



10th INTERNATIONAL
Language & Development
CONFERENCE

15 – 17 October 2013

Lagoon Beach Hotel, Cape Town, South Africa

The **10th biennial International Language and Development Conference** will be hosted by **British Council in Cape Town, South Africa on 15 - 17 October 2013**, and is the second one to be convened in Sub-Saharan Africa.

This year is particularly exciting because the Conference has been running since 1993, an important milestone for the development of languages worldwide.

Notably, the Conference coincides with reviews of progress towards the eight United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by development professionals and policymakers worldwide as the 2015 MDG deadline approaches. This provides an opportunity to explore the role of language in contributing to the achievement of the MDGs, specifically:

- MDG 2: Achieving universal primary education
- MDG 3: Promoting gender equality and empowering women
- MDG 8: Developing a global partnership for development

It will also be a chance to offer a language perspective in helping shape a strategy to deliver a revised set of development goals after 2015. Therefore the conference will focus on a range of language-related issues common - but not unique to - developing countries across the African continent. The conference will thus not only have a distinctive African flavour, but will also address wider global issues and concerns.

The **main theme** will be **‘Opportunity, Equity and Identity beyond 2015’**, divided into two key areas:

1. Lessons, observations and themes developed from earlier Language and Development Conferences and how these relate to the MDGs
2. The role of language in supporting development from 2015-2035.

The conference will be structured around **four sub-themes** to provide coherence, both within the 10th Conference and across the wider series of conferences:

1. Language policy

- National language policy development: comparative national and regional studies
- The role of lingua francas: English, French, Portuguese, KiSwahili, Arabic and Standard Chinese in Sub-Saharan Africa
- Language as a contributor to post-MDG development objectives.

2. Language, literacy and education

- Monolingualism, bilingualism and multilingualism: languages of learning and teaching in Africa
- The role of mother tongue in education: transitioning to other language mediums of instruction
- Reading and writing cultures at home and at school
- Challenges for English language teaching in primary schools.

3. Language in socio-economic development

- Development perspectives on language: the response of donor agencies to language issues
- Use of language in public and private domains
- Language, international communication and the global economy.

4. Language and cultural identity

- Identity, gender, politics and language
- Equity, identity and languages of instruction
- Teaching language and culture in the classroom
- Culture, identity, technology, new media and language.

Abstract Submissions

We welcome the submission of papers and perspectives that highlight relevant research and practice in the four thematic areas of the conference as outlined above.

Abstracts should not be longer than 300 words and the paper's topic and its relevance to the conference themes should be clearly identifiable.

For more details, please visit the conference website .

Due date: Friday, 31st May 2013

Registration Fees

Registration fees will cover the conference packs, access to all sessions, field visits, welcome reception, morning and afternoon refreshments and buffet lunches for the three days of the conference. Registration will open in April 2013. For more details, please visit the conference website.

Scholarships

There will be a limited number of scholarships for participants who are able to demonstrate financial need as well as ability to bring relevant expertise and diverse perspectives to the conference. Further information will be available on the conference website.

For more information on the conference

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