



Call for Papers



The 7th Business & Economic Development Conference

BEDC2026

THEME:

Transforming Business Ecosystems:
Innovation, Formalization, and Data-Driven
Pathways to Sustainable Economic Growth

Mwanza, Tanzania | 22nd & 23rd October, 2026

Conference Overview

The Business and Economic Development Conference (BEDC 2026) invites scholars, researchers, policymakers, practitioners, and development partners to submit papers for presentation at its upcoming conference to be held in Mwanza City, Tanzania on 22nd to 23rd October 2026. The conference aims at providing a platform for the exchange of ideas, research findings, and policy experiences on how business ecosystems can be transformed to support inclusive and sustainable economic growth, particularly in developing and emerging economies. With rapid changes driven by digital technologies, data-driven decision-making, entrepreneurship, and evolving regulatory environments, there is an increasing need to rethink how businesses operate, integrate, and grow within formal and informal economic systems. This conference will explore how innovation, formalization of enterprises, and data-driven strategies can enhance competitiveness, productivity, and sustainable economic development.

Sub-Themes

..... Researchers are invited to submit papers addressing (but not limited to) the following sub-themes:

1 Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Economic Transformation

*Innovation systems and entrepreneurial ecosystems
Startups, SMEs, and business incubation
Technology adoption and business competitiveness
Creative industries and innovation-driven growth*

2 Formalization of Informal Enterprises and Market Integration

*Informal economy dynamics and policy interventions
Pathways to business formalization
Integration of informal and formal market systems
Inclusive business models and entrepreneurs' livelihoods*

3 Digital Transformation and Data-Driven Business Strategies

*Big data analytics for business decision-making
Digital Platforms, E Commerce, and Emerging
Fintech Innovations
Artificial intelligence and business innovation
Digital financial services and mobile money
ecosystems*

4 Finance, Financial Inclusion, and Sustainable Investment

*Digital finance and financial inclusion
SME financing, digital credit, and investment ecosystems
Sustainable finance, green investment, and
climate-resilient projects
Impact investing and development finance for inclusive
growth*

5 Trade, Investment, and Market Development

*Regional trade integration and competitiveness
Value chain development and market access
Foreign direct investment and industrial development
Export competitiveness and trade policy*

6 Business Policy, Governance, and Regulatory Environment

*Regional trade integration and competitiveness
Value chain development and market access
Foreign direct investment and industrial development
Export competitiveness and trade policy*

7 Sustainable Business Practices and Green Economy

Climate-smart businesses and green entrepreneurship
Circular economy and sustainable production
Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices
Sustainable supply chains and responsible business

8 Gender Equality, Public Health, and Human Capital for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth

Gender and women entrepreneurship development
Public health and economic productivity
Human capital development and workforce productivity
Youth empowerment and inclusive development policies

9 Integrated Procurement, Supply Chains, and Logistics for Competitive and Sustainable Trade

Green procurement and sustainable sourcing practices
Sustainable supply chains and circular economy practices
Logistics management and distribution systems
Port management and maritime logistics
E-procurement and digital procurement platforms
Public procurement reforms and governance in supply chains

Paper Submission Guidelines

Authors are invited to submit original and unpublished research papers related to the conference theme and sub-themes.

Abstract Requirements

- Maximum 300 words
- Include title, author(s), affiliation, and keywords

Full Paper

- Maximum 8,000 words
- APA referencing style (or conference specified style)
- Papers should present original research, policy analysis, or case studies

Important Dates

Abstract Submission Deadline
30 June 2026

Notification of Acceptance
20 July 2026

Full Paper Submission Deadline
10 September 2026

Conference Dates : 22nd and 23rd October 2026



To submit your abstract please click the link below

<https://forms.office.com/r/yp45KeV7wf>

or SCAN QR CODE



Publication Opportunities

Selected high-quality papers will be considered for publication in conference proceedings and Business Education Journal (BEJ) subject to the journals' review processes.

Submission Process

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Conference Objectives

- Promote evidence-based discussions on business and economic development
- Foster collaboration between academia, policymakers, and industry stakeholders
- Generate policy-relevant research to support sustainable economic transformation

Target Participants

- Researchers and academics
- Policymakers and government officials
- Private sector actors and entrepreneurs
- Development partners and NGOs
- Graduate students and early-career researchers

Contact Information

For inquiries regarding submissions and participation, please contact the Conference Organizing Committee.

Email : conference@cbe.ac.tz