



ACADÉMIE  
DE RECHERCHE ET  
D'ENSEIGNEMENT  
SUPÉRIEUR



Belgium  
partner in development



## Concept Note

### Joint Minimally Invasive Surgery & Third Rwanda Biotechnology Conference

#### Theme: Transforming Rwanda's Development by Investing in People's Skills

- Dates:** 26-27 September, 2019 (2 days)
- Venue:** Kigali Convention Centre, Kigali City, Rwanda
- Organizer:**
- University of Rwanda
  - Ministry of Health, Government of Rwanda
- Partners:**
- ARES
  - PROMEGA
  - MEDTRONICS
  - EPPENDORF

#### RATIONALE

The University of Rwanda is hosting, from 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2019, in Kigali, Rwanda, a joint Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Rwanda Biotechnology Conference.

Since 2017, more efforts have been going on aiming at strengthening minimally invasive surgery (MIS) in Rwanda. Thanks to ARES-PFS2018, a training project supported by the Belgium government, a postgraduate diploma in MIS will be one of the professional training offers of the University of Rwanda. To successfully implement this program, the partnership with Medtronic allows to equip a laboratory for training on nonhuman models comprising a simulation lab (simlab) and wetlab for MIS practising on animal model (pig) as well as MIS platforms in university teaching hospitals to treat Rwanda patients while training the candidates to MIS. With such a strategy, trainees will gain skills and hands-on experience before moving to clinical training phase (*Never practise for the first time on a patient*). A curriculum to train future MIS Trainers was developed and the implementation has been going on since January 2019. Ten selected Rwandan candidates, physicians (surgeon, gynaecologist and urologist) from CHUK, King Faisal Hospital (KFH) and CHUB, have started the Training of Trainers (ToT) program



ACADÉMIE  
DE RECHERCHE ET  
D'ENSEIGNEMENT  
SUPÉRIEUR



Belgium  
partner in development



which is going on at CHUK. In Parallel, paramedical experts from the hospital of the physicians are being trained to fit the MIS standard. This is of extreme importance for a sustainable implementation of MIS in Rwanda. These Rwandan candidates accompanied by the Cameroonian colleagues of the sister-MIS-project – Professional Master in Laparoscopy, supervised by experts from Belgium will unveil their so far acquired MIS skills during the preconference workshop which will take place in three teaching hospital CHUK, KFH and Rwanda Military Hospital (RMH) in Kanombe.

On the other hand, Biotechnology conference is held biennially in Rwanda and is sponsored through collaboration of the University of Rwanda and ARES-CCD (Academy of Research and High Learning, “Académie de Recherche et d’Enseignement Supérieur), Belgium, through its institutional support (Appui institutionnel, AI) program. The first was held on 24–25 September 2015, with theme “Applied biotechnology in Africa”, while the 2<sup>nd</sup> was jointly organized with the in 5<sup>th</sup> SASA International Conference in on 4-6 October 2017 under the theme “translational science and Biotechnology advances in Africa”. This 2<sup>nd</sup> Rwanda Biotechnology Conference was preceded by a hands-on workshop that had as theme “Strategy to meet Biotechnology Training and Research Objectives in Rwanda”. This workshop took place at the Huye Biotechnology Laboratory Complex (HBLC) and was sponsored by PROMEGA and ARES. The participants were from different public institutions including UR (Lecturers and lab technicians), RAB (Lab technicians), NIRDA (researchers and Lab technicians) and CHUB (lab technicians). This achievement was very vibrant so that participants wished the activity be regularly reproduced during the subsequent Rwanda Biotechnology Conferences. The training was facilitated by experts from Belgians Universities and PROMEGA (Europe and United States of America). Based on this experience, a master's degree program in biotechnology is being developed to be implemented by 2020 at the University of Rwanda in collaboration with ARES-universities and in partnership with PROMEGA and the German biotechnology company EPPENDORF.

The theme for 2019 conference, to be held on 26-27 September in Kigali, is “**Transforming Rwanda’s Development by Investing in People’s Skills**” with emphasis on Minimally Invasive Surgery and Biotechnology.

## **OBJECTIVES**

The present conference seeks to promote investing in Africans' knowledge and skills in Minimally Invasive Surgery and Biotechnology.

## **TARGET AUDIENCE AND PARTICIPANTS**

This conference is expected to bring together Ministers of Health in Africa, scientists, physicians, academic, researchers, government agencies, philanthropists and funding agencies dedicated to advancing the frontiers of MIS technology and biotechnology in Africa.

