University of Nairobi
Faculty of Law Conference
Research Week 26-28 October 2022

Conference Concept

Theme: Socio-Legal Innovations for Achieving Sustainable Development

Although Sustainable development remains a key objective for most nations, its realization remains a challenge. The SDG Goals and targets were to be achieved by 2030 but by all accounts, this will be a tall order. A situation exacerbated by the recent COVID-19 pandemic. The triple planetary crisis of biodiversity loss, climate change and pollution are a global threat to nature and the quest for sustainability. While these phenomena have recently been highlighted in global discourse, they are not new and continue to affect individuals, families, communities, and nations. At the heart of global crises is the need to resolve the challenges that they pose, while at the same time ensuring inter-generational equity. In terms of access and distribution of available resources to enable future generations enjoy at least the same level of utility as the present generation.

Considering the importance of sustainable development and threats posed to the ability of nations to achieve it, the Faculty of Law, University of Nairobi as part of the 2022 University Research Week will host a conference under the theme of **Socio-legal innovations for Achieving Sustainable Development**. The faculty invites abstracts for paper presentation during the conference. The submissions are expected to demonstrate innovations for addressing challenges to sustainable development from a multidisciplinary. The papers may address any of the SDGs under the following sub-themes. The list is not exhaustive and submissions on additional topics will be considered:

- Law, technology and sustainable development
- Environmental governance
- Sustainable development, human rights, equality and non-discrimination
- Normative frameworks and theoretical foundations for sustainable development
- Climate change, disasters and pandemics
- Intellectual property rights and sustainable development
- Innovations in traditional areas of legal practice for sustainable development
- Governance and democracy for sustainable development

- Emerging and contemporary issues in sustainable development
- Access to justice and sustainable development
- Pollution Control and Chemicals Management

Submission

Abstracts for paper presentations should be submitted to the conference organizing committee (lawabstracts@uonbi.ac.ke) by **15ᵗʰ August 2022**. The extended abstracts should be up to 500 words. Additionally, it should clearly indicate, the title of the paper, the sub-theme under which it is to be considered, and a clear writeup on the specific issue which the paper addresses. The following information must also be included in the abstract: the name and affiliation of the author(s), and the email address of the author(s), if more than one author please indicate the presenting author.

Structure of the conference

The conference will be mostly virtual, with some sessions being offered using a blended physical and virtual format. The first session of the conference will be a keynote address on the theme of the conference in a plenary session attended by all participants. Thereafter, there will be various streams where paper presentations organized around different sub-themes will be made in a panel format. Participants will be placed in appropriate streams and panels, depending on the topic and sub-theme of their papers.

Registration

The registration to the conference is **free of charge**, and advance registration is encouraged. Note that the conference will be accepting submissions from all parts of the globe.

Timelines

- Abstracts submission deadline- **15ᵗʰ August 2022**
- Conference registration- **30ᵗʰ August 2022**
- Submission of draft papers- **30ᵗʰ September 2022**
- Conference- **26-28 October 2022.**