



Call for Papers | The 2018 Conference | August 6 – 8

The Academy of International Business (AIB) is the leading association of scholars, consultants and specialists in the field of international business. Established in 1959, the AIB now has over 3,000 members in 87 countries. The AIB has 18 chapters around the world, including the Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) Chapter. We welcome conceptual and empirical papers, as well as teaching case studies and panel symposia from scholars, business professionals, policy makers and students.

Making Africa Work



Host Institution:



Kigali, Rwanda

Please Submit by May 30, 2018 | E: aibforafrica@gmail.com

Call for Papers | The AIB SSA 2018 Conference

Africa has made tremendous progress on many fronts since the turn of the millennium. From Cairo to Cape of Good Hope, a renewed sense optimism led to *Africa Rising* narrative. This narrative is now under attack as the realities of China's economic slowdown and the great plunge in oil and commodity prices has exposed the continent's economic vulnerabilities. Nevertheless, there appears to be solid ground for cautious optimism, and a commitment to the achievement of sustainable development has never been more important.

The African Union's recently launched *Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want* provides an ambitious vision and call for action aimed at accelerating Africa's development and transformation over the next fifty years. It identifies seven key aspirations for Africa:

1.) A prosperous Africa based on inclusive growth and sustainable development; 2.) An integrated continent, politically united and based on the ideals of Pan Africanism and the vision of Africa's Renaissance. 3.) An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law. 4.) A peaceful and secure Africa. 5.) An Africa with a strong cultural identity, common heritage, values and ethics. 6.) An Africa where development is people-driven, unleashing the potential of its women and youth. 7.) Africa as a strong, united and influential global player and partner.

These aspirations very much align with the strategic vision of the AIB-SSA chapter for Africa, hence our decision to focus on how scholars can make an impact in achieving Agenda 2063's goals to make Africa work better for Africans. There's perhaps no better place in Africa that represents this dogged commitment for progress than Rwanda. Following the tragic genocide of 1994, the country has shown uncommon resilience and successfully executed important economic and structural, as well as international competitiveness reforms. Rwanda's inspiring story speaks to the promise and potential of African economies. Our 2018 conference will bring together scholars, students, policy makers and business executives committed to Africa's development.

We welcome submissions that address wider international business and management agendas and geographical contexts.

As in previous years, we welcome submissions (competitive papers, interactive papers, panels and teaching cases) that go beyond the conference theme and encompass all major areas of international business and management, including:

- Conference Theme Track: Making Africa Work
- International Business Strategy
- Public Policy (e.g., Innovation, Cluster Development, Regional Development)
- Product, Firm and Location Competitiveness
- International Entrepreneurship, SMEs & Informal Exporting
- FDI, Global Value Chains, Geography of IB & Regional Integration
- Human Resources, Culture & Language in International Business
- Marketing & Consumers in International Business
- Ethics, Sustainability, Responsible Management & Governance of Natural Resources
- Economic Diplomacy & Institutional & Political Environment of IB
- International Finance, Accounting, Economics & Development Studies
- General Track: Management
- Teaching Cases Track
- Student Track (excluding Doctoral students)

Teaching Cases in International Business Track

This track seeks competitive and interactive teaching case submissions. Only real-life cases that address international business issues are invited. Cases can be field-researched or based on published sources, decision-oriented or descriptive. We also welcome cases that have recently (post-2013) been registered in case clearing houses such as *The Case Centre*.

Student Track

We look forward to submissions – interactive and competitive papers and cases – from undergraduate and graduate (Masters) students, particularly those pursuing MBA or international business-related degrees.

Special Panels, PDWs & Tracks

The conference will feature several panels, symposia, ‘scholars meet practice’ sessions and mini-workshops. We welcome proposals that address the conference theme as well as other topical issues.

Submission Guidelines

Following the AIB “rule of three”, no author should be associated with more than 3 submissions. *Competitive papers* must not exceed 10,000 words, and must comply to the JIBS style requirements; Please refer to http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jibs/style_guide.html.

Interactive papers should be around 2,000 – 5,000 words. Submissions should clearly state the research questions, methodology and contribution. The main results and implications for IB research and practice should be discussed, if available/applicable.

Teaching cases should be around 2,000 – 5,000 for interactive/‘embryo’ cases and no more than 10,000 words for competitive cases.

Panel proposals should have 3 – 5 scholars and/or students and a common theme, as well as a chair/discussant. We welcome a variety of proposals (paper presentations, roundtable, and professional development workshop). The names of participants and the discussant should be disclosed for this type of submission.

Competitive papers, interactive papers and teaching cases will be double-blind reviewed; please do not include any author-identifying information. Authors are strongly encouraged to assist in the review process.

Please make your submissions to: aibforafrica@gmail.com

Please state the submission type (competitive, interactive or panel) and track title on the front page at the top right. In addition, for doctoral (DS)/graduate (GS)/undergraduate students (US), please indicate ‘DS’, ‘GS’, or ‘US’.

Paper Development Workshops

In line with the SSA chapter’s goal to promote research excellence and improve the quality of IB research in the region, distinguished IB scholars will be leading mini-workshops and PDWs on research methods. Doctoral candidates, junior faculty, and those new to the field of IB are particularly encouraged to attend the workshops/PDWs. More details will be provided closer to the conference date.

Teaching International Business Mini-Workshop

A workshop on topical issues in IB teaching and curriculum development will be led by award-winning IB educators.

Best Conference Paper Awards

Several prizes will be awarded at the conference:

- *Best Competitive Paper Award, Best Thematic Conference Paper Award*
- *Best Teaching Case Award, Best Conference Paper Prize for Practice / Policy Implications Award*
- *Best Doctoral Paper Award, Best Undergraduate / Graduate Student Paper Award*

Publication Opportunities!

- All accepted conference papers will be published as an abstract in the *2018 AIB-SSA Conference Proceedings (with ISBN)*.

- A selection of papers that are aligned with the conference theme may be considered for inclusion in the *AIB Sub-Saharan Africa Book Series* published by Palgrave Macmillan.
- Authors of promising, competitive papers will be supported to submit to Africa-focused special issues of high-impact journals, including *Journal of Business Ethics* and *Thunderbird International Business Review*.

Networking & Experiential Learning Journey!

Network and develop collaborative opportunities with international scholars, business executives and students at the welcome reception, gala dinner, and field visits to some of the leading local players and multinationals based in Rwanda.

Registration Fees

The registration fees (in US Dollars) includes conference materials, a copy of the first volume of the AIB-SSA chapter book series, refreshments and lunches, but not accommodation costs.

	Early Bird (by June 24)	Late Registration (from June 25)
AIB Members	\$200	\$250
Full-time Students	\$120	\$170
AIB Non-members <small>(Rates include a one-year membership to the AIB)</small>		
Student membership	\$170	\$220
Electronic membership	\$225	\$275
Low-Income membership	\$250	\$300
Regular membership	\$300	\$350
Accompanying Partners	\$100	\$100

The chapter will waive registration fees for a limited number of delegates, with priority given to graduate students and 'low-income' junior faculty. Details on how to apply will be provided later.

Details regarding accommodation, registration payment, keynote speakers, experiential learning trips and the conference programme will be provided later on the chapter website:

<http://www.aibssa.org/>