



SAARMSTE

Southern African Association for Research in
Mathematics, Science and Technology Education

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS

**31st CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR RESEARCH IN
MATHEMATICS, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

A Celebratory Hybrid Conference

TUESDAY 19 – THURSDAY 21 JANUARY 2023

**Hosted by
UNIVERSITY OF THE FREE STATE**

CONFERENCE THEME:

***Intersecting Research, Policy and Practice for a Sustainable Praxis in Mathematics, Science
and Technology Education:
New possibilities and directions for the post-COVID-19 Pandemic Era***

Website: <https://www.saarmste.org/conference/>

SAARMSTE COMMITTEES 2022-2023

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Secretariat (ex-officio):	Ms Carolyn Stevenson-Milln	SAARMSTE

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Conference Secretary	Mrs Elsa Bester Dr Thuthukile Jita Mrs Christa Duvenhage Ms Carike Swart
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Programme co-Chairs	Dr Maria Tsakeni & Prof Mogege Mosimege
Logistics Chair	Dr Angela Stott Dr Zukiswa Nhase Mr Johan Coetzee

SAARMSTE Secretariat	Ms Carolyn Stevenson-Milln
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PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Programme co-Chairs	Dr Maria Tsakeni & Prof Mogege Mosimege
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Science	Prof Jannie Pretorius Dr Moeketsi Tlali Dr Tafirenyika Mafugu
Technology	Dr Nixon Teis Dr Benjamin Seleke Mrs Zaynab Mobarra-Links

OBJECTIVES OF THE SAARMSTE CONFERENCE

Four objectives of SAARMSTE, in terms of its constitution, are:

- To promote the advancement of Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (MSTE) Research in Southern Africa
- To provide avenues for local publication of the findings of research in MSTE
- To make research in MSTE available and accessible to policy makers and practitioners
- To promote research to improve and develop MSTE programmes in response to current and future needs

The Annual SAARMSTE Conference is an important vehicle to address these objectives.

2023 CONFERENCE THEME:

***Intersecting Research, Policy and Practice for a Sustainable Praxis in
Mathematics, Science and Technology Education:
New possibilities and directions for the post-COVID-19 Pandemic Era***

CONFERENCE THEME MOTIVATION

Traditionally, mathematics, science and technology subjects have mostly been taught in prepared and natural physical environments that include classrooms, laboratories, fieldwork and work integrated settings. However, the advent of the COVID-19 pandemic has reshaped the face of education in more ways than one resulting in the increased use of virtual learning environments and remote learning. The drastic changes warrant deep reflections and the re-imagining of the ways to teach mathematics, science and technology going forward. These changes point to a need for accompanying policy shifts and formulations. Re-imagining the teaching and learning of mathematics, science and technology and the accompanying policy formulations should be evidence-based processes undergirded by rigorous research. Accordingly, the 31st conference of SAARMSTE advances discourses on the intersection of research, policy and practice for a sustainable praxis in mathematics, science and technology education in the post-COVID-19 pandemic era.

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

The 2023 Hybrid Conference Programme comprises:

1. Invited plenary speakers with wide and knowledgeable experience in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education (MSTE).
2. Invited Discussant / Co-Chairs with expertise in MSTE, who are chosen to lead and facilitate 60-to-90-minute programme sessions that focus on papers with a similar theme, i.e. themed sessions, based on an interactive model.
3. Delegate access to pre-loaded presentations for review prior to programme sessions.
4. Social programme comprises:
 - a. A welcome social event at the end of the first day of the Conference Programme
 - b. A Gala Dinner / Awards / SAARMSTE Choir and Dancing completes the third day proceedings.

A. CHOOSING AND SUBMITTING A CONFERENCE PAPER

1. See ***Paper Options B*** below for the five possible paper options, (i.e. long paper, short paper, snapshot, poster paper, symposium), and to study the criteria required in each option.

2. Refer to **Section C** below, entitled, (**'Paper Focus'**) to ensure that your paper choice fits within one of the subject strands, and one of the area strands, as listed according to discipline, (mathematics, science or technology).
3. **Paper Submission Process**
 - a. Complete and submit the **Cover Sheet and the Presentation Information Page**, found on SAARMSTE Website <https://www.saarmste.org/conference/>
 - b. Submit a copy of your **conference paper** as an attached **Word Document**, (NOT pdf).
 - c. Further important information will be made available on the Website <https://www.saarmste.org/conference/> including: *Required Paper Format and APA Referencing style*.
4. Note **Activity Timelines**. Kindly adhere to deadline dates. 'Early is good'.

