Third BRICS Young Scientist Forum Announcement & Call for Abstracts

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE
Friday 11th May 2018

THEME: Building BRICS Youth Leadership through Science, Technology & Innovation (Durban, South Africa)

BACKGROUND

The decision to establish the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Young Scientist Forum (YSF) was taken at the 2nd BRICS Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Ministerial Meeting in 2015. South Africa assumed the BRICS rotational Presidency on 1 January 2018 and will host the 10th BRICS Summit in July 2018. South Africa will host a wide range of BRICS activities leading up to and following the Summit, including the 6th BRICS STI Ministerial Meeting and the 8th BRICS STI SOM. The main goals of the 3rd BRICS YSF are:
- To provide a platform for talented BRICS young scientists and researchers to exchange perspectives on transformative change and forge sustainable research partnerships, links and networks;
- To promote youth driven creative solutions to the most pressing socio-economic problems in their societies;
- To promote academic and policy exchanges and dialogues amongst the BRICS youth; and
- To promote interactive contact between young scientists and established scientists and researchers from the BRICS member countries.

Conference Sub-Themes

The 3rd BRICS YSF under the theme “Building BRICS Youth Leadership through Science, Technology and Innovation” will highlight the strategic importance of science, technology and innovation as key drivers of youth entrepreneurship and leadership. The thematic discussions will focus on energy, water and social science and specifically address issues related to the following:
- Water – The Strategic Importance of Water Resources in the Context of Climate Change
- Social Science – The Impact and Challenges of Modern ICT Technologies on Youth Identity and Cultural Choices

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

This call is open to early career researchers who are based in South Africa. Applicants should meet the following criteria to participate:
- South Africa citizenship or permanent resident status
- Be under the age of forty (40)
- Be in possession of at least a Master’s degree
- Have research interests in the thematic areas listed
- Commit to be present for the duration of the conference
- Submit an abstract that will be the basis for a presentation at the conference

Note: In addition to the abstract, do submit a short motivation (1 page at most). The chosen presenters are asked to not simply focus on their research or thesis but should engage with the topic and answer its requirements. Presentations that provide possible recommendations are preferable and address the BRICS countries. The meeting format is a Forum which is a discussion group, where ideas related to a subject ‘under discussion’ can be raised and evaluated on a (more-or-less) equal and informal basis.

HOW TO APPLY

On behalf of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), the Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf) invites submission of abstracts for oral presentations in one of the sub-themes outlined above. The attached application form should be completed and sent to Edith@assaf.org.za Tel: +27 (0)12 349 6614 by Friday, 11 May, 2018. There is no registration fee to attend the forum. Further information about the forum will be circulated to successful applicants.

APPLICATION DEADLINES:
11th May 2018