



RECOMMENDATIONS TO AUTHORS

General Information about AfEA and SOMEPI:

The African Epidemiological Association (AfEA) was created in Calabar in 2012 under the auspices of the International Epidemiological Association (IEA). AfEA is a federation of national epidemiological associations within the countries of the WHO /Afro region. The association counts since its creation more than 500 registered epidemiologists. So far, AfEA has organized 5 conferences, in Nigeria (2), in Cameroun (1), in Malawi (1) and in Mozambique (1). The members' associations are to date EPiSON (Nigeria), CaSE (Cameroon), SOMEPI(Mali), SAES (Republic of South Africa), SOMEPI (Mali) the latest, the chapters of Congo and Chad.

AfEA defines standards and supports the training and practice of epidemiology via its constituent national associations in collaboration with national governments, Universities and other relevant stakeholders and institutions, and develops epidemiology associations and communities of practice that are responsive to Africa's needs.

Call for Abstracts

We are currently accepting abstract for the 6th African Epidemiological Association (AfEA) conference and 1st Malian Society of Epidemiology (SOMEPI) congress scheduled for the 25 - 27 October 2023 in Bamako, Mali. The theme of the conference is “**Emerging and Re- Emerging Diseases: The Role of Epidemiology in Africa.**”

Your abstracts should be an original piece of research and should not have been published previously.

Your research must be on one of the following conference sub-themes:

- 1. Communicable and non-communicable diseases surveillance and control: Innovations, best practices and lessons learned**
- 2. Prevention and control of hospital infections**
- 3. Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)**
- 4. Emerging diseases control including pandemic preparedness and response**
- 5. Mother and Child Health in the African region**



Eligibility of Abstracts and Authors: Only abstracts with original work within the scope of the above sub-themes will be accepted for the conference. The primary author must have participated in the activities showcased in the abstract and obtained the necessary approvals where sensitive data is used in the paper, as well any necessary ethical clearance and regulatory documents.

The primary author may submit more than one abstract. Abstracts that have been previously presented elsewhere will be considered at the jury's discretion, but priority will be given to abstracts that have not yet been presented at any other scientific conference. Authors should emphasize how the work undertaken will be used to create positive impact on the healthcare landscape and/or how the research will change the course of epidemiology in the future.

Live Presentations and Poster Hall: The conference is an in-person meeting. The presenting author of the abstract, whether selected for oral or poster presentations, is expected to be able to attend the conference in Bamako if selected.

Abstract Scholarships: Partial or full scholarship will be available to cover one or all of the following expenses: travel, accommodation and conference registration for early career epidemiologists/ young investigators.

Eligibility criteria for the abstract scholarship will be released later.

Abstract Submission Dates

Authors should submit their abstracts via the email: afea.somepi@gmail.com. The subject of the email should read "**AfEA-SOMEPI-2023-Abstract**"

Opening of call for abstracts: Abstract submissions will open on **Wednesday, 1 March 2023**

Submission deadline: The abstract submission deadline is **Friday, 30 June 2023** at 23:59 GMT.

No abstracts will be accepted past the official due date.

Evaluation: All abstracts submitted will be assessed independently by three reviewers.

Acceptance: Applicants will be notified of acceptances by **Monday, 25th August 2023**.



Abstract structure

Word count: The abstract should not exceed 350 words (which includes sub-headings but does not include the title, key words, list of authors and their addresses).

Authors: Authors should be listed as follows:

- **First author:** Provide first name, initials of the middle name (if any), and the last name (e.g., Elvis A. Tanue).
- **Co-authors:** List all co-authors by typing their first and middle names as initials, followed by their last name in full (e.g., A.S. Nkwescheu, F. L. Tianyi).
- Provide the organizational affiliations of the first author and all co-authors linked by superscript numbers, and should be listed beneath the title.
- Indicate the corresponding author with an Asterix* and provide their email address and telephone number plus their alternate contacts.

Presenters' names should be marked in bold

Keywords: Please include 4 – 5 key words

Title: The title should be informative but concise with no subtitles or abbreviations and should highlight **what** the study is, **where** it was done and **when** it was undertaken (e.g., Incidence of snakebite in the Limbe Health District, February 2022). Write the title in sentence case and only capitalize proper nouns and scientific names where appropriate. The title should not exceed 96 characters (including spaces).

Background: Should address the scientific background, rationale for the study, as well as the significance of the study. Because of the anticipated diversity of the reviewers and those attending the conference, do not assume that everyone will be familiar with your topic. Explain why your study is important and what question(s) it will answer. A clearly stated background sets the stage and should include:

- A brief description of the topic and its significance
- Study objectives



- Research questions or study hypothesis if applicable

Methods: Describe the methods used for the study. Essential points to be included are:

- Study design
- Study setting
- Study population
- Eligibility criteria and case definitions, if any
- Sample size and sampling methods
- Data management and statistical analysis

NB: In the case of qualitative or mixed methods studies, the methods may be adapted to suit its context.

Results: Present the significant findings (both positive and negative) of the study that are directly related to the study objectives. This section should not include discussion of the results. Provide both absolute numbers and their percentages/proportions, rates and ratios where applicable. Please note that since an abstract is a stand-alone and citable document, the results section should contain enough data to draw conclusions.

Conclusion: Be as concise as possible. Do not re-state data present in the results. This section may include:

- An interpretation of key findings and their implications for practice.
- Public health actions that are recommended as a consequence of the study.

Ethics consideration: Authors should indicate if there is or not any situation of conflicts of interest regarding the study!

Note: The abstract should be written in Times New Roman, font size 12 with a spacing of 1.5.

Please send all abstract to afea.somepi@gmail.com before the **30th June 2023** at 23:59 p.m GMT.