ACTIVITY TIMELINES

<i>Paper Activities</i>	<i>Date – no later than</i>
First announcement (call for papers)	30 th April
Second announcement	31 st July
Confirmation of reviewers	30 th June
Submission of papers for review	1 st – 31 st July
Long papers sent to designated reviewers	31 st July
Long paper reviews back to LOC through Exec	31 st August
All review feedback to authors	15 th September
On-line registration opens	15 th September
Submission of re-worked papers	30 th September
Application for post-Conference Writing Clinic	31 st October
Presentation uploads	30 th November
Payment of registration fees by all presenters (*See note below)	30 th November
Provisional programme released to presenters	4 th December
Final programme released to presenters and the public	11 th December

Note If final arrangements for payment of registration fees are not processed by 30th November 2022, paper(s) of those concerned, will NOT be included in the conference programme*

B. PAPER OPTIONS are:

1. LONG PAPERS		
Word count: Abstract: 100-150 words Full long paper: up to 6 000 words (excluding Abstract, but including Reference list)	Submission deadline date 31 July 2022 Email to: saarmste@gmail.com	Final submission date for re-worked papers: 30 September 2022. Email to: saarmste@gmail.com
Format: Similar to articles / papers required by journals: i.e. abstract, introduction, literature review/conceptual framework, theoretical framework, methodology, findings, discussion and conclusion.		
Long Paper Submission Process Refer: A. Choosing and Submitting a Conference Paper (see above). Note: Author details must be excluded for double blind peer review Only when the Cover Sheet, and Conference paper are complete, should the paper be sent for reviewing purposes.		

Reviewing process:

1. Long papers will be reviewed by at least 2 qualified reviewers. On completion the main author is advised of the outcome.
2. If the paper is **accepted with modifications**, the re-worked papers must be submitted as noted above, to: saarmste@gmail.com by 30 September 2022.
3. Should a long paper be **accepted as a short paper**, the author(s) will be asked to reduce the length of the paper to re-submit as a short paper by 30 September 2022.

Further information:

1. Accepted long papers are published in the accredited Conference Proceedings and are eligible for DHET subsidy funding.
2. The Review Panel presumes that:
 - a. the paper is original and has not been published elsewhere;
 - b. permission has been granted by the author for the accepted long paper to be published in the Conference Proceedings; and
 - c. at least one of the authors is registered and will attend the conference to present his/her accepted paper.

Programme requirements: by 30th November, author(s) with accepted long papers are required to prepare and submit:

1. Paper Power-Point Summary slide for the paper. This will be entered into a **competition**. Details and template to follow,
OR,
2. Paper Power-Point Presentation Slides, (maximum 10).

During the Conference thematic programme sessions author(s) are expected to present a synopsis to introduce themselves, and their paper, to conference delegates for discussant/co-chair interaction.

2. SHORT PAPERS

Word count:

Abstract: 100-150 words
Full short paper: 1 650 words
(excluding Abstract, but including Reference list)

Submission deadline date:

31 July 2022. Email to:
saarmste@gmail.com

Final submission date for

recommended Extended Short Paper: 30 September 2022. Email to:
saarmste@gmail.com

Short Paper content:

1. These should include: abstract, introduction, literature review/conceptual framework, theoretical framework, methodology, findings, discussion and conclusion.
2. Short papers should highlight preliminary findings and the significance of the research.

Short Paper Submission Process Refer: **A. Choosing and Submitting a Conference Paper** (see above).

Note: Author details must be **excluded** for double blind peer review

Only when the Cover Sheet, and Conference paper are complete, should the paper be sent for reviewing purposes.

Reviewing process:

Short papers will be reviewed by 2 qualified reviewers. On completion the main author is advised of the outcome.

The reviewer may advise:

- i. Accept with no reservations, or
- ii. Accept as a Snapshot, or
- iii. Reject the paper as being unsuitable.
- iv. In some cases the reviewer may accept the paper and suggest that the author(s) develop the short paper into an extended short paper of 3 600 words. This may be useful for authors who wish to register for the writing clinic and/or submit a paper to a journal.

Extended short papers must be emailed, as an attached Word document, to the Secretariat at saarmste@gmail.com by 30 September 2022.

