



KENYA INSTITUTE OF SUPPLIES MANAGEMENT

CALL FOR PAPERS

THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE CONFERENCE ON PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT 2026

Theme:

ADVANCING NATIONAL VALUE, PUBLIC TRUST, AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

30th September 2026

Sarova Whitesands Hotel, Mombasa, Kenya

The Kenya Institute of Supplies Management (KISM) is pleased to invite **procurement and supply chain management professionals, researchers, academics, practitioners, policy makers, regulators, development partners, industry experts and other interested stakeholders** to submit papers for presentation at the **National Dialogue Conference on Procurement and Supply Chain Management 2026**.

This marks the **inaugural Call for Papers at the KISM National Dialogue Conference**, providing a dedicated professional platform for evidence-based research, practical experience, policy perspectives and innovative ideas that can contribute to strengthening procurement and supply chain management in Kenya.

The Conference will provide an opportunity for national dialogue on how procurement and supply chain management can contribute more effectively to **public value, accountability, service delivery, economic growth, resilience and competitiveness**.

1. CONFERENCE THEME

ADVANCING NATIONAL VALUE, PUBLIC TRUST, AND ECONOMIC COMPETITIVENESS

Papers should demonstrate a clear connection to the Conference theme and should contribute to practical, policy or scholarly discourse on the role of procurement and supply chain management in advancing national development.

2. SUGGESTED CONFERENCE SUB-THEMES

Authors are invited to submit papers addressing one or more of the following areas:



1. Procurement Governance, Policy and Regulatory Reform

- i. Strengthening procurement governance and accountability
- ii. Regulatory effectiveness and institutional compliance
- iii. Emerging developments in public procurement policy and regulation
- iv. Professionalization of procurement and supply chain management
- v. Ethics, integrity and conflict-of-interest management
- vi. Strengthening oversight and accountability mechanisms

2. Procurement as a Driver of National Value and Economic Development

- i. Moving from procurement spend to public value
- ii. Local content and supplier development
- iii. Procurement and inclusive economic growth
- iv. Supporting MSMEs, youth and women-owned enterprises
- v. Strategic procurement and national development
- vi. Value for money and lifecycle value

3. Public Procurement and Public Trust

- i. Transparency and accountability in public procurement
- ii. Citizen-centered procurement and service delivery
- iii. Building confidence in public procurement systems
- iv. Anti-corruption measures and ethical procurement
- v. Professional responsibility and public interest
- vi. Procurement integrity and institutional reputation

4. Digital Transformation and Innovation in Procurement and Supply Chains

- i. E-procurement and digital public procurement
- ii. Artificial intelligence and emerging technologies
- iii. Data-driven procurement and supply chain decision-making
- iv. Digital procurement systems and interoperability
- v. Cybersecurity and data governance
- vi. Technology-enabled transparency and efficiency

5. Strategic Supply Chain Management and Resilience

- i. Supply chain resilience and continuity
- ii. Strategic sourcing and supplier relationship management
- iii. Risk management in supply chains
- iv. Local and global supply chain disruptions
- v. Strategic inventory and logistics management
- vi. Sustainable and resilient public supply chains



6. Sustainable, Green and Circular Procurement

- i. Green public procurement
- ii. Climate-responsive procurement
- iii. Circular economy and sustainable supply chains
- iv. Environmental, social and governance considerations
- v. Sustainable supplier development
- vi. Sustainable infrastructure and public investment

7. Procurement, Infrastructure and Public Service Delivery

- i. Procurement performance and infrastructure delivery
- ii. Health, education and other critical public supply chains
- iii. Procurement planning and project implementation
- iv. Contract management and performance
- v. Procurement outcomes and service delivery
- vi. Lessons from major public projects

8. Professionalization, Skills and the Future of the Supply Chain Profession

- i. Competency development and professional standards
- ii. Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- iii. The future skills required in procurement and supply chain management
- iv. Leadership and professional ethics
- v. Research, innovation and knowledge development
- vi. Academia–Industry–Government collaboration

9. Emerging Issues and Contemporary Practice

Papers addressing emerging procurement and supply chain issues that are not expressly covered under the above sub-themes may also be considered, provided they demonstrate a clear connection to the Conference theme.

3. WHO SHOULD SUBMIT?

KISM invites submissions from:

- i. Procurement and supply chain management professionals;
- ii. Academics and researchers;
- iii. Public and private sector practitioners;
- iv. Policy makers and regulators;
- v. County and national government institutions;
- vi. Development partners;
- vii. Professional bodies and institutions;
- viii. Industry and business leaders;



- ix. Students and emerging researchers; and
- x. Other experts with relevant knowledge or practical experience.

Joint papers involving collaboration between **academia, industry, government and professional practitioners** are particularly encouraged.

4. PAPER SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Authors wishing to present papers at the Conference should first submit an **extended abstract** for consideration.

A. Title of the Paper

The title should:

1. Be concise and specific;
2. Clearly reflect the subject of the paper;
3. Demonstrate alignment with the Conference theme or one of the sub-themes; and
4. Not exceed **21 words**.

B. Author Information

The submission should provide:

1. Full name(s) of the author(s);
2. Designation/professional title;
3. Name of institution/organization;
4. City and country;
5. Email address; and
6. Telephone/contact details.

Where there are multiple authors, the **first-named author shall be designated as the corresponding author**.

C. Extended Abstract

The extended abstract should:

1. Be clearly aligned to the Conference theme and/or sub-theme;
2. Clearly state the problem, issue or research question being addressed;
3. Explain the purpose/objectives of the paper;
4. Briefly describe the methodology, evidence base or approach used;
5. Present the principal findings, arguments or insights;
6. Highlight the practical, policy or professional implications;
7. Conclude with the key contribution of the paper;



8. Include **4–6 keywords**;
9. Be presented as a single, clearly structured submission;
10. Not exceed **600 words**; and
11. Be submitted electronically in **Microsoft Word format**.

