

**10<sup>th</sup> International Development Informatics Association (IDIA2018) conference**  
<http://idia2018.com/>

**Gauteng, South Africa**  
**22-24 August, 2018**

**Call for Papers**

**Conference Theme:**  
**Making ICT Research Locally Relevant**



**IMPORTANT DATES:**

<b>Main Conference</b>	23-24 August 2018
Full Paper Submission Deadline:	<del>9 April</del> 16 April 2018
Notification to Authors:	30 May 2018
Deadline for Final (Camera-Ready) Papers:	30 July 2018
Workshops	22 August 2018
Workshop proposals	2 February 2018
Notification to Presenters:	2 April 2018
<b>Masters &amp; Doctoral Symposium</b>	<b>IFIP WG9.4 and TC9 Event</b>
Paper Note Deadline:	30 April 2018
Notification to Participants:	30 June 2018
Final (Camera-Ready) Papers & Poster:	30 July 2018
Postgraduate Symposium Date:	22 August 2018

**CONFERENCE VENUE:**

La'WiiDA Game & Conference Centre, Hennopsriver Valley, Gauteng, South Africa  
([www.lawiidalodge.co.za](http://www.lawiidalodge.co.za))

## **DESCRIPTION:**

There is still little consensus among scholars on what *development* means, who and what needs to be developed, and for what purpose. This raises fundamental questions about the future of Development Informatics research and brings to mind Geoff Walsham's question, 'Are we making a better world with technology?' (Walsham, 2012).

ICTs have not delivered on the promise of making a better world for all; and there is evidence that technology has increased inequality in many cases (Toyama, 2015). As such, the focus of the IDIA2018 conference is on *Making ICT Research Locally Relevant*. We seek to understand and respond to how politicians, NGOs, scholars, and citizens make sense of how ICTs can be used to improve the human condition.

The predominant perspective is that ICTs can support the development, promotion and realization of a model of development that is holistic, inclusive, just and sustainable, which will lead to an appropriate quality of life for each individual on the planet. The 10th IDIA conference, however, offers an opportunity to look back, take stock and debate the way ahead. The future of ICT4D research lies in multidisciplinary interaction between researchers, practitioners, and policy-makers (Walsham, 2017). Therefore, the debate would not be complete without industry and government representation or without a renewed emphasis on quality research education.

Inevitably, we ask questions about how to better understand these problems and challenges. However, the aim is to go beyond understanding, to also offer context-rich, evidence-based theories, methodologies or actionable guidance to researchers and practitioners on how the employment of ICTs can meet local needs sustainably and appropriately.

## **CALL FOR FULL PAPERS:**

In a keynote at the 3rd IDIA conference, Ron Weber reflected on how our rhetoric can be sustained by the research findings we present: Is the field of ICT4D research still driven too much by rhetoric and not enough by rigor and have we been able to gain reasonable levels of consensus about the realities we face (Weber, 2009). As such, we believe that our review processes should not be divorced from what we seek to interrogate with our conference theme. We therefore invite papers that reflect on the local relevance of the research undertaken. Authors may argue for locally relevant ICT4D research in different ways, for example; they may argue for locally relevant practical contributions, theoretical contributions, or methodological contributions; papers may represent data-driven reasoning, indigenous theorizing or theory, local narratives or cases that offer nuanced descriptions of research realities or practice-led research; and so forth.

Full Papers will be evaluated according to their novel research contribution, methodological soundness, theoretical framing and reference to related work, quality of analysis, and quality of writing and presentation. Manuscripts that consider novel designs, new technologies, project assessments, policy analyses, impact studies, theoretical contributions and social issues around ICT and development will be considered. Well-analyzed results from which generalizable or relevant conclusions can be drawn are also sought. Authors are encouraged to address the diversity of approaches in their research by providing context, implications, and actionable guidance to researchers and practitioners beyond the researchers' primary domains.

## PAPER REQUIREMENTS:

It is our pleasure to announce that selected best papers will be published in a Communications in Computer and Information Science (CCIS) volume (see <http://www.springer.com/series/7899>). CCIS is abstracted/indexed in DBLP, Google Scholar, EI-Compendex, Mathematical Reviews, SCImago, Scopus. CCIS volumes are also submitted for the inclusion in ISI Proceedings. We envisage an acceptance rate of 35% for the Springer volume.

Papers that do not make the acceptance requirements of the Springer volume, but that are of good quality and of interest to the IDIA community, will be considered for inclusion in a separate IDIA2018, double-blind peer reviewed conference proceedings with an ISBN number.

- 1) To align with Springer's requirements, each paper will be reviewed by at least 3 reviewers.
- 2) We will only review and accept full papers (12 to 15 pages) formatted according to Springer's CCIS one-column page format. **Only papers formatted in MS Word according to the Springer template will be reviewed and accepted.** (see <https://www.springer.com/gp/authors-editors/conference-proceedings/conference-proceedings-guidelines>).
- 3) Springer requires authors to include their ORCID IDs when they submit their papers. For more details see <https://www.springer.com/gp/authors-editors/orcid> and <https://www.springer.com/gp/computer-science/lncs/orcid-for-your-proceedings-paper/12272740>

Only original, unpublished, research papers in English can be considered. Longer submissions not in the template format, not related to the conference themes, and/or not meeting a minimum standard of academic research writing may be rejected without full review.

The submission URL is: <https://easychair.org/conferences/?conf=idia2018>

Important quick links:

- For MS Word paper templates and referencing guidelines: <https://www.springer.com/gp/authors-editors/conference-proceedings/conference-proceedings-guidelines>. **Do NOT submit papers formatted in LaTeX!**
- Springer Guidelines for Authors of Proceedings: [ftp://ftp.springernature.com/cs-proceeding/svproc/guidelines/Springer\\_Guidelines\\_for\\_Authors\\_of\\_Proceedings.pdf](ftp://ftp.springernature.com/cs-proceeding/svproc/guidelines/Springer_Guidelines_for_Authors_of_Proceedings.pdf)
- Information on registering for an ORCID: <https://www.springer.com/gp/authors-editors/orcid> and <https://www.springer.com/gp/computer-science/lncs/orcid-for-your-proceedings-paper/12272740>
- Author copyright forms: [https://resource-cms.springer.com/springer-cms/rest/v1/content/15427072/data/Contract\\_Book\\_Contributor\\_Consent\\_to\\_Publish\\_CCI\\_S\\_SIP](https://resource-cms.springer.com/springer-cms/rest/v1/content/15427072/data/Contract_Book_Contributor_Consent_to_Publish_CCI_S_SIP) This form has to be signed by the authors of each paper, at least by corresponding author, and collected electronically together with the final version of the paper.

**CALL FOR WORKSHOPS:**

Workshop date: 22 August 2017

Each workshop proposal (maximum 5 pages) must include:

1. Title of the workshop
2. Description of the issues covered, emphasizing the timeliness of the proposed workshop
3. Workshop Organizers (names, affiliation and contact information)
4. A short biography of the organizers (up to 200 words)
5. Planned format of the workshop, including the duration of the workshop: Half-day, Full-day and tentative schedule
6. Proposed fee

Submission: Send workshop proposals in .pdf format to Marlien Herselman ([MHerselman@csir.co.za](mailto:MHerselman@csir.co.za)).

**CALL FOR POSTGRADUATE SYMPOSIUM:**

Please note the co-located IFIP workshop for postgraduate students (see <http://www.wg94mds.com/>) on 22 August 2018.

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