Note: *In the event that the short paper is accepted as a snapshot, an amended paper should be re-submitted to the Secretariat at saarmste@gmail.com by 30 September 2022.

Further information:

Short and Snapshot papers are recorded in the 2023 electronic record of Research Papers in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education. Short papers are **not** eligible for DHET subsidy.

Programme requirements: by 30th November, author(s) with accepted short papers are required to prepare and submit:

1. Paper Power-Point Summary slide for the paper. This will be entered into a **competition**. Details and template to follow,
OR,
2. Paper Power-Point Presentation Slides, (maximum 10).

During the Conference thematic programme sessions author(s) are expected to present a synopsis to introduce themselves, and their paper, to conference delegates for discussant/co-chair interaction.

3. SNAPSHOTS

Length: Abstract: 100-150 words * Full snapshot paper: 1 650 words (excluding Abstract. But including Reference list)	Submission deadline date: 31 July 2022. Email to: saarmste@gmail.com	No revisions will be required.
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Snapshots focus on emerging research, and need not necessarily include results. Their purpose is to receive feedback from an interested audience of like-minded delegates.

Snapshot paper content:

1. These should include: abstract, introduction, literature review, methodology, references and the way forward.
2. Note reviewers look for *interesting topics on emerging research*.
3. Feedback is provided to the authors.
4. No revisions are required as snapshots are still 'research in progress'.

<p>Snapshot Paper Submission Process Refer: A. Choosing and Submitting a Conference Paper (see above).</p> <p>Note: Author details must be excluded for double blind peer review Only when the Cover Sheet, and Conference paper are complete, should the paper be sent for reviewing purposes.</p>
<p>Reviewing process:</p> <p>Snapshot papers must be reviewed by 2 qualified reviewers. On completion the author(s) is advised of the outcome.</p> <p>The reviewer may advise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Accept with no reservations, or Accept as a Poster Paper, or Reject the paper as being unsuitable. <p>Note: In the event that the snapshot paper is accepted as a poster, an amended paper should be re-submitted to the Secretariat at saarmste@gmail.com by 30 September 2022.</p>
<p>Further information:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Snapshots are not eligible for DHET subsidy. Some universities provide funding for snapshot presenters to attend the conference, some do not.
<p>Programme requirements: by 30th November, author(s) with accepted snapshot papers are required to prepare and submit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Paper Power-Point Summary slide for the paper. This will be entered into a competition. Details and template to follow, OR, Paper Power-Point Presentation Slides, (maximum 10). <p><i>During the Conference thematic programme sessions</i> author(s) are expected to present a synopsis to introduce themselves, and their paper, to conference delegates for discussant/co-chair interaction.</p>

4. POSTER PAPERS		
<p>Length: Abstract: 100-150 words Full poster paper: 1 650 words</p>	<p>Submission deadline date: 31 July 2022. Email to: saarmste@gmail.com</p>	<p>No revisions will be required.</p>
<p>Poster paper content:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A Word document providing an outline of the content of the poster. The actual poster is not submitted for review, a Word document is. The poster paper should contain a brief outline of the main features of the author’s research, similar to a short paper with abstract, introduction, literature review and references. <p>Note: Author details must be excluded for a “blind peer review”.</p>		
<p>Reviewing process:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewers look for interesting topics for further research with content that illustrates the main features of the intended research. Feedback is provided by the reviewers. 		

Further information:

1. Posters are **not eligible** for DHET subsidy.
2. Some universities provide funding for poster presenters to attend the conference, some do not.

Programme requirements: by 30th November, author(s) with accepted poster papers are required to prepare and submit:

1. Paper Power-Point Summary slide for the paper. This will be entered into a **competition**. Details and template to follow,
OR,
2. Paper Power-Point Presentation Slides, (maximum 10).

During the Conference thematic programme sessions author(s) are expected to present a synopsis to introduce themselves, and their paper, to conference delegates for discussion/ co-chair interaction.

5. SYMPOSIA / PANEL DISCUSSION

Length:

Abstract: 100-150 words *
Full symposium paper: 1 650 words
(excluding Abstract, but including
Reference list)

Submission deadline date:

31 July 2022. Email to:
saarmste@gmail.com

No revisions required**Symposia content:**

1. Symposia comprise discussions around a central theme or issue where different points of view, approaches, debates or analysis of the same issue are presented.
2. The paper should provide a short outline of the whole symposium.
3. Details of each speaker's contribution should be outlined, including how these come together to create a forum for discussion and debate.

