.

The global target of SDG-6, ensuring universal access to clean water and sanitation by 2030, is at risk of not being met, despite the efforts of water stakeholders. The global water demand may rise to 55% from 25% without extra work to address climate change, severe droughts, population growth, demand increase, and poor management. Due to severe water shortages across the world, 4 billion people are suffering, extra efforts are needed to address water scarcity related issues including climate change, severe droughts, population growth, and poor management. One way towards solution in addressing these prevailing challenges, is by sharing knowledge and experience gained through field practices and research works in conference platforms. *Maji* scientific conference platform is extending invitation to all practitioners and

researchers in the water sector.

As was in the year 2022 *the Water Institute* will organize the International Maji Scientific Conference that will include paper presentations and workshops as initial events leading up to *Maji Week Celebrations*. The following are the events in sequential order, which will mark the Scientific Conference:

- i) Day 1 (Wednesday 08<sup>th</sup> March, 2023): Plenary sessions and Workshops.
- ii) Day 2 (Thursday 09<sup>st</sup> March, 2023): *Presentations and Exhibitions sessions.*
- iii) Day 3 (Friday 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023): *Presentations and Exhibition Sessions.*
- iv) Day 4 (Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2023: Recreational/Study tour.

## **2.0 VENUE**

The venue for the Maji week Conference will be at **Ubungo Plaza Conference Centre in *Dar es Salaam***. It is expected that over 500 participants will convene to observe the International *Maji* Scientific Conference.

## **3.0 REGISTRATION AND CONFERENCE FEES**

Registration for conference participation is already open for all. Interested participants are required to register online for the conference. The registration fee is **TZS 25,000/= for locals who are students and TZS 50,000/= for locals who are non-students, and 100 USD for international/foreign participants**. The conference fee will cover meals and stationeries.

Banking details for the remit of conference fees are as specified below:

**BANK NAME: NMB BANK**

**ACCOUNT No.: 22501000005**

**ACCOUNT NAME: WATER INSTITUTE**

**BRANCH NAME: MLIMANI CITY**

**SWIFT CODE: NMIBTZZ**

Participants for the 2023 International *Maji* Scientific Conference **MUST** register through the online link indicated below by **01<sup>th</sup> March, 2023** (seven days before the Conference start).

[https://bit.ly/2023\\_MajiScientificConference](https://bit.ly/2023_MajiScientificConference)

All participants are advised to register online and early enough before the closing date to avoid any inconveniences. In filling out the online registration form, one will also need to specify whether or not they would like to join the recreational tour scheduled for 11<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

## **4.0 THE INTERNATIONAL MAJI SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE**

This brief call/concept note focuses on the processes leading to the International

Maji Scientific Conference, to be held on 08<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 in Dar es Salaam.

## **5.0 THEME**

A theme for 2023 Maji Week's scientific conference' is ***Water Above, On, and Below the Ground: The Concerns of it All.*** Water is an important element of human life, and vital for the healthy functioning of socio-ecological systems, however recently the globe is experiencing an increased water demand due to climate change, global population surge, and agricultural and industrial activities necessitating further exploration of safe water sources. The lack of alternative water sources and poor practice in the protection of available water sources harms the environment and sustainable development plans. The groundwater can play a great role and is key to the water supply to minimize the burden of water scarcity. 50% of all drinking water is provided by groundwater while 40% of irrigation water and industrial activities are supplied by groundwater. A decline in clean and safe surface water has increased pressure on human dependency on groundwater. However, the lack of cost-effective treatment technologies and know-how on groundwater exploration is a limit.

In this regard, presenters are urged to align their write-ups in the context of the sub-themes as highlighted in 5.1. We welcome presentations and contributions from researchers and practitioners detailing their innovative original work(s) undertaken in Tanzania, and other countries as well.

## **5.1 Sub-themes**

### **a) Water Resources Management and Governance for Sustainable and Equitable Development**

- i) Water resources exploration, conservation, protection, exploitation, and sustainability (groundwater, surface water, rainwater, seawater).
- ii) Water resources and Climate Change/variability.
- iii) Water resources governance (incl. transboundary and confined water resources).
- iv) Economics and investments for water resources management.
- v) Groundwater resources mapping and potential.
- vi) Policy and Legal issues in water management.
- vii) Conflicts control and resolutions of water-related issues.
- viii) Water quality management and governance (e.g., studies addressing the increased water/groundwater contamination from emerging pollutants).

### **b) Unleashing Concerns Around Harnessed Groundwater Quality and Quantity**

- i) Security measures for water supply and sanitation (including self-water supply initiatives, urban water management models, and community management models).
- ii) Water, energy, and food nexus.
- iii) Initiatives for achieving safely managed water supply and sanitation services.
- iv) Eco-sanitation and Low impact designs for quantity and/or quality control.
- v) Non-Revenue water management (exploring pathways, frameworks, systems, norms, and traditions).
- vi) Interlinkage between rainwater, surface, and groundwater on their quality and supply quantity.

- vii) Water quality monitoring, forecasts, quality indexes.
- viii) Modified Methods/ new approaches to sample analysis/preparation etc.

### **c) Emerging Solutions to Groundwater Exploration and Protection**

- i) Innovative technologies and techniques for groundwater security empowerment.
- ii) Artificial intelligence and other digital technologies in groundwater resources identification, pollution control, and mitigation.
- iii) Leakage and apparent losses assessment, reduction, and control techniques.
- iv) Nature-based solutions and indigenous techniques for groundwater management.
- v) GIS and Remote Sensing in resource identification and management.
- vi) Resource planning and modeling (such as hydraulic/hydrological modeling).
- vii) Intellectual properties, patents, and right to innovations in the water sector.
- viii) Development of parametric and non-parametric utility regulation tools in the groundwater sector.
- ix) Efficiency- and management-specific features assessment in the groundwater industry.
- x) Financial management innovations for effective groundwater exploitation.
- xi) Data envelopment analysis and stochastic frontiers analysis in groundwater.
- xii) Groundwater exploration and protection techniques, the modern ways.

