

**THE SECOND AQUATIC RESOURCES AND BLUE ECONOMY CONFERENCE (ARBEC II) 2024**

**“Science-Driven Stewardship for a Sustainable Blue Economy”**

**17– 20, June, 2024, Kisumu, Kenya,**

**E-mail: [arbec2024@kmfri.go.ke](mailto:arbec2024@kmfri.go.ke) Web site: [www.kmfri.co.ke](http://www.kmfri.co.ke)**

## About the Conference

Join us at the 2nd Aquatic Resources and Blue Economy Conference (ARBEC II) in Kisumu, Kenya, from 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024. This conference stands at the forefront of global discourse on sustainable aquatic practices, emphasizing "Science-Driven Stewardship for a Sustainable Blue Economy."

## Why Kisumu?

Set against the picturesque backdrop of Lake Victoria, Kisumu is a regional hub for blue innovation. Its rich cultural tapestry and proximity to the expansive waters make it an ideal venue, symbolizing the harmonious coexistence of urban development and environmental conservation.

Additional information on Kisumu can be found on the following website:  
<https://magicalkenya.com/destinations/kisumu/>

## Reflecting on ARBEC I

Building upon the success of the inaugural conference, ARBEC II continues the journey of understanding aquatic ecosystems through groundbreaking scientific advancements. We aim to influence policies, recognize community engagement, and steer collective efforts towards a more sustainable and inclusive blue economy.

## Urgency of Our Mission

As environmental challenges intensify, ARBEC II is a collective commitment to address critical issues affecting oceans, lakes, and waterways. Climate change, overfishing, pollution, and habitat degradation demand innovative and science-driven solutions.

## KEY FOCUS AREAS

### 1. Interdisciplinary Research

- Explore cutting-edge interdisciplinary research at the intersection of marine biology, oceanography, environmental science, and economics.
- Foster collaboration between scientists, academics, and industry experts to address complex challenges facing aquatic ecosystems and the blue economy.

### 2. Technology and Innovation

- Showcase innovative technologies and solutions that leverage scientific advancements for sustainable resource management, fisheries, aquaculture, and maritime activities.
- Discuss the role of data analytics, remote sensing, and emerging technologies in enhancing our understanding of aquatic environments.

### 3. Community Engagement and Inclusivity

- Emphasize the importance of involving local communities in the stewardship of aquatic resources, ensuring their participation in decision-making processes.
- Explore inclusive and community-driven approaches to sustainable blue economy initiatives.

### 4. Policy and Governance

- Address the development and implementation of science-informed policies and governance frameworks that promote responsible resource utilization and conservation.
- Discuss international collaborations and agreements that support the sustainable management of shared aquatic resources.

## **5. Capacity Building**

- Highlight initiatives for capacity building, education, and training programs to empower individuals and communities with the knowledge and skills necessary for sustainable practices.

## **6. Climate change and cross cutting issues**

- Focus on the impacts of climate change on aquatic ecosystems and the blue economy, examining cross-cutting issues that require integrated solutions.
- Explore strategies to adapt to and mitigate the effects of climate change on marine environments and associated communities.

## **Conference Format**

- Plenary Sessions
- Parallel Tracks and Specialized Sessions
- Panel Discussions
- Interactive Workshops/Side events
- Poster Sessions and Exhibitions
- Networking Events
- Field Excursions
- Closing Ceremony
- Virtual Participation

## **Sustainable Practices Implementation**

In our commitment to environmental responsibility, ARBEC II will implement a paperless approach, use eco-friendly materials, and explore carbon emission offset options. A comprehensive mobile app or online platform will enhance participant engagement.

## **How to participate**

### **Call for abstracts**

The organizing committee of the AQUATIC RESOURCES AND BLUE ECONOMY CONFERENCE (ARBEC) II invites researchers, scientists, policymakers, industry experts, and practitioners to submit abstracts for presentation at the conference. ARBEC II will be held in Kisumu, Kenya, from 17<sup>th</sup>– 20<sup>th</sup>, June, 2024. The conference's theme is "Science-Driven Stewardship for a Sustainable Blue Economy."

### **Key Dates**

- Abstract Submission Deadline: 29<sup>th</sup> February 2024
- Notification of Acceptance: 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024
- Conference Dates: 17<sup>th</sup> -20<sup>th</sup> June 2024

### **Submission Guidelines**

We welcome abstracts that align with the conference theme and cover a broad spectrum of topics related to aquatic resources, sustainable practices, and the blue economy. Abstracts should be submitted through the online submission portal provided by the deadline. Please adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Abstract Length: Maximum 300 words.
2. Format: Use the provided template available on the conference website.
3. Language: Submissions should be in English.
4. Content: Clearly state the objectives, methods, results, and conclusions of your research or presentation.

### **Conference Tracks**

- Marine Biology and Ecology
- Oceanography and Climate Change
- Sustainable Fisheries and Aquaculture
- Blue Economy Policies and Governance
- Technology and Innovation in the Blue Economy
- Community Engagement and Inclusivity

### **How to Submit**

Visit the conference website (<https://www.kmfri.go.ke/>) to access the abstract submission portal. Create an account or log in if you already have one. Follow the instructions to submit your abstract using the provided template.

### **Review Process**

All submitted abstracts will undergo a peer-review process by the scientific committee. Notification of acceptance will be sent by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024. Accepted abstracts will be included in the conference program and considered for oral or poster presentations.

### **Registration**

Delegates must register for the conference by 30<sup>th</sup> April 2024 to confirm their participation.

### **Registration fees**

Category	East Africa (\$)	Developing countries(\$)	Developed countries(\$)
Student	50	70	150
Regular	100	150	300
Exhibitor	500	500	500

## Host and Cohosts

### Host



### Co-host



### Boost Your Impact as a Sponsor

Enhance your organization's prominence by becoming a Sponsor of ARBEC II. Connect with a diverse global audience of Blue Economy and enjoy the flexibility of various customizable options. Explore our tailored sponsorship choices that align seamlessly with your unique requirements. Your participation ensures a powerful presence, maximizing exposure to a global community at the forefront of Blue Economy advancements.

### Join us in Kisumu

ARBEC II is more than a conference; it's a commitment to shaping a sustainable future. Join us in Kisumu to contribute to the global conversation on science-driven stewardship for a thriving blue economy.

For more information and to submit your abstract, please visit <https://www.kmfri.go.ke/>.

### Contact

For inquiries, please contact [arbec2024@kmfri.go.ke](mailto:arbec2024@kmfri.go.ke)