

HEFMA 2024 CONFERENCE CONCEPT DOCUMENT

The HEFMA conference is a highly educative gathering of facilities management professionals and/or practitioners within the higher education environment, mainly from universities and TVET colleges. They gather to among other things learn on industry new trends, share lessons learnt and to benchmark with peers. A HEFMA conference draws speakers from high-ranking officials in the sector, industry subject matter experts and exhibitors who aim to showcase and promote their goods and/or services. The 2024 conference is themed **“sustainable campus of the future”**. This theme derives from the Sustainable Development Goals, Agenda 2030 as adopted by the United Nations in 2015.



Figure 1; Global Sustainable Development Goals

The agenda 2030 calls for a paradigm shift in how global economies and societies do things particularly by meeting today’s needs without compromising future generations from meeting their own needs. This is underpinned by the principle of being sensitive and friendly to the environment, for harming it has serious adverse implications like climate change, global warming, disasters etc. This therefore practically calls for discontinuing some of our conventional ways and presenting an opportunity to reimagine the future of our campuses into the future. Experts are citing that in future a student will choose a university or college not because of its global rankings in research output but because of how sustainable it is or at least its level of seriousness in championing sustainability. It is against this background that HEFMA Southern Africa chose this theme and below is a list of sub-topics;

1. Achieving Net Zero in post school education campuses
2. Sustainable Utilities Management (Green Energy, Water & Waste management solutions)
3. ESG framework in University or Collage Facilities Management
4. Integration of Sustainability in Master Planning,
5. Sustainable construction design, engineering & project delivery management
6. Facilities Management's role in sustainability, resilience, and adaptability
7. Smart and sustainable campuses
8. Sustainable soft services solutions (*cleaning & hygiene, gardening, grounds & landscaping etc*)
9. Scenario planning for sustainable institutions of higher learning
10. Sustainable Maintenance Practices

Annual HEFMA Conference:

Conference Date: 14-17 October 2024

Venue: The University of Mpumalanga (UMP)

Registration Fee: Early Bird registration: R 8500 (Closes 1 August 2024)

Full Registration: R 9000 (Starts on 2 August 2024)

Key Audience:

The conference will target roughly 180-250 participants, drawn from the diverse streams of Facilities and Infrastructure management in higher education sector across Southern Africa. This includes all 26 South African universities and 50 TVET Colleges plus 4 universities outside South Africa but within SADC region (UNAM, NUL, UB & UNESWA).

Speakers:

The conference features various speakers, including but not limited to industry experts (local and international), DHET & related government officials, Vice Chancellors/Principals & Chief Operations Officers, conference paper presenters on case studies and lessons learnt.

Benefits:

1. Learning from good practices demonstrated across various academic disciplines.
2. Opportunity to learn about trends and emerging pathways to achieve efficient spaces and the trajectory into the future.
3. Meeting multidisciplinary peers engaged in Facilities & Infrastructure field to share what works and what does not and identify synergies and opportunities for collaborations.
4. Presenting and obtaining feedback on work being conducted on research, innovation, and teaching on various dimensions of Facilities Services.
5. Peer Benchmarking both locally and internationally