**NUMBER OF EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS: 250**

## **PRESENTATION TYPES**

- Panel discussion
- Oral presentation
- Poster

## **TOPICS OF THE CONFERENCE**

We welcome abstracts and posters in the scope of the Conference theme. Abstracts and Posters can be under one of the following, but not limited topics:

- Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS)
- Non-communicable diseases (NCD)
- Infectious diseases
- Medical biotechnology
- Genetics and Genomics
- Genetic Testing and diversity
- Molecular diagnostics of human, animal or plant diseases
- Biopharmaceuticals
- Bioproducts
- Industrial biotechnology,
- Bioprocess engineering,
- Protein engineering

- Agriculture biotechnology
- Plant tissue culture
- Transgenic plant and crops,
- Food and feed safety testing
- Biotechnology techniques and Methods
- Environmental biotechnologies
- Bioremediation
- Microbial diversity

### REGISTRATION RATES

- African Students: USD 100
- Non-African Students: USD 200
- African scientists: USD 300
- Non-African Scientists: USD 450
- Rwandan Students and Scientists: Free of Charge

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **Deadline to submit an Abstract:** August 25, 2019
- **Notices of Abstract Acceptance:** August 31, 2019
- **Registration**

Registration Package	Online registration till 7 <sup>th</sup> September 2019	Onsite registration
African Students	USD 100	USD 150
Non-African Students	USD 200	USD 250
African scientists	USD 300	USD 350
Non-African Scientists	USD 400	USD 450

**Abstract and poster submission:** Website address here

Questions in submission or registration? Contact **Peace Buto** [abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com](mailto:abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com)



ACADÉMIE  
DE RECHERCHE ET  
D'ENSEIGNEMENT  
SUPÉRIEUR



**Belgium**  
partner in development



## **CONTACTS:**

Jean-Pierre Munyampundu ; Tel : +250 784 283 834

Peace Buto: +250 788 867 361

Email: [abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com](mailto:abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com)

## **Pre-conference events:**

- Workshop on Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS)
- Workshop on transversal applications of Biotechnology

## PROGRAM SUMMARY

### Joint Minimally Invasive Surgery & Third Rwanda Biotechnology Conference

#### Theme: Transforming Rwanda's Development by Investing in People's Skills

Dates: 26-27 September 2019

Venue: Kigali Convention Center

DAY 1: Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> September 2019: Opening Ceremony			
8:00	Registration Open		
9:30 – 9:40	Remarks from the ARES Representative		
09:40 – 09:50	Key note speech & Invitation: On general theme by Prof Jacob Souopgui		
9:50 – 10:00	Welcome remarks from the UR Vice Chancellor		
10:00 – 10:10	Remarks and Official Opening by the Guest of Honour		
10:10 – 10:40 AM Group Photo & Coffee Break			
Panel Sessions			
10:40 – 11:40	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Health Panel Discussion (MH1)</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Boosting and Sustaining Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) in Africa  <b>Key Address by</b> Prof Jacques Marescaux  <b>Panelists:</b> Ministers of Health                      Prof Daniel Etya                      Prof Jacques Marescaux                      Prof Michelle Nisole                      Prof David Waltregny  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr King KAYONDO</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; vertical-align: top;"> <p><b>Agriculture Panel Discussion (MH2)</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Role of Biotechnology in Food security in Africa &amp; Ethical, safety and social issues  <b>Keynote Address by</b> Prof Bruno Delvaux  <b>Panelists:</b> DG ( RAB)                      Prof. Hervé Vanderschuren                      Dr. Nduwumuremyi Athanase                      Dr. Celestin Ukozehasi                      Dr. Svetlana Gaidashova  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Rosita Yocgo</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p><b>Health Panel Discussion (MH1)</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Boosting and Sustaining Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) in Africa  <b>Key Address by</b> Prof Jacques Marescaux  <b>Panelists:</b> Ministers of Health                      Prof Daniel Etya                      Prof Jacques Marescaux                      Prof Michelle Nisole                      Prof David Waltregny  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr King KAYONDO</p>	<p><b>Agriculture Panel Discussion (MH2)</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Role of Biotechnology in Food security in Africa &amp; Ethical, safety and social issues  <b>Keynote Address by</b> Prof Bruno Delvaux  <b>Panelists:</b> DG ( RAB)                      Prof. Hervé Vanderschuren                      Dr. Nduwumuremyi Athanase                      Dr. Celestin Ukozehasi                      Dr. Svetlana Gaidashova  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Rosita Yocgo</p>
<p><b>Health Panel Discussion (MH1)</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Boosting and Sustaining Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) in Africa  <b>Key Address by</b> Prof Jacques Marescaux  <b>Panelists:</b> Ministers of Health                      Prof Daniel Etya                      Prof Jacques Marescaux                      Prof Michelle Nisole                      Prof David Waltregny  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr King KAYONDO</p>	<p><b>Agriculture Panel Discussion (MH2)</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Role of Biotechnology in Food security in Africa &amp; Ethical, safety and social issues  <b>Keynote Address by</b> Prof Bruno Delvaux  <b>Panelists:</b> DG ( RAB)                      Prof. Hervé Vanderschuren                      Dr. Nduwumuremyi Athanase                      Dr. Celestin Ukozehasi                      Dr. Svetlana Gaidashova  <b>Moderator:</b> Dr. Rosita Yocgo</p>		
11:40: 12:30	<p><b>Key Address by</b> Dr Ignace Gatara  <b>Theme: Leveraging the potential of biotechnology through partnership and synergy in Rwanda</b>  <b>Plenary Panel discussion</b>  <b>Theme:</b> Public Private Partnership as a key component of efficient and sustainable biotechnology in Rwanda  <b>Panelists:</b> PROMEGA, EPPENDORF, MEDTRONICS  <b>Moderator:</b> Prof Jacob Souopgui</p>		
12:30 – 1:30 LUNCH BREAK & NETWORKING			
DAY 1: Thursday 26 SEPTEMBER 2019: Concurrent Invited sessions			
Concurrent Invited sessions	Concurrent Invited sessions		
<p><b>Session I : Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) (MH1)</b>  <b>13:30 – 13:55: Keynote address N° 1</b> by Prof Michelle Nisole  <b>Moderators:</b> Léon Mutesa, Basile Essola</p>	<p><b>Session II: Agriculture &amp; Animal Sciences (MH2)</b>  <b>13:30 – 13:55: Keynote address N°2</b> by Prof Jean-Paul Dehoux  <b>Moderators:</b> Espérance Munganyinka, François Naramabuye</p>		
13:55 – 14:05: Oral presentation	13:55 – 14:05: Oral presentation		
14:05 – 14:20: Oral presentation	14:05 – 14:20: Oral presentation		