## **6.0 SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS**

One may submit a review or original research-based, policy-based or practitioner-oriented abstract as well as that focus on integrating policy, research and practice under any of the sub-themes described above. One should also indicate the sub-theme recommended for the abstract.

Abstracts should have the following attributes:

- i) An abstract should have between 150 to 200 words.
- ii) The format for all text should be font size 12, Times New Roman, and double-spaced.
- iii) The title should not be more than 20 words in the title case.
- iv) Author's names should be written in such a way that the first name then middle initials (optional) followed by the surname.
- v) If the submission consists of more than one author, the abstract should indicate one corresponding author with an asterisk (\*) and his/her email address.
- vi) The affiliations of authors should be shown through letter superscripts (such as 1,2,3...).
- vii) Authors should indicate the sub-theme under which their abstract/paper should be considered.
- viii) The abstract should include a clear statement of the issues addressed, the research objective, methodology, and a concise summary of the findings and conclusion.
- ix) A minimum/maximum of four to six keywords should be included in alphabetical order at the end of the abstract.
- x) The title page should include the name and affiliation of author(s) and the

email address/phone number of the corresponding author.

### **6.1 Abstract file naming**

A file with an abstract should be named in such a way that it reflects the sub-theme it relates to and the names of the author as elaborated in the examples below:

FirstName.Surname\_sub-theme in abbreviation

E.g., 1: Magori.Nyangi\_WRMG

E.g., 2: Magori.Nyangi\_GWQQ

E.g., 3: Magori.Nyangi\_GWEP

**Whereas:** WRMG: Water Resources Management and Governance for Sustainable and Equitable Development; GWQQ Unleashing Concerns Around Harnessed Groundwater Quality and Quantity, and GWEP stands for sub-theme Emerging Solutions to Groundwater Exploration and Protection.

### **6.2 Selection process and criteria**

All abstracts should directly link to one of the conference sub-themes. We suggest that authors should submit a well-written abstract (keep simple sentences, active and passive voice where necessary, and spell out any abbreviations or acronyms). Abstract review criteria include clarity, originality, supporting evidence, scientific rigor, relevance, potential significance, innovation, or usefulness in the water sector and allied fields.

## **7.0 SUBMISSION AND REVIEW PROCESS FOR ABSTRACTS**

All abstracts should be addressed to 2023 International Maji Scientific Committee and submitted through **majiscientificconference23@gmail.com** CC **majiconference2023@waterinstitute.ac.tz** by **05<sup>th</sup> December, 2022**. The abstracts will be reviewed by experts and the corresponding author will be notified of the outcome of the review process from **20<sup>th</sup> December, 2022**. All abstracts will be reviewed by at least three (3) members of the International *Maji* Scientific conference review panel who will make the final decision on whether the submission/abstract will be accepted or not. If an abstract will be accepted; the authors will be requested to prepare either an oral or poster presentation. The presenter of the accepted manuscript shall be one of the authors.

## **8.0 CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE**

Upon acceptance, authors agree to publish an abstract in conference materials such as a book of abstracts. Authors also agree publication of photos, video/audio recordings, or live streaming of the presentations.

## **9.0 INTERNATIONAL MAJI CONFERENCE YOUNG RESEARCHER AWARD**

An honorary International *Maji* Scientific Conference Young Researcher Award will be given to the best youth presenter (under 35 years) who will demonstrate exceptional oral presentation skills, insight into the subject matter, articulation in response to questions etc. There will be a winner in each sub-theme thus, making a total of three sub-winners from which the overall Young Researcher Award Winner will be nominated based on a scoring criterion developed by the Scientific Conference Committee. An adjudication team will be availed in all sessions to assess all young

presenters. There will also be an award for the Best Poster from the Young Researcher as well of which will be determined through the adjudication process. Note that, the names of the young researcher/presenter should be among the authors.

### **10.0 PUBLICATION OF CONFERENCE PAPERS**

Authors observed to have the best contribution in a research industry will be offered to publish his/her manuscript in the special issue of the Journal of Water Resources, Engineering, Management and Policy (JWEMPO), [www.jwempo.ac.tz](http://www.jwempo.ac.tz)

### **11.0 TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION**

All participants should make arrangements and manage their travel and accommodation to Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. However, recommendations of nearby potential areas for accommodations will be provided as the conference month nears.

### **12.0 WORKSHOP HOSTING**

On 8<sup>th</sup> March, 2023, we will have workshops, after the plenary session. Institutions and organizations are welcome to host workshops on water-related matters their conversant in. To get a slot for a workshop you are required to submit a summary (maximum 300 words, well outlined) of your content (geared at either raising awareness, capacity building, or introducing a new product or service), displaying contributions to the sector. You will benefit from having audience of conference participants of a minimum of 50, from varying expertise and professional backgrounds. The cost for hosting a workshop will be based on requested time, the shortest time being 30 minutes, and maximum being 2 hours per each organization.

Deadline for summary submission, will also be 5<sup>th</sup> December, 2022, through the given conference email addresses. The email subject should read, 'Submission of workshop proposal'. The slots are limited hence first come first served will also apply.

### **13.0 EXHIBITION OF PRODUCTS AND SERVICES**

During conference days, there are also opportunities for exhibitions of products and services. The invitation to exhibit is extended to all water sector stakeholders. Information on price per single exhibition booth will soon be provided.

### **14.0 CONTACT INFORMATION**

For more information about the conference please contact the following:

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