



MSU RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND INDUSTRIALISATION EXPO 2026

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION



Theme

From Knowledge to
Impact: Advancing
Research, Innovation
and Industrialisation for
Sustainable and
Inclusive Development

EXPO DATES: 15-17 September 2026

OFFICIAL CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

MSU RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND INDUSTRIALISATION EXPO 2026

EXPO THEME		EXPO DATES	
From Knowledge to Impact: Advancing Research, Innovation and Industrialisation for Sustainable and Inclusive Development		15-17 September 2026	
ABSTRACT DEAD-LINE	REVIEW FEEDBACK	REGISTRATION DEADLINE	SUBMISSION EMAIL
31 July 2026	14 August 2026	31 August 2026	researchandinnovation@staff.msu.ac.zw

1. Introduction

Midlands State University invites students, staff, researchers, innovators, entrepreneurs, alumni, companies, SMEs, corporates, investors, government agencies, development partners, creative practitioners, regional institutions, international delegates and the wider research and innovation ecosystem to participate in the MSU Research, Innovation and Industrialisation Expo 2026, to be held from 15–17 September 2026.

The Expo is a strategic platform for translating knowledge into impact, ideas into enterprises, research into practical solutions and partnerships into sustainable development outcomes. It brings together academia, industry, government, communities, investors, development actors and international partners to promote research visibility, innovation showcasing, commercialisation, enterprise development, policy dialogue, industrial engagement and global collaboration.

2. Participation Streams

Stream One: Research Stream

- Call for abstracts, oral presentations and research posters.
- Open to students, staff, researchers and postgraduate candidates.
- Submissions should show clear alignment with the Expo theme.
- Research should demonstrate relevance to industry, policy, community, enterprise or sustainable development.

Stream Two: Innovation Stream

- Call for innovation exhibitions and Expressions of Interest.
- Open to prototypes, products, processes, services, digital platforms and creative works.
- Innovations should demonstrate originality, usefulness, feasibility and impact.
- Suitable for early-stage concepts, prototypes and market-ready innovations.

Stream Three: Corporate and Strategic Participation Stream

- Corporate and SME exhibitions, product and service showcases, sponsorship and branding opportunities.
- Investment and funding engagements, strategic roundtables and policy dialogue.
- Industry–university partnership meetings, graduate recruitment and talent engagement.
- Technology transfer, commercialisation partnerships and international delegation participation.

3. Research and Innovation Focus Areas

Focus Area A	Focus Area B
Science, Technology and Innovation	Engineering and Industrial Development
ICT, Digital Transformation and Emerging Technologies	Business, Economics and Entrepreneurship
Law, Governance and Public Policy	Education and Human Capital Development
Agriculture, Food Systems and Climate Resilience	Health Sciences and Community Wellbeing
Mining, Mineral Beneficiation and Value Addition	Arts, Humanities and Creative Industries
Built Environment and Infrastructure Development	Sustainable Development and Community Transformation
Heritage, Language, Culture and Indigenous Knowledge Systems	Commercialisation, Technology Transfer and Enterprise Development
4. Submission Requirements	

Research Stream Requirements • Title of paper or poster. • Name of author or presenter. • Department, faculty, institution or organisation. • Thematic area • Brief abstract summary (max. 250 words) • Preferred presentation format: oral or poster. • Contact details.	Innovation / Corporate Requirements • Name of innovation, project, company or organisation. • Category, sector or area of operation. • Brief description of innovation, product, service or strategic interest (max. 250 words) • Preferred mode of participation. • Exhibition, branding, logistical or technical requirements. • Contact person and contact details.
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5. Who Should Participate?

This call is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students, academic and non-academic staff, researchers, faculties, departments, institutes, student innovators, start-up teams, alumni entrepreneurs, creative practitioners, community innovators, SMEs, corporates, manufacturers, service providers, financial institutions, investors, government agencies, public institutions, development partners, NGOs, schools, colleges, professional bodies, regional and international universities, foreign missions, diaspora professionals and members of the wider community.

6. Benefits of Participation

- Showcase research, innovations, products and services to a diverse and strategic audience.
- Increase visibility for academic, creative, technical and industrial outputs.
- Build linkages with academia, industry, government, communities and international partners.
- Engage potential funders, investors, customers and collaborators.
- Explore commercialisation and technology transfer opportunities.
- Strengthen entrepreneurship, enterprise development, local production and value addition.
- Promote regional and international collaboration and contribute to sustainable industrial growth.

