



**Project Insight Gained & Lessons for the Future**

## **First Call for Research Papers**

**Project Management South Africa (PMSA) Biennial National Conference 2010**  
**The Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa**  
**6, 7 and 8 September 2010**

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

Abstract Submission Deadline:	Monday, 12 April 2010
Notification to authors of abstract evaluation:	Monday, 19 April 2010
Full Paper Submission date:	Monday, 17 May 2010
Full Papers sent to reviewers:	Monday, 24 May 2010
Reviewer feedback on submissions:	Monday, 7 June 2010
Feedback to authors on review process:	Monday, 14 June 2010
Final registration date for authors:	Monday, 28 June 2010
Submission of final paper for publication:	Monday, 28 June 2010
Notification of Conference Program:	Monday, 5 July 2010
Conference dates:	Monday 6 - Wednesday 8 Sept 2010

## CONFERENCE THEME

Review – Reflect – Renew: Project Insight Gained and Lessons for the Future

The build-up to 2010, with South Africa's physical and IT infrastructure, hospitality and business service development to meet its obligations as host of the 2010 FIFA World Cup resulted in an enormous number of projects with 2010 as deadline. By September 2010, the event will be over and the world will know how South Africa performed as host and how it delivered on the projects that were completed in time for this auspicious year. In the rest of the world, the past 18 months has presented other project management challenges. The global recession, new demands for sustainability and minimising the environmental impact of projects, political changes, increased competition...these all called for new ways of thinking, better ways of delivering. Over the same timeframe, project management itself has matured, with new additions to the body of knowledge, new research undertakings highlighting trends, and in some countries, steps towards legislation to formalise how project management is practiced. All of this makes late 2010 an ideal time to review what we have achieved, reflect on what the past few years have taught us, and apply these lessons learned to renew our approach, practices and mindset for the challenges of the future. Project Managers, not only in South Africa but from around the world, will have much to share on these three themes, whether they were observers to or participants in the major projects that had 2010 as a deadline, or affected by the other factors at play.

Project Management South Africa (PMSA) cordially invites academics, practitioners and enthusiasts to submit a high-quality, original abstract followed later by a final research paper for presentation at the PMSA National Conference 2010.

The purpose of research papers is to grow the body of knowledge with knowledge that has been gained through a formal, verifiable and repeatable process. Research papers are not opinion based and need to adhere to the de facto criteria for scientific research.

With the above theme explanation in mind, kindly consider the following suggested topics:

## CONFERENCE TOPICS

Topics include but are not limited to:

- Any relevant Project-, Programme- or Portfolio Management (3PM) topic including:
  - Knowledge areas, processes, life-cycle
  - Standards, methods, methodologies, tools and techniques
  - Measuring the outcomes of projects, programs and portfolio
  - Maturity
  - Competence structures and standards
  - Professional development, training and education
  - The human factors
  - Cultural issues in project management
  - Project, programme and portfolio offices
  - Governance

- The management of different types of projects, programs and portfolios
- Project, program and portfolio management in different sectors (government, IT, engineering, construction, business, etc.)
- New trends (local and global)
- Managing projects during and economic downturn
- Projects, program and portfolio leadership
- Managing mega-projects
- Risks, case studies and lessons learnt.

## **SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS**

### **Step 1 - Abstract submission**

Abstract Submission Deadline: Monday, 12 April 2010

Authors must submit an abstract not longer than 500 words in English, to the following e-mail address: [authors@pmsaconference.co.za](mailto:authors@pmsaconference.co.za)

The abstract should contain at least the following information:

- Background – what is the context of the article?
- Problem statement – what is it that the article is going to address and why is this important?
- Solution – how is the article going to address the problem?
- Benefits – what benefit does the information in this article hold for the PM community?

Abstract are evaluated by a sub-committee of the Programme Committee based on relevance and fit in terms of the conference theme. The outcome of this evaluation process will be communication to authors by Monday, 19 April 2010.

### **Step 2 - Full Paper submission**

Upon acceptance of the abstract, authors must submit a full paper, not longer than 12 pages, in English. A template and details for submission will be sent to authors whose abstracts are accepted. Do not include any author information in the paper as this would negate the double-blind review process.

A double-blind peer review process (anonymous by two reviewers) is used to evaluate the quality of submissions. PMSA is privileged to call on its Review Committee, consisting of international and national experts, to review all submissions. Each submission will be evaluated by at least two Review Committee members using the following criteria:

- Originality - How original is the topic covered in the article? Is there any new knowledge?
- Significance - How significant is the article to the discipline? Will conference delegates find it useful?
- Technical quality – Is the article technically and factually correct? Is it based on credible data and/or references?

- Relevance - How relevant is the article to the conference? Would attendees benefit from hearing it?
- Presentation – Is the quality of the article acceptable (layout, graphs, diagrams etc.)? Are there any grammatical errors?

The outcome of this review process together with the reviewer comments will be communication to authors by Monday, 7 June 2010.

**Please Note:**

- The official conference language is English
- Papers must relate to project, programme or portfolio management
- Papers must either contain new knowledge or show current knowledge applied in a new way
- Papers must be free of commercial sales content
- Full papers should not exceed 12 pages
- At least one author must register and pay to attend the conference
- A maximum of two presenters per paper
- All accepted papers must be presented at the conference
- A discounted Conference Presenter Rate will be applicable

For more information, a document that provides guidelines on writing a paper and details of the review process, please contact: [authors@pmsaconference.co.za](mailto:authors@pmsaconference.co.za), call the National Office on +27 11 257-8003 or visit the PMSA website at [www.pmsa.org.za](http://www.pmsa.org.za).