D. Full Paper

Authors whose abstracts are accepted will be invited to submit the full paper.

The full paper should ordinarily contain:

- i. Title;
- ii. Author(s) and institutional affiliation;
- iii. Abstract;
- iv. Keywords;
- v. Introduction/background;
- vi. Problem statement or research question;
- vii. Objectives;
- viii. Literature/conceptual framework, where applicable;
- ix. Methodology or evidence base;
- x. Findings/analysis;
- xi. Discussion;
- xii. Policy, professional or practical implications;
- xiii. Conclusion and recommendations; and
- xiv. References.

Papers should be **original work** and should properly acknowledge all sources.

5. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF PAPERS

All submissions will undergo a **technical review and selection process**.

Papers will be considered against the following criteria:

Criterion	Consideration
Relevance to Conference Theme	Clear contribution to “Advancing National Value, Public Trust, and Economic Competitiveness.”
Alignment to Sub-Theme	Clear connection to one or more identified Conference sub-themes.
Originality	Demonstrates an original idea, research finding, practical experience, innovation or perspective.
Evidence/Research Basis	Supported by credible evidence, research, data, documented experience or sound professional analysis.



Criterion	Consideration
Practical Application	Demonstrates relevance to procurement and supply chain practice, policy, regulation or institutional performance.
National/Strategic Relevance	Offers insights capable of contributing to Kenya's procurement and supply chain discourse and development objectives.
Clarity and Structure	Clearly articulated objectives, methodology/approach, findings or arguments and conclusions.
Professional/Academic Quality	Demonstrates appropriate professional, technical or scholarly standards.
Policy/Practice Contribution	Identifies actionable lessons, recommendations, innovations or implications.
Ethical and Originality Requirements	Must be original work and comply with applicable ethical, intellectual property and citation requirements.

KISM reserves the right to accept, decline or request revisions to submitted papers based on the outcome of the technical review process and the available Conference programme.

Acceptance of an abstract shall **not automatically constitute acceptance of the full paper**. The KISM may undertake a further review of the full paper before confirming it for presentation.

6. REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

To promote quality, credibility and fairness, submissions will undergo the following process:

Stage 1 – Submission of Abstract

Authors submit their abstracts electronically within the prescribed deadline.

Stage 2 – Technical Screening

Submissions are screened for completeness, relevance to the Conference theme/sub-themes and compliance with the submission requirements.

Stage 3 – Technical Review

Eligible abstracts are reviewed by KISM.

Stage 4 – Notification of Authors

Authors whose abstracts are accepted will receive formal notification and instructions for submission of the full paper and presentation materials.



Stage 5 – Full Paper Review

Accepted authors submit their full papers for technical review and programme development.

Stage 6 – Conference Presentation

Selected authors will be invited to present their papers during the National Dialogue Conference.

KISM may select papers for **oral presentation, panel discussion, technical session, poster presentation or publication in Conference proceedings**, depending on the quality and suitability of the submission.

7. IMPORTANT DATES

Activity	Date
Call for Papers Opens	30 September 2026
Deadline for Submission of Abstracts	14 October 2026
Notification of Abstract Acceptance	19 October 2026
Deadline for Submission of Full Papers	26 October 2026
Notification of Final Paper/Presentation Acceptance	1 November 2026
Submission of PowerPoint Presentations	3 November 2026
National Dialogue Conference	16-20 November 2026

The Institute reserves the right to amend the above dates where necessary. Any changes will be communicated through the official KISM communication channels.

8. PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Authors whose papers are selected for presentation will be required to:

- Prepare a PowerPoint presentation based on the accepted paper;
- Present within the time allocated by the Conference Programme;
- Focus on the key findings, evidence, insights and recommendations;
- Submit the final presentation to KISM within the prescribed deadline; and
- Be available to respond to questions and participate in the Conference dialogue.

Detailed presentation guidelines will be communicated to authors whose papers are accepted.

9. ORIGINALITY AND PUBLICATION

Submitted papers should be the original work of the author(s) and should not infringe the intellectual property rights of any third party.



Authors shall be responsible for ensuring that all quotations, data, references, tables, figures and other materials drawn from external sources are appropriately acknowledged.

KISM may, subject to applicable author permissions and institutional requirements, consider selected papers for inclusion in **Conference proceedings, professional publications, knowledge products or other KISM platforms.**

Submission of a paper constitutes consent for KISM to use the author's name, institutional affiliation and accepted presentation title for purposes of Conference publicity and programme development.

10. SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

All abstracts and papers should be submitted electronically to:

Kenya Institute of Supplies Management

KISM Towers, Nairobi, Kenya

Email: programs@kism.or.ke

Subject of Email:

CALL FOR PAPERS – NATIONAL DIALOGUE CONFERENCE 2026 – [AUTHOR'S NAME]

Authors should submit their abstract in **Microsoft Word format.**

11. CONFERENCE INFORMATION

THE NATIONAL DIALOGUE CONFERENCE ON PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT 2026

Theme: Advancing National Value, Public Trust & Economic Competitiveness

Date : 16 – 20 November, 2026

Venue : Sarova Whitesands Hotel, Mombasa, Kenya

The Conference seeks to bring together diverse voices and evidence from across the procurement and supply chain ecosystem to promote **knowledge sharing, professional dialogue, policy reflection, innovation and practical solutions** for stronger procurement and supply chain outcomes.

Kenneth Matiba, MBS, MKISM

CEO/Secretary

Kenya Institute of Supplies Management

Issued: Wednesday, 30th September 2026