4. *What the symposium is not:*

It is not a platform for a collection of short papers presented under the auspices of one supervisor or researcher.

Note: Author details must be **excluded** for a "blind peer review".

Reviewing process:

1. Reviewers look for: *interesting topics on one central theme which promotes interaction between presenter(s) and attending delegates*
2. Feedback is provided, but no revisions are expected.
3. Symposia are **not eligible** for DHET subsidy.

C. PAPER FOCUS should fall within on **one** of the following **Subject Strands**:

No.	Subject: Mathematics	Subject: Science	Subject: Technology
1.	Mathematical Literacy	Natural Science	Design and Technology Education
2.	Mathematics	Biology	Computer Education
3.		Chemistry	Indigenous and Appropriate Technology Education
4.		Physics	Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Education
5.			Robotics and Coding Education

Within **one** of the following **Area Strands**:

Primary education	Initial teacher education
Secondary education	Continuous teacher education
Tertiary education	Out-of-school education

The above guidelines on procedures for submitting the presentation options can also be found on the website: <https://www.saarmste.org/conference/>

or see above: **A. CHOOSING AND SUBMITTING A CONFERENCE PAPER**

As indicated, the SUBMISSION DEADLINE for all options outlined above is 31 July 2022

Note: Abstracts of accepted papers will be included in the Conference Programme with day-to-day schedule of themed presentation sessions.

SAARMSTE 2023 WRITING CLINIC

The Annual Conference Writing Clinic follows on from the Annual Conference. It is aimed at developing draft manuscripts and/or short papers into articles for journal submission. The Chief-Editor of AJRMSTE facilitates the Research Clinic together with members of the Editorial Team.

Participation in the Virtual Writing Clinic includes: some pre-conference preparation (submission, admission and feedback) for groups of 10 participants. The programme takes place over two days and comprises approximately 5 activities and group task work.

For accepted conference short papers, the writing clinic provides the potential for feedback and possible development of a journal article for the *African Journal of Research in Mathematics, Science and Technology Education*, (AJRMSTE), or other recommended and accredited journals within Mathematics, Science and Technology Education.

IMPORTANT: Spaces in the Writing Clinic are limited.

Applications and a DRAFT PAPER must be submitted directly to the SAARMSTE Secretariat (saarmster@gmail.com) no later than 31 October 2022 at (Application form will be provided in the 2nd Announcement).

DELEGATE CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Researchers interested in attending the 2023 SAARMSTE Conference, together with accepted paper authors and/or presenters, should register online through:
<https://www.saarmste.org/conference> Registration opens September 2022.

REGISTRATION – NOTE:

31st SAARMSTE CELEBRATORY CONFERENCE ONCE-OFF REGISTRATION EARLY BIRD FEE

In registering to take part in the 2023 Conference, it should be noted that the fee is dependent on:

1. Attendance as a Virtual delegate, or:
2. As a Mask-to-Mask delegate. Not both

1. VIRTUAL DELEGATE:

EARLY BIRD ONCE-OFF SPECIAL FEE before 30 October 2022	LATE PAYMENT FEE after 30 October 2022 and before commencement of the Conference
R1 350.00 (Includes 2023 membership)	R2 300.00 (Includes 2023 membership)

2. MASK-TO-MASK DELEGATE:

EARLY BIRD ONCE-OFF SPECIAL FEE before 30 October 2022	LATE PAYMENT FEE after 30 October 2022 and before commencement of the Conference
R5 000.00 (Includes 2023 membership)	R5 550.00 (Includes 2023 membership)

**NB: When processing payment, kindly include delegate name and/or invoice number.
Registration fees paid from outside South Africa must include bank transfer charges.**

Details of methods of payment will be provided in the 2nd Announcement e.g. South African bank EFT or Bank Transfer. Regrettably payment by credit card is **not** available.

CANCELLATION OF REGISTRATION - The following cancellation penalties apply:

Before 30 October 2022: full refund
Between 31 October and 15 December 2022: 40% refund
After 15 December 2022: no refund

Refunds will be paid into the account from which the original registration fee emanated.

SAARMSTE CORRESPONDENCE DETAILS

Queries should be addressed to:

Ms Carolyn Stevenson-Milln, SAARMSTE Secretariat

Cell: +27 (0)82 977 9858

Email: saarmste@gmail.com