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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

✸ CALL FOR CONFERENCE CONTRIBUTIONS

Canadian International Conference 2ND EDITION

CIMEGS-IC 2027

Knowledge and Innovation in the Context of Global Transformations

Challenges of Sustainable Development and Future Prospects

DATES	21–23 March 2027
VENUE	Hammamet, Tunisia
MODE	Hybrid (in-person & online)

ORGANIZERS & PARTNERS

CANADA · TUNISIA · CANADA · TUNISIA · SERBIA · SERBIA · SERBIA

PARTNER JOURNALS INDEXED IN

Scopus · Clarivate Web of Science™

SCAN FOR DETAILS

CIMEGS, Canada ✸ ESG-UQAM, Canada ✸ Faculty of Sciences, University of Gafsa, Tunisia

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

Organizers & Partners

The Canadian International Conference CIMEGS-IC 2027 is co-organized by the Canadian Institute for Middle East & Gulf Studies (Canada), ESG-UQAM, Université du Québec à Montréal (Canada), and the Faculty of Sciences, University of Gafsa (Tunisia), in partnership with the Faculty of Business Economics and Entrepreneurship, Belgrade (Serbia), the Research & Development Center, Belgrade (Serbia), and the International Woman Studies Center and Society (Serbia).

CANADA · TUNISIA · CANADA · TUNISIA · SERBIA · SERBIA · SERBIA

DISTINGUISHED LECTURES

Keynote Speakers

The conference will feature keynote lectures by renowned scholars. We are pleased to welcome the following keynote speakers:

Prof. Komlan T. Sedzro

Dean

ESG-UQAM, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada

Prof. Moez Rhimi

Research Director

INRAE, Paris-Saclay University, France

Dr. Zeineb Djebali

Director of Studies

University of Liverpool Management School (ULMS), UK

FREE

Workshops

The keynote speakers will also lead two workshops during the conference, and a third workshop on **scientific publishing** will be led by Dr. Mohsen Brahmi (CIMEGS Institute, Canada). All participants will receive a certificate of participation.

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21–23 March 2027

VENUE
Hammamet, Tunisia

FORMAT
Hybrid — in-person & online

LANGUAGES
English · Arabic · French

ABSTRACT DEADLINE
15 January 2027

PUBLICATION
Book of abstracts (ISBN & DOI), proceedings & indexed journals

SECTION 01

Conference Overview

As the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development approaches its target date, the need to reassess what scientific research has contributed grows more pressing.

The challenges at stake are closely intertwined, touching on the production of knowledge, technological and economic change, social justice, health and natural resources. Making sense of them calls for theories that can explain them, methods that can analyze them, critical studies that examine the assumptions commonly held about them, and applied research that explores ways of responding to them.

The Canadian Institute for Middle East & Gulf Studies invites researchers to take part in the second edition of its international conference in Tunisia, *Knowledge and Innovation in the Context of Global Transformations: Challenges of Sustainable Development and Future Prospects.* The conference will consider how the natural, engineering, health, social and human sciences contribute to building and renewing knowledge, and to understanding and guiding development transitions in a context of rapid global transformation.

This edition builds on CIMEGS-IC 2026, held in Hammamet, Tunisia, from 27 to 29 March 2026, which drew more than 130 research contributions from 16 countries under the title *Advanced AI & Green Digital Technologies: Forging Sustainable Prosperity across the MENA Region and the Gulf.* The second edition moves beyond that focus on digital and green technologies toward a broader horizon that spans the disciplines and, against the backdrop of global transformations, examines the path from knowledge and innovation to impact.

The conference starts from the premise that theoretical, fundamental, applied and critical research are complementary. Within its shared thematic tracks, it welcomes researchers who develop concepts, theories and methods; who analyze phenomena and processes; and who test solutions, technologies and practices. It also welcomes inductive approaches such as **grounded theory**, which builds concepts and theories from field data, alongside quantitative, qualitative and mixed methods.

For the purposes of this conference, **innovation** means developing scientific ideas and models, renewing methods, and creating new technologies, services, and social and cultural practices. **Impact**, for its part, encompasses contributions to knowledge, thought and education, as well as social, economic, environmental, health-related and institutional change, bearing in mind that its time horizons and the ways it is assessed differ from one discipline to another.

Participants will also discuss the conditions that support the use of knowledge, the barriers that limit it, and the intended and unintended consequences of innovation. The conference offers an opportunity to study experiences from the Middle East, North Africa and the Gulf in dialogue with international experience, and to draw comparisons that take account of differences in context, needs and resources.

SECTION 02

Central Research Question

> *In an era of global transformations accelerated by generative artificial intelligence, how do different forms of knowledge and research approaches complement one another in understanding the challenges of sustainable development, and what conditions make it possible to advance innovation and assess its scholarly and societal impacts across different contexts and time horizons?*

Derived questions

01 How can theoretical, fundamental, critical and applied research renew our understanding of sustainable development?

02 How are knowledge production, innovation, and social, economic and environmental change related, and what are the limits of conceiving these relationships as a linear path?

