



GLOTTAN RESEARCH SERVICES SOUTH AFRICA



*Manifold Crown Research & Training Services UK and Glotan Research Services,
South Africa*

Present

An International Conference on

*UN Sustainable Development Goals and Contemporary
Peacebuilding in Developing Regions*

Conference Dates: 8 - 10 July 2025

Conference Venue: Holiday Inn, Vicar Lane, Bradford, BD1 5LD, UK.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The Covid-19 pandemic which disrupted practically all societal sectors, resulting in the deaths of 18.5 to 20.5 million people within a space of about two and half years (December 2019 to May 2023) is evidently the most far-reaching and encompassing threats to human security or global security in general since the end of World War II. Even though the pandemic was fundamentally a global public health emergency, the widespread morbidity, mortality, prolonged lockdown, and atmosphere of fear and uncertainty that it unleashed greatly devastated the global production and supply chain, as well as investments and trade. This devastation triggered serious crisis across the various sectors of society, including the 17 priority areas of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – ending all forms of poverty, ending hunger, ensuring good health and wellbeing, promoting quality education that is inclusive and affordable, achieving gender equality through greater empowerment of women and girls, providing clean water and sanitation for all, ensuring affordable clean energy, promoting decent work and economic growth, responsive climate action, promoting global partnerships for sustainable development, among others. The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impeded the capacity and prospects of many of the world's poorest countries in the developing regions of Africa, Asia, and the Caribbeans/Latin America to achieve the SDGs by the target date of 2030. Before the pandemic, there were already substantial fears that based on their sluggish economic performance and governance challenges, most of the developing countries were unlikely to achieve the SDGs, in the same way they failed to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that preceded it.

Various governments, international organizations and regional institutions promulgated and have implemented diverse post-pandemic recovery plans, which for the most part, have focused on multisectoral responses to capacitate the healthcare sector and strengthen its complex interdependence with other sectors of the economy and society – production and employment, education and skills training, agriculture and nutrition, housing and public infrastructures, investments and trade, etc. Whilst most developed countries have implemented robust and well-resourced recovery plans which have enhanced their post-pandemic stabilization and resilience, a large number of the primary commodity-producing developing countries have suffered dwindling fortunes due to contracted trade, the global supply chain crisis and reduced development assistance, which have altogether pushed millions of the populations into poverty. War-affected countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, North Africa, and East and South Asia seem to be the worst hit, provoking the need for more constructive conflict intervention strategies and post-conflict peacebuilding.

Significantly, one of the key emphases in the global post-Covid recovery plans of the leading multilateral institutions such as the UN and its key specialized agencies, the World Bank Group, and OEDC is the promotion of international development assistance to developing countries “by encouraging more effective finance for achieving SDGs.” This international conference provides an auspicious opportunity to interrogate and assess the respective national, regional and global post-COVID-19 pandemic recovery plans, how the developing regions have fared and the prospect of their utilizing the various recovery facilities to achieve the SDGs. The conference seeks well-researched paper contributions from policy scholars and practitioners, academic researchers, doctoral students, and non-state actors, on the following sub-themes which relate to the challenges of the post-Covid-19 global recovery order and their impact on the capacity of various developing countries and regions achieving the SDGs and durable peace:



Conference Sub-themes:

1. Case studies of sectoral impacts of COVID-19 and the corresponding post-pandemic recovery plans at state, regional or international levels
2. Post Covid-19 recovery and strategies towards achieving SDGs – sectoral, multi-sectoral or holistic assessments
3. The impact of COVID-19 on armed conflicts and the prospect of post-pandemic resolution of hostilities and peacebuilding
4. War-affected countries and post-pandemic peacebuilding
5. Covid vaccine production and access during and after the pandemic
6. Trans-border migration and refugee crisis in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic
7. Cyber security threat, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and post-pandemic recovery
8. Globalization, epidemic and pandemic diseases, and human security
9. Emerging powers, G20, BRICS and the post-pandemic recovery politics
10. Public health, global governance and the post-pandemic recovery politics
11. Global trade and the supply chain crisis in the aftermath of the global pandemic
12. Remote work, digital space and the changing patterns of work and professional engagement in the post-Covid global stabilization order.

Conference Participation Requirements:

- *An Abstract of the paper to be presented
- *An Abridged CV
- *A personal or official letter stating the participant's source(s) of funding
- *A well-researched conference paper

We welcome well-researched academic or policy papers of 5,000 to 7,000 words from potential conference participants. As a necessary first step, kindly send an abstract of 250 to 300 words in line with any of the above sub-themes to: info@glotanresearch.com. To be attached to the Conference Abstract include the author(s) abridged CV [not exceeding one page] and a letter confirming the participant's funding source(s). Research institutions, policy think tanks, university departments and civil society organizations are welcome to convene panels on any of the conference themes or where necessary, to propose and host relevant panels that fit into the overall conference theme. Abstracts proposing relevant conference panels are therefore particularly encouraged.

Conference Participation Cost: All short-listed participants are responsible for their full conference participation cost, including visa and travel expenses, an administrative conference fee, hotel accommodation, and subsistence outside the scheduled conference hours when refreshments will be provided. Potential participants who can demonstrate reasonable institutional or donor funding to cover their participation costs are especially encouraged to apply.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 15 March 2025: Deadline for submission of Abstracts
- 30 March 2025: Announcement of decision on Abstracts
- 20 May 2025: Deadline for submission of first draft of full conference papers
- 7 - 8 July 2025: Arrival and conference registration in Bradford, UK
- 8 - 10 July 2025: Conference deliberations

Post-Conference Publication: Papers presented at the conference will be peer-reviewed for special issue publication in one or two journals accredited by Scopus and IBSS (International Bibliography of Social Sciences), such as African Renaissance, Ubuntu, Gender and Behaviour, etc.

Conference conveners:

- Prof TJ Mudau, Institute of Gender & Youth Studies, University of Venda, South Africa
- Prof P Marumo, School of Philosophy, North West University, Mahikeng, South Africa
- Prof V Ojakorotu, North West University, Mahikeng, South Africa
- Prof P Mashau, Durban University of Technology, South Africa
- Prof Kenneth Omeje, Manifold Crown UK/North West University, South Africa

Conference Secretariat and Contact:

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