

An invitation is extended to all interested parties to contribute to the sixth

## UKULINGA HOWARD DAVIS MEMORIAL SYMPOSIUM

### *SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN AGRICULTURE*

**DATE: 22 & 23 May 2024**

**VENUE:** Ukulinga Research Farm,  
University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg

The theme of **SUSTAINABILITY AND INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGIES IN AGRICULTURE** is intended to bring together stakeholders driving research and innovations, processors, policymakers, local government, and students whose work is oriented towards enhanced sustainability to bolster food systems against threats that include climate change, biodiversity loss, environmental degradation, water scarcity and pollution, pesticide and herbicide resistance, loss of traditional knowledge, market pressures, and more.

The food system, from farm to processors to retail to consumption, is driven by markets, consumer preferences, the environment, geopolitics, and more. Governed by policy and informed by research, the outcomes of the food system and how it is run include human health, food and nutrition security, economic development, social equity, food waste, environmental impact, and more. Transforming food systems for improved resilience and sustainability requires engagement across the value chain for integrated solutions.

Submissions within a wide range of topics will be considered, including climate change adaptation and mitigation, the circular economy, innovative technological advances, local and regional food systems, food loss and waste reduction, biological control, sustainable supply chains, digitisation and technology, big data, impact science, the water-energy-food nexus, food and nutrition security, and the science-policy interface.

We encourage the presentation of varied research topics, even those that have not yet produced final results, particularly work relating to the processes and strategies for achieving sustainability in agriculture that incorporate the whole value chain. We also look forward to platforming stories about successes that have transformed lives and communities and welcome submissions for interactive sessions, participatory projects, and multimedia.

Participation is welcomed through:

- Presentations
- Displays
- Attendance
- Posters
- Sponsorship

Through all forms of participation, our vision is to demonstrate UKZN and its partners' relevant, topical, and dynamic research in response to contemporary social and agricultural scenarios. Of particular interest would be showcasing relationships between UKZN's College of Agriculture, Engineering and Science, its community and agribusiness partners, and research linked to Ukulinga Research Farm.

We gratefully acknowledge funding from the Howard Davis Farm Trust in their endeavour to see communities benefit from knowledge integration between higher education institutions and agricultural stakeholders.

For inclusion in the programme with an oral presentation, poster display or creative presentation, please submit a 300-word abstract or presentation description to [cuenod@ukzn.ac.za](mailto:cuenod@ukzn.ac.za) by 17 APRIL 2024. The organisers welcome technical, academic, practical, creative, and social involvement.

If you would like to exhibit at the event or be otherwise involved, please provide a description of your planned display/involvement and its relevance to the Symposium theme by 17 APRIL 2024.