



Zimbabwe Library Association Call For Papers

Theme

Future-Ready Libraries: Driving Innovation, Expanding Access, and Demonstrating Impact

**22 - 24
September, 2026
Rainbow Hotel
Bulawayo
Zimbabwe**

Sub - themes

1. Harnessing Digital Innovation and Emerging Technologies in Libraries

- Artificial intelligence and machine learning applications in libraries
- Digital transformation strategies
- Data management, big data, and analytics
- Smart libraries and automation
- Virtual and augmented reality in information services

2. Expanding Access to Information for All

- Inclusive library services for marginalized and underserved communities
- Open access, open data, and open educational resources
- Bridging the digital divide
- Accessibility for persons with disabilities
- Multilingual and culturally responsive services

3. Libraries as Catalysts for Community Development

- Libraries and lifelong learning
- Community engagement and outreach programs
- Supporting entrepreneurship and innovation hubs
- Partnerships and collaborations for social impact
- Libraries in rural and under served areas

4. Sustainable and Resilient Library Systems

- Green libraries and environmental sustainability
- Disaster preparedness and recovery planning
- Financial sustainability and resource mobilization
- Adaptive leadership and change management
- Policy frameworks for resilient library systems

5. Measuring Impact and Demonstrating Value

- Assessment and evaluation of library services
- Impact measurement tools and methodologies
- Advocacy and storytelling using data
- Return on investment (ROI) in libraries
- Evidence-based decision making

You may also submit proposals on the following for consideration:

- Lightening talks
- Workshop facilitation
- Panel discussions

Registration Fees

ZimLA Members	\$300
Non ZimLA Members	\$400
Internationals	\$450

Exhibition costs

Locals	\$450
Internationals	\$500

Important Dates

- Abstract Submission
Deadline
10 June 2026
- Notification of
Acceptance
21 June 2026
- Full Paper
Submission
31 July 2026

Submission Guidelines

- Abstracts should include author name/s, institutional affiliation, and email address as well as the sub theme. The title of the paper, key words, and purpose/objectives of the paper, methodology, findings, and implications of the study also need to be highlighted. The abstract must be between 250 and 300 words. The abstract should be in Times New Roman font size 12, with 1.5 spacing. All abstracts should be sent as MS-Word

Abstract Submissions:

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