7. Important Timelines

Activity	Date
Abstract Submission Deadline	31 July 2026
Abstract Review Feedback	14 August 2026
Registration Deadline	31 August 2026
Conference / Expo Dates	15-17 September 2026

Participants are encouraged to submit and register early to allow adequate time for review, confirmation, planning, branding, exhibition allocation and logistical coordination.

8. Registration and Participation Fees

Category	Fee
International Delegate	USD 200
Local Delegate	USD 100
Postgraduate Student	USD 50
Undergraduate Student	USD 50
Corporate per Individual	USD 100

Note: The University shall support internal students with registration fees to encourage maximum participation.

9. Exhibition Pricing

Exhibition Category	Fee
Prime Stand	USD 500
Standard Stand	USD 450
Space Only	USD 250
SME Table	USD 50

Exhibition fees support access to allocated exhibition space and basic participation arrangements. Special branding, premium positioning, additional representatives, technical installations, expanded space, power or internet requirements may attract additional costs depending on logistical requirements.

10. Sponsorship Packages

Package	Positioning
Platinum Sponsorship	Premium brand visibility, strategic positioning, high-level recognition and priority engagement opportunities.
Gold Sponsorship	Strong brand visibility, exhibition presence and targeted stakeholder engagement.

Silver Sponsorship	Moderate brand visibility, exhibition linkage and programme recognition.
Bronze Sponsorship	Entry-level sponsorship recognition and institutional visibility during the Expo.

Detailed sponsorship benefits, branding rights, speaking opportunities, exhibition allocations and package values shall be communicated separately to interested sponsors and strategic partners.

11. General Information

Conference / Expo Time and Venue

The Expo will be held from 15–17 September 2026 at Midlands State University. Parallel sessions, exhibitions, demonstrations and strategic engagements may be hosted across designated venues. Participants should refer to the official programme for room allocations, presentation times and session schedules.

Expo Facilities

Designated presentation rooms, exhibition spaces, meeting areas and demonstration zones will be provided. Participants requiring special equipment, power access, internet connectivity, demonstration space or technical support should indicate this in their submission or registration details.

Exhibitions and Sponsorship

Corporate organisations, SMEs, start-ups, innovators, strategic partners and development partners are invited to participate through exhibition and sponsorship packages. Sponsorship packages shall be offered under Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze categories.

Food and Refreshments

Food and refreshments may be provided to registered participants according to the official Expo programme. Participants with special dietary requirements should notify the organisers in advance.

Accommodation and Transport

Delegates and external participants are encouraged to make their own accommodation and transport arrangements in advance. The organising committee may provide guidance on available accommodation options where possible.

Media, Photography and Digital Assets

By participating in the Expo, participants acknowledge that photographs, videos, interviews and digital media captured during the event may be used by Midlands State University for communication, documentation, marketing, publicity and institutional reporting purposes.

General Conduct and Admission

Midlands State University reserves the right of admission and expects all participants to conduct themselves professionally throughout the Expo.

12. Submission Procedure

All abstracts and Expressions of Interest should be submitted to: researchandinnovation@staff.msu.ac.zw

Applicants should clearly indicate their preferred participation stream in the email subject line, for example:

- Research Stream Submission – MSU Expo 2026
- Poster Presentation – MSU Expo 2026
- Innovation Stream EOI – MSU Expo 2026
- Corporate Participation EOI – MSU Expo 2026
- SME Exhibition EOI – MSU Expo 2026
- Strategic Partnership EOI – MSU Expo 2026
- International Delegate EOI – MSU Expo 2026

13. Inquiries

Contact	Details
Research and Innovation Email	researchandinnovation@staff.msu.ac.zw
Dr. M. Nyasha	nyasham@staff.msu.ac.zw 0774 321 495
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Closing Statement

The MSU Research, Innovation and Industrialisation Expo 2026 is a strategic platform for moving from knowledge to impact, from research to application, from ideas to enterprises, and from partnerships to sustainable development outcomes. Through the integrated streams of Research, Innovation, and Corporate and Strategic Participation, Midlands State University invites its internal community, external stakeholders, industry partners, SMEs, corporates, regional institutions, international delegates and development actors to participate in shaping research-driven, innovation-led and industrially relevant development.