14:20 – 14:35: Oral presentation	14:20 – 14:35: Oral presentation
14:35 – 14:50: Oral presentation	14:35 – 14:50: Oral presentation
14:50 – 15:05: Oral presentation	14:50 – 15:05: Oral presentation
15:05 – 15:20: Oral presentation	15:05 – 15:20: Oral presentation
<b>15:20– 15:50 Coffee Break</b>	
<b>MINISTERS VISIT OF DIFFERENT SITES AND DEBRIEFING (16H – 18H)</b>	
<b>Concurrent Invited sessions</b>	<b>Concurrent Invited sessions</b>
<b>Session III : Non-communicable diseases (MH1)</b>	<b>Session IV: Biopharmaceuticals and Bioproducts (MH2)</b>
15:50 – 16:15: <b>Keynote address N° 3</b> by Prof Yosr Haffani	15:50 – 16:15: Keynote address N°5 by Michel Frederich
<b>Moderators:</b> Stefan Jansen, Ella Larissa	<b>Moderators:</b> Raymond Muganga, Egide Kayitare
16:15 – 16:30: Oral presentation	16:15 – 16:30: Oral presentation
16:30 – 16:45: Oral presentation	16:30 – 16:45: Oral presentation
16:45 – 17:10 <b>Keynote address N° 4</b> by Prof Rokhaya Ndiaye Diallo	16:45 – 17:00: Oral presentation
17:10– 17:25: Oral presentation	17:00– 17:15: Oral presentation
17:25 – 17:45: Oral presentation	17:15 – 17:30: Oral presentation
17:45 – 18: 00: Oral presentation	17:30 – 17:45: Oral presentation
<b>18:00 PM – 18:30 PM: POSTERs &amp; STAND EXHIBITION</b>	
<b>DAY 2: Friday 27 SEPTEMBER 2019: Plenary and Concurrent Invited sessions</b>	
8:30 – 8:55: Plenary session : <b>Keynote address N°6</b> by Prof. Léon Mutesa <span style="float: right;"><b>Venue: MH1</b></span>	
<b>Topic: Non-communicable diseases, Genomics and Precision Medicine</b>	
<b>Moderator:</b> Nadine Rujeni	
<b>Concurrent Invited sessions</b>	<b>Concurrent Invited sessions</b>
<b>Session V: Genetics and Genomics</b>	<b>Session VI: Advances in Biotechnology techniques and their Appropriateness to Africa</b>
09:00-09:25: <b>Keynote address N°7</b> by Dr Henk Honing	08:55-09:20: <b>Keynote address N°8</b> by Dr. Bhuwneesh Agrawal
<b>Moderators:</b> Annette Uwineza, Tito Migabo	<b>Moderators:</b> Dieudonne Mutangana, Claire d'Andre Hirwa
09:25 – 09:40: Oral Presentation	09:25 – 09:40: Oral Presentation
09:40 –09:55: Oral Presentation	09:40 – 9:55: Oral Presentation
09:55 – 10:10: Oral Presentation	09:55 – 10:10: Oral Presentation
10:10 – 10:25: Oral Presentation	10:10 – 10:25: Oral Presentation
<b>10:30 –10:55 Coffee Break</b>	
11:00 – 11:25: Plenary session; <b>Keynote address N° 9</b> by Prof. Hervé Vanderschuren	
<b>Topic: Embracing modern Biotechnology for sustainable agriculture and food security in Africa</b>	
<b>Moderator:</b> Anastase Kimonyo	
<b>Concurrent Invited sessions</b>	<b>Concurrent Invited sessions</b>
<b>Session VII: Infectious diseases</b>	<b>Session VIII: Environmental Biotechnology and Biodiversity</b>

<b>11:25-11:50: Keynote address N°10 by Prof. Luc Vanhamme</b>	<b>11:25-11:50: Keynote address N°11 by Emmanuel Hakizimana</b>
<b>Moderators:</b> Jean-Paul Dehoux, Nadine Rujeni	<b>Moderators:</b> Beth Kaplin, Antoine Nsabimana
<b>11:50 – 12:05: Oral Presentation</b>	<b>11:55 – 12:05: Oral Presentation</b>
<b>12:05 – 12:20: Oral Presentation</b>	<b>12:05 – 12:20: Oral Presentation</b>
<b>12:20 – 12:35: Oral Presentation</b>	<b>12:20 – 12:35: Oral Presentation</b>
<b>12:35 – 12:50: Oral Presentation</b>	<b>12:35 – 12:50: Oral Presentation</b>
<b>12:50– 13:05: Oral Presentation</b>	<b>12:50– 13:05: Oral Presentation</b>
<b>13 :00 – 14 :00 P Lunch Break</b>	
<b>14:00 – 14:25: Plenary session : Keynote address No 12 by Dr. Bhunesh Agrawal</b>	
<b>Topic: Innovation and entrepreneurship in Biotechnology</b>	
<b>Moderators:</b> Jacob Souopgui	
<b>14:30 PM – 3:00 PM: POSTERS &amp; STAND EXHIBITION</b>	
<b>15:00 – 17:30 : CLOSING CEREMONIES</b>	



## **Call for Abstracts**

The University of Rwanda in Collaboration with ARES-CCD (the Belgian Academy of Research and High Learning) and the Ministry of Health, Government of Rwanda is hosting a “**Joint Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Rwanda Biotechnology Conference**” from 26<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> September 2019, in Kigali, Rwanda.

We are accepting abstracts under one of the following; but not limited topics: Minimally Invasive Surgery (MIS); Non-communicable diseases (NCD); Infectious diseases; Medical biotechnology; Genetics and Genomics; Genetic Testing and diversity; Molecular diagnostics of human, animal or plant diseases; Biopharmaceuticals; Bioproducts; Industrial biotechnology; Bioprocess engineering; Protein engineering; Agriculture biotechnology; Plant tissue culture; Transgenic plant and crops; Food and feed safety testing; Biotechnology techniques and Methods; Environmental biotechnologies; Bioremediation; Microbial diversity.

### **Abstract Submission guideline**

To present at the Minimally Invasive Surgery and 3<sup>rd</sup> Rwanda Biotechnology Conference in Kigali Rwanda, abstracts have to be submitted first and peer-reviewed. Only accepted abstracts for presentation will be announced on the website.

**Submission:** Abstract are submitted through email at [abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com](mailto:abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com)

### **Abstract Submission guideline**

- Abstract should be submitted in English.
- The abstract should be prepared as follows: Title; Presenting Author’s Names and degree, Authors, Affiliations; address where the actual work was conducted.
- Author names should be listed in the following order: last name, first initial.
- Presenter should provide a functional E-mail address through which she/he can be reached.
- Abstract should be a single paragraph.
- The abstract should not exceed 300 words with brief introduction, objectives, materials and methods, results, and main conclusions. References, tables, or figures should not be included in the abstract.
- The abstract should be written in font of 12 pt times new roman, 1.5-spaced, 1" margins.
- Provide a list of 3 to 5 key words.

**Deadline to submit an Abstract:** August 25, 2019

**Notices of Abstract Acceptance:** August 31, 2019

**Contact:** Peace Buto [abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com](mailto:abstractmis2019.biotech@gmail.com); Tel: +250 788 867 361