

SIXTH AFRICAN ORGANIC CONFERENCE [6AOC]

1st to 4th DECEMBER 2026, LUSAKA, ZAMBIA

OFFICIAL CALL FOR PAPERS, POSTERS, AND INNOVATIONS

1. Background

The African Organic Conference is an interactive platform of organic agriculture multi-stakeholder actors who converge to share experiences, knowledge and good practices and attitudes through paper presentations, product exhibits and field trips to renowned organic facilities for production, value addition and or marketing. The African Organic Network (AfrONet), an umbrella body of organic agriculture actors in Africa representing the National and Regional Organic Agriculture movements (NOAMs/ROAMs) is organizing the 6th African Organic Conference (AOC) in collaboration with the organic agriculture actors in Africa, the African Union Commission and other strategic organizations outside Africa. The 6th African Organic Conference will be hosted by Organic Producers' and Processors' Association of Zambia (OPPAZ) in Lusaka, Zambia from December 1 - 4, 2026.

The aim of the 6AOC is to identify organic agriculture actions which can actualize resilient agri-food systems and have positive contribution towards the achievement of the right to food in Africa. The overarching objective is to find solutions for ensuring food security and nutrition in Africa embracing production and marketing of livestock and food, fibre and medicinal plants. The theme of the conference, ***“Building resilient agri-food systems and ensuring the right to food in Africa through organic agriculture”*** premises that organic farming, being an affordable farming system blending indigenous knowledge and scientifically proven technologies, is well placed to increase output of a diverse range of quality products to assure continuous availability of safe food, balanced nutrition and industrial raw materials.

2. Call for Papers, Posters, and Innovations

AfrONet invites researchers, farmers, agribusiness leaders, and policymakers to submit their research, empirical evidence, and success stories. To ensure a comprehensive and actionable conference, all submissions must directly align with one of the four official 6AOC Technical Tracks:

3. **Track A (The Farmers' Track):** Grassroots innovations, indigenous knowledge, and farmer-led climate adaptation strategies.
4. **Track B (The Research Track):** Empirical evidence, pedometrics, socio-economic impacts, and translating science to practice.
5. **Track C (The Value Chain and Marketing Track):** Participatory Guarantee Systems (PGS), post-harvest processing, and organic trade integration.
6. **Track D (The Policy and Institutional Track):** Mainstreaming agroecology into National Agriculture Investment Plans (NAIPs) and harmonizing cross-border regulations.

7. Guidelines for submission of presentations

7.1. Overview

Appropriate presentations addressing the theme and objectives of the conference are requested. Please note that only those duly registered for the conference are authorized to present papers or posters or success stories during the event. Please note that all finally accepted manuscripts will be published in the Conference Proceedings, while scientific ones that are evaluated acceptable for journal publication will have the opportunity to be published in the African Journal of Organic Agriculture and Ecology (AJOAE).

3.2. Scope and language of the presentations

Contributions must directly address the subthemes within the four official Technical Tracks (Farmers, Research, Value Chain, or Policy). Manuscripts shall be submitted in English, French, or Portuguese languages.

3.3. Submission of papers

Step 1: Submission of full papers:

Full papers, posters, and success stories prepared in accordance with the specified guidelines shall be submitted via the official portal at **(insert email)** and copied to info@afroNet.bio on or before **30th October 2026**. (The requirement for the prior submission of abstracts is not necessary).

Step 2: Communication of accepted scientific papers:

The full list of accepted manuscripts, posters, and success stories will be communicated to authors on **15th November 2026**.

4. *Alternative Submission Formats (Posters and Success Stories)*

To accommodate all stakeholders, including grassroots innovators and agribusinesses, submissions are not restricted to full academic papers.

- ***Poster Presentations (Open to all Tracks): Submit a single-page poster presentation. Specifications: Must include the presenter's name, location, and a summary elaboration not exceeding 30 words.***
- ***Farmer and Agribusiness Success Stories (Ideal for Tracks A and C): Submit 5 to 10 presentation slides, pictures, or a 2-minute video clip showcasing a specific success in organic production, marketing, or value addition. Specifications: Slides/posters should have a brief description not exceeding 20 words.***

5. **Authors' Guideline for Manuscript Submission**

6.1. **Style specifications**

1. All manuscripts should be typed, Times New Roman (12), 1.5 spacing on A4 size (210 x 297mm) paper.
2. The length of the manuscript should in general not exceed 10 pages (tables, figures and other illustrations included).
3. There shall be ample margins, 2.54 cm to the left and 2.54 cm to the top and bottom of the page.
4. The cover page shall contain (a) Title of the manuscript. (b) Names(s) and affiliation(s) of Author(s) followed by correspondence email address(es) and phone number(s), (c) Abstract of not more than 250 words with relevant keywords (maximum of 5).

Please note: The following strict academic formatting guidelines apply exclusively to full scientific manuscripts submitted under Track B (Research) and Track D (Policy). Success stories and poster submissions may disregard this formatting.

6.2. Organization and content

1. The manuscript should be organized as follows: Title, Abstract, Introduction,
2. Aims/Objectives, Materials and Methods (or Methodology), Results, Discussion (or Results and Discussion), Conclusion and Recommendations and References.
3. The main headings should be centered and typed in **Sentence Case Letters** while tertiary headings should be to the left of the page.
4. Use only the international System of Unit (SI) and ensure that units are quantitative measurements, e.g. 3 kg; when they are preceded by a capitalized noun, e.g. Table 8.
5. Tables and figures should be numbered in Arabic numerals, cited in the text, sources indicated if not original (i.e., not made by the author).
6. Each table and figure should have an explanatory legend, which should be typed at the bottom of the page.

6.3. References

1. Reference citation in the text should follow the name, years system;
2. All references cited must be listed in alphabetical order of the sole/senior/first author's names; each reference should be systematic and should comply with APA Style i.e. surname of the author(s) and initials; year of publication (in parenthesis), title of paper, name of Journal/source of paper (italicized), volume number, number of issue (if applicable) in Arabic numerals on the first and the last pages of the references; e.g.

Lawale A.A. (1991). "A Descriptive Analysis of Agriculture Cooperative Model in Rural Development". *Journal of Rural Development and Administration*. 23 (3):1-8.

3. For the citation of books, the author's name comes first followed by year of publication in brackets, title of the book (underlined), edition and volume number (if any) page or pages, city of publication and publishers; e.g.

Fredick, G. B. (1970). Principles of Educational and Psychological Testing. 468 pp. Illinois: The Dryden Press Inc.

4. For a chapter in a book, cite like this; e.g.

Pickering, D. C. (1978) "An overview of agricultural extension and its linkages with agricultural research". The World Bank experience. In: Agricultural Extension Worldwide: Issues, Practices and Emerging Priorities (eds.) Rivera, W. M. and Schram, W. G.

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