03 How can disciplines be brought together while respecting their different concepts, methods and scientific standards?

04 How do funding, education, legislation, institutions and culture shape the production, circulation and use of knowledge?

05 How are the benefits, costs and risks of innovation distributed across social groups, regions and generations?

06 How can scholarly and societal impact be assessed, including long-term contributions and unintended consequences?

07 What lessons can be drawn from efforts, successful or otherwise, to connect research with practice and society?

SECTION 03

Conference Objectives

1. To deepen theoretical and critical debate on the concepts of knowledge, innovation, impact and sustainable development.
2. To exchange findings, tools and methods across scientific disciplines.
3. To examine the institutional, economic and cultural conditions that support or constrain research and innovation.
4. To discuss questions of justice, ethics and responsibility in the production and use of knowledge.
5. To develop approaches to impact assessment that take into account the nature of the research, its context and its time frame.
6. To open dialogue between researchers and stakeholders in education, institutions, the productive sector and civil society.
7. To create opportunities for research collaboration and to involve early-career researchers.

SECTION 04

Thematic Tracks

The tracks welcome theoretical, fundamental, applied and critical research, as well as quantitative, qualitative, mixed-methods and comparative studies, grounded theory research and systematic reviews, as appropriate to the topic. A paper may fall under more than one track, but authors should indicate the main track at submission.

TRACK 1

Environment, Resources, Natural Systems and Sustainable Urban and Rural Areas

- Renewable energy, resource efficiency, and lower-impact materials and technologies.
- Fundamental research in the natural sciences on ecosystems, materials and energy.
- Climate change, biodiversity and ecosystem protection.
- Environmental risks, territorial resilience, climate justice and the evaluation of environmental interventions.
- The water–energy–food nexus, food security and sustainable agriculture.
- Urban planning, construction, transport, and urban and rural development.
- Environmental law and legislation on natural resources, energy, water and land use.

TRACK 2

Engineering and Computing

- Green AI in renewable energy: smart grids, predictive maintenance for solar and wind installations, storage optimization.
- Electromechanics, automation and smart vehicles.
- Robotics and autonomous systems.
- Software engineering and computational intelligence.
- Smart data science for climate modeling: machine learning models for climate projection.
- Cybersecurity, the metaverse, big data and information systems.

TRACK 3

Knowledge, Education, Heritage and Capacity Building

- Theories of knowledge, philosophy of science, and concepts of development and sustainability.
- Research methodologies, including grounded theory, qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods, and methods for assessing scholarly and societal impact.
- Cultural, urban and architectural heritage: documentation, conservation, restoration, digitization, adaptive reuse and enhancement in support of sustainable development.
- The humanities, arts, languages and local knowledge in understanding development.
- Teaching and learning, and curriculum development.
- Academic and research institutions and their role in making knowledge accessible.
- Skills and the world of work, capacity building, and equity of access to education and research.

CIMEGS-IC 2026 · Hammamet, March 2026

TRACK 4

Digital Transformation and Responsible Scientific and Technological Innovation

- Theoretical and algorithmic foundations of artificial intelligence, data science and computing.
- Intelligent systems, engineering and design, automation, and digital transformation applications.
- Digital infrastructure, cybersecurity, privacy and data sovereignty.
- Legal frameworks and legislation for digital technologies and artificial intelligence: intellectual property, personal data protection and liability for technological risks.
- Technology ethics, algorithmic bias, transparency, trust and human oversight.
- Human–technology interaction, and digital cultural and social change.
- The sustainability, accessibility, cost and environmental impact of digital technologies.

TRACK 5

Economics, Finance and Entrepreneurship

- Economic models of innovation and sustainability.
- Fintech, corporate finance and organizational change.
- Finance and investment, and the green, circular and social economies.
- Entrepreneurship, social innovation, and small and medium-sized enterprises.
- Business, commercial and financial law, investment legislation and contracts.
- Marketing, consumption, tourism, and sustainable supply chains and logistics.
- Labor markets and productivity, inequalities, and the distribution of the value and benefits of innovation.

TRACK 6

Health, Well-being and Social Justice

- Biological, medical and behavioral foundations of health and disease.
- Public health, prevention, nutrition, mental health and quality of life.
- Health technologies, precision medicine, digital health and access to care.
- Health systems, health services management, health law, and the ethics of research and practice.
- Social determinants of health, poverty, gender, disability and health inequalities.
- Population and migration, care and social protection, and inclusive development.

SECTION 05

Invited Participants

The conference invites faculty members, researchers and doctoral students from relevant disciplines, researchers based in research centers and laboratories, and experts and practitioners from public and private institutions, professional organizations and civil society. It encourages research conducted across disciplines, institutions and countries, and also welcomes specialized contributions that make clear their relevance to the conference's central question.

SECTION 06

Formats & Program

Researchers may present their papers as oral presentations or scientific posters, and may propose thematic sessions or workshops related to the conference tracks. The Scientific Committee will review these proposals on the basis of their quality, coherence and the feasibility of including them in the program.

The scientific program includes keynote lectures, parallel research sessions, roundtables for interdisciplinary dialogue, workshops on research, academic writing and impact assessment, and networking meetings to foster research collaboration.

SECTION 07

Submission Guidelines

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION

Authors may submit **either an abstract or a full paper**. An abstract of **250 to 500 words** is required for research papers and posters, and must include:

- title of the paper
- author name(s)
- affiliation(s)
- 3–5 keywords
- selected track
- 6–9 references

FULL PAPERS

7,000 words, following the template that will be communicated to authors. Authors who submit only an abstract may, if they wish, send the full paper after the conference, **no later than 20 April 2027**. All conference abstracts will be published in a **book of abstracts with an ISBN and DOI**.

LANGUAGES

English · Arabic · French

SUBMISSION PORTAL

Submissions must be made electronically via:

events.cimeg.ca/cimegs-ic2027/**submit.php**

Full information:
events.cimeg.ca/cimegs-ic2027

SECTION 08

Important Dates

15 Jan 2027 — Deadline
Abstract (or full paper) submission
Via the portal: events.cimeg.ca/cimegs-ic2027/submit.php

+1 week — From submission
Notification of abstract acceptance
Sent within one week of submission.

31 Jan 2027 — Deadline
Proof of payment (early-registration rate)
Payment details will be sent to registered participants. Send the bank-transfer confirmation by e-mail to cimegs-ic@cimeg.ca by 31 January 2027.

21 Mar 2027 — Arrival
Arrival and reception of participants
The detailed program will be announced before the conference and sent to all participants well in advance.

22–23 Mar — 9:00 AM – 8:00 PM
Opening and scientific sessions
From 22 March 2027 (9:00 AM) to 23 March 2027 (8:00 PM).

24 Mar 2027 — Before 12:00 noon
Hotel check-out

20 Apr 2027 — Deadline
Full paper submission (after the conference)
For authors who submitted only an abstract and wish to send the full paper, following the template communicated to authors.

SECTION 09

Publication Opportunities

OPTION A

Conference proceedings

The official conference proceedings book with an ISBN, in collaboration with an international publisher, to be submitted for indexing in major academic databases. All conference abstracts will also appear in a book of abstracts with an ISBN and DOI.

OPTION B

Indexed partner journals

Subject to each journal's own editorial policies, **the workshops will facilitate the submission and peer-review process**; however, **final publication cannot be guaranteed**.

WORKING LIST OF JOURNALS

1	International Journal of Basic and Applied Sciences SCOPUS	ISSN 2227-5053
2	Sustainability Accounting, Management and Policy Journal SCOPUS IF	ISSN 2040-8021
3	Journal of Retailing and Consumer Services SCOPUS IF	ISSN 0969-6989
4	International Journal of Accounting and Economics Studies SCOPUS	eISSN 2309-4508
5	International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management SCOPUS IF	ISSN 0959-6119
6	International Journal of Technology Transfer and Commercialisation ABS SPECIAL ISSUE	ISSN 1470-6075

Along with the Institute's journal, **CIMEGS Socio-Economic Journal (CIMEGS-SEJ)**, e-ISSN 2819-6252 SPECIAL ISSUE

SCOPUS = indexed in Scopus; IF = Clarivate Journal Impact Factor (Web of Science); ABS = listed in the CABS Academic Journal Guide.

SECTION 10

Registration & Fees

On-site participation includes three nights in a 5-star hotel in Hammamet. Online participation covers all conference services except accommodation and meals. Payment details will be sent to registered participants.

CATEGORY	EARLY REGISTRATION by 31 January 2027	LATE REGISTRATION after 31 January 2027
ON-SITE · INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS		
Graduate students / CIMEGS members	€350	+30%
Academics and researchers	€400	+30%
ON-SITE · PARTICIPANTS FROM TUNISIA		
Graduate students / CIMEGS members	850 TND	+30%
Academics and researchers	900 TND	+30%
ONLINE		
Online participation	€150	

On-site fees include

- A signed and stamped certificate of participation from the University of Gafsa and the Canadian Institute (CIMEGS).
- A stamped conference program and conference kit.
- An official conference proceedings book with an international ISBN, with access to the publication link.
- Four days' accommodation (three nights) with full board — breakfast, lunch, dinner and coffee breaks — at a 5-star hotel in Hammamet, in a shared double room.

Note: registration fees do not include travel tickets.

Additional options

- Joint on-site presentation: **+€50** per additional participant.
- Second paper at the same conference: **+€100**.

COMPLIMENTARY

Three on-site workshops during the conference: two delivered by the keynote speakers, renowned international experts, and one on scientific publishing led by Dr. Mohsen Brahmi, with a certