

# WALTER SISULU UNIVERSITY

## 1ST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION IN BUILT ENVIRONMENT

### CONFERENCE INVITATION AND CALL FOR PAPERS

06 - 09 JULY 2025

Walter Sisulu University, Potsdam Campus

#### THEME

The Future of the Built Environment in Developing Countries



The Faculty of Engineering, Built Environment, and Information Technology (FEBEIT) at Walter Sisulu University, in collaboration with the Council for the Built Environment (CBE), is pleased to announce the **First International Conference on Sustainable Construction in the Built Environment**. The conference will take place from **6-9 July, 2025**, at the Potsdam Campus in East London, South Africa. FEBEIT and CBE are organizing this prestigious conference to provide a platform for academics, industry professionals, researchers, school managers, and students (advanced diploma, honours, Master's, PhD) to share their research findings with both local and global experts. The conference aims to facilitate discussions on trends and regional and national challenges and to exchange suggestions and methodologies for addressing these challenges.



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## 1 Themes and Sub-themes

### 1. Sustainable Built Environment

**Sub-themes:** Construction and climate change; Future of construction and the Built Environment; Sustainable construction for youth development.

### 2. Engineering and Built Environment Education and Training

**Sub-themes:** Decolonization of the curriculum; Rethinking the curriculum to incorporate Indigenous knowledge systems; Equality, diversity, and inclusion in engineering, built environment, and information technology; Community engagement and upliftment; Student employability and graduate satisfaction; Skills gap identification and reskilling of unemployed graduates.

### 3. Digitalization and Emerging Technologies in Engineering and Built Environment

**Sub-themes:** Technology infusion in core design, industry, and governance; Applications of the Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR); Smart and secure technologies; Smart city/community initiatives.

### 4. Professionalism and Ethics

**Sub-themes:** Regulation and professionalization of the built environment; Professional development plans for staff; Mentorship for professional registration and development; Collaboration among industry, universities, and government; Curriculum development.

### 5. Quality and Safety in the Engineering & Built Environment

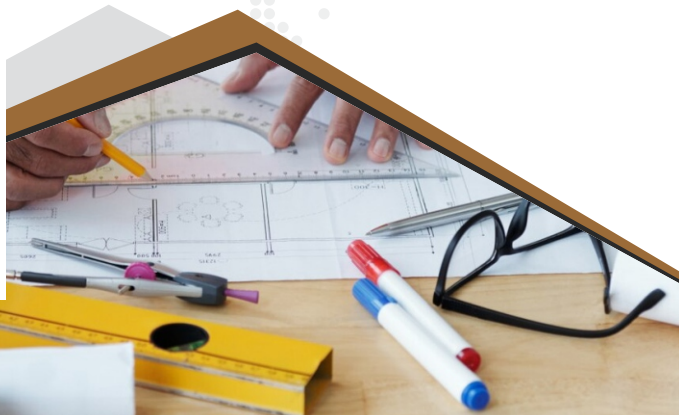
**Sub-themes:** Construction safety and hazard identification; Legal aspects of safety; Prevention through design; Risk assessment and safety equipment; Digital technologies for safer construction practices; Health and well-being, including mental health

## 2 Abstract Submission Guidelines

- **Deadline:** January 30, 2025
- **Length:** 250-300 words
- **Format:** Typed in single space, Tahoma font size 12
- **Content:** Clearly indicate alignment with the conference themes and sub-themes
- **Peer review Process:** The abstract and the paper will undergo double blinded peer review process
- **Submission:** Upload abstracts to <https://icscbe.wsu.ac.za/icscbe/tps://icscbe.wsu.ac.za/icscbe/>
- A maximum of two abstracts per person will be accepted

## 3 Guidelines for Paper Submissions

- **Title:** Provide a concise and informative title (maximum 21 words).
- **Abstract:** Provide a concise and well-crafted summary of the study, highlighting its key objectives, methods, results, and conclusions.
- **Introduction:** Should effectively meets the criteria by thoroughly establishing the background of the study, identifying and emphasizing the existing knowledge gap, and clearly listing the objectives.
- **Literature review:** should review current and relevant literature review with 5 year period, including problem Statement: State the problem of the study or project in one or two sentences. Purpose: Clearly state the purpose of your study or project in a sentence or two.
- **Methods:** Briefly describe the methods, research design, subject, data collection and analysis techniques, or theoretical frameworks used.
- **Results:** Summarize the main findings or outcomes of your research or project.
- **Conclusion and Recommendations:** Provide a concise summary of your work's main implications, significance, contributions, and recommendations.
- **Formatting and Style:** Use Harvard referencing style.
- **Text:** Submit in Microsoft Word, single-spaced, 12-point Tahoma font.
- **Length:** Maximum of 4000 to 5000 words.
- **Language and Style:** Use clear, concise, and formal language.
- **Structure:** Use an unstructured abstract with logical sections such as Problem, Purpose, Methods, Results, and Conclusion.
- **Keywords:** Provide a list of up to six keywords or phrases that reflect the main concepts or topics of your research.





## 4 Important Dates and Registration

- Abstract Submission Deadline: 30 January 2025
- Abstract Feedback Deadline: 10 February 2025
- Full paper submission: 30 April 2025
- Full Paper feedback deadline: 15 May 2025
- Camera-Ready Paper Submissions: 30 May 2025
- Early Registration Fee: R3000 (payable by 1 April 2025)
- General/Late Registration Fee: R3500 (payable by 30 May 2025)
- Final paper submission deadline: 30 April 2025
- Student Fee: R1500 (proof of studentship required).

## 5 Paper Presentations and Workshops

- **Paper Presentations:** 20 minutes  
(15 minutes for presentation, 5 minutes for questions and comments)
- **Workshops:** 60 minutes  
(45 minutes for presentation, 15 minutes for questions and comments)

## 6 Conference Publications

The presenting author must register and pay the registration fee to present their paper. The Scientific Committee will accept a maximum of two presentations per registered participant. All accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings with an ISBN 978-0-7961-7042-2 (Electronic), DOI, and will be submitted to SCOPUS and WoS for possible indexation.

## 7 Accommodation, Travel and Visa Information

### Traveling to East London:

There are direct local flights from Johannesburg to East London. International attendees will need to fly into South Africa through the major cities and can then take a connecting flight to East London. For those preferring road travel, there are accessible routes from various land borders and cities. The East London Airport is conveniently located, being approximately 45 minutes away from the Walter Sisulu University Potsdam campus by car or taxi.

### Hotels and Accommodation:

Conference delegates are responsible for arranging their own accommodation. A list of local hotels and B&Bs will be provided. Transportation to and from the airport and hotels/B&Bs is the delegate's responsibility.

### SA Visa:

To obtain relevant information about South African visas, please visit the South Africa's Department of Home Affairs website.

