



## **Second Biennial National Reading Summit Call for Papers 2023**

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The National Library of South Africa (NLSA) in conjunction with the Department of Sport, Arts and Culture (DSAC) and UNISA's Department of Information Science will be hosting the 2<sup>nd</sup> biennial National Reading Summit from 29 to 31 March 2023.

The Reading Summit aims to assess the role of literacy in the National Development Plan (NDP) Vision 2030 and focuses on contributing to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as the Agenda 2063 of the African Union, to improve literacy in Africa. The main venue for the conference will be at the Muckleneuk Campus of UNISA, Pretoria. The conference will also be conducted virtually. The hybrid conference will aim to achieve the following objectives:

- To explore issues and insights on reading practices in South Africa, on the African continent and globally.
- To provide a platform for exchange of experiences and dialogue on Book Clubs as a means of promoting reading in our communities.
- To identify and analyse opportunities and challenges of reading initiatives.
- To showcase effective reading programmes of specific age groups.
- To draw lessons from best practice models in driving reading programmes.
- To strengthen reading programmes and initiatives in collaboration with Government and various stakeholders including educators, NGOs, publishers and institutions of higher education.

Linked to the objectives set for the Reading Summit, the main theme of the Summit is:  
**Nurturing reading cultures and literacies in post-pandemic ecosystems.**



Sub-themes related to the main theme for the conference include:

***Sub-Theme 1: Reading cultures for sustainable development***

- Cultures of reading
- Impact and reach of reading initiatives in advancing cultures of reading
- Reading post the COVID-19 pandemic
- Reading interests and readers
- Barriers to reading and reading cultures
- Decolonising reading practices
- Reading for differently-abled individuals
- Early childhood literacies
- Reading support for different user groups

***Sub-Theme 2: Reading and Technology***

- Reading and literacy in 4IR
- Technology use towards strengthening reading practices
- Influence of social media on reading

***Sub-Theme 3: Promotion of reading and literacies***

- Book clubs and mobile libraries
- Storytelling and promotion of reading cultures
- Best practices in driving reading programmes
- The impact of international and national Reading Campaigns in promoting a culture of reading
- Sustainability of reading programmes
- Advocacy and collaboration towards the promotion of reading



#### ***Sub-theme 4: Reading cultures and literacy theoretical constructs***

- Reading models applicable to the continent and globally that can be emulated to give momentum to reading programmes
- Theoretical framework development towards the advancement of reading cultures
- Conceptual constructs to advance reading programme expansion

#### ***Sub-theme 5: Multilingualism and Multiculturalism***

- Promotion of multilingualism in reading
- Development of indigenous language systems
- Preserving indigenous knowledge

#### ***Sub-theme 6: Reading and literacy skills development***

- Building skills to enhance reading cultures
- Funding towards reading and literacy skills development
- Collaborations towards reading and literacy skills development
- Inclusive and accessible reading culture development
- National collaboration opportunities towards reading and literacy development
- International opportunities to advance reading and literacy skills development

#### ***Sub-theme 7: Case studies of successes***

- Best practice examples of success stories
- Reinforcing information literacies by reimagining reading cultures in post-pandemic communities of practice



## Call for papers

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Abstracts related to the above topics are invited.

Abstracts should not exceed 400 words, and should contain the following:

- Sub-theme and title of the paper, which also reflects a clear description of the topic and its importance and relevance
- Name(s) of the author(s)
- Contact details of the author(s), inclusive of e-mail(s) and contact telephone number(s)
- Institutional affiliation(s)
- Keywords

The above information does not form part of the 400 words allocated to the actual content of the abstract.

## Important dates

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To assist in the development of an abstract that may be accepted for inclusion in the programme of the conference, an Abstract Planning workshop will be conducted virtually.

Date: 13 January 2023

Time: 09H00 to 14H00

Teams Link: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 395 640 928 063

Passcode: CxSHBR



Abstract submission date: 30 January 2023

Notification of the acceptance / rejection of abstracts: 20 February 2023

Submission of recordings of accepted papers: 10 March 2022

Submission of full conference papers to be included in the conference proceedings:  
30 April 2023

Submit abstracts to: [nlsaconferences@nlsa.ac.za](mailto:nlsaconferences@nlsa.ac.za)

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