



CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Conference theme “**Reframing the African landscape**” invites us to consciously and critically reflect on how we learn, teach and practise landscape architecture on the African continent. Reframing invites us to challenge outdated narratives and offer multidimensional perspectives on the continent’s rich diversity of spaces through the lens of landscape architecture.

We invite you to contribute your perspectives, research and practical experiences as we engage in a rich dialogue of African landscapes. This conference provides a platform to:

- **Critically examine outdated narratives and cultivate fresh, multidimensional perspectives.** Traditional views of the continent tend to emphasize stereotypes—like conflict, poverty, exotic wildlife or viewing Africa as a country — often hindering a nuanced understanding of Africa’s potential and neglecting our complexity, diversity, and resilience. This call seeks to define landscape architecture in a way that resonates with the continent’s rich natural, cultural, social, political, historical, economic and linguistic diversity. We envisage the conference as a space for a variety of multigenerational voices and experiences to contribute to the conversation about the role of landscape architecture in Africa.
- **Confront the imported philosophies** that have dominated landscape architectural theory and practice for centuries. We encourage thoughtful examinations to **forge new paradigms** that more fully capture the dynamic nature of African Cosmologies and meaningfully engage indigenous and African knowledges and practices in Landscape Architecture theory.
- **Conceptualise the future of landscape architectural practice in Africa**, exploring its contributions to contemporary challenges such as climate change, growing urban populations, social equity and cultural heritage. Recognising the dynamism of African contexts and realities, we invite contributions from a broad range of categories including, African Cosmologies, designing within urban and rural Africa, use of emerging technologies, urban health, spiritual connections to the landscape and interdisciplinarity connections.



We welcome submissions for:

- **Paper Presentations:** Practice- and research-based papers exploring a wide range of topics related to the conference theme.
- **Special Sessions:** Interactive sessions focused on specific themes, allowing for in-depth discussions and collaborative exploration of ideas. Proposals for these sessions could include chaired panel discussions or interactive workshops.
- **Poster Proposals:** Exhibition posters which highlight a particular concept, narrative or innovation for display in the exhibition space

We encourage all landscape architects, academics, researchers, students, and professionals working in related fields to submit their contributions and join us in reframing the African landscape.

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Language: Abstracts may be submitted in either English or French with an English translation

Word Limit: The abstract text, excluding author information and references must not exceed 250 words.

Referencing Style: All references cited within the abstract must adhere to the Harvard referencing style.

Authors and Affiliations: Please clearly indicate the corresponding author and list all authors who contributed to the work. For each author, provide their:

- Full Name (First Name, Last Name)
- Current Affiliation (Department, Institution or Company, City, Country)

Keywords: Please provide a maximum of 5 keywords that accurately reflect the content of your abstract. These will be used for indexing and session organization.

Presentation Preference (Optional): If you have a preference for the presentation format (e.g., oral presentation, poster presentation, special session), please indicate this in your submission. While we will try to accommodate preferences, the final format will be determined by the organizing committee based on the number and nature of submissions.



SUBMISSION TIMEFRAMES

Submission Method: Abstracts must be submitted electronically via this [link](#).

Deadline for Submission: The deadline for abstract submissions is **Friday 23 May 2025 23:55 SAST**. Late submissions will not be considered.

Notification of Acceptance: All submitted abstracts will undergo a peer-reviewed process. Authors will be notified of the outcome of their submission by 13 June 2025.

Conference submission: Full presentations, special sessions and posters must be submitted by 15 September 2025 23:55 SAST.

PUBLICATION OPPORTUNITY

Selected conference papers will be considered for publication in the November 2025 issue of the *African Journal of Landscape Architecture*, providing a valuable opportunity to share your research with a wider audience. The editorial team may request changes to the format of the original paper to align with the Journal guidelines.

CONTACT

Scientific Committee Co-chairs: Sarah Luposo Tuke and Christine Price
For any inquiries, please email eileen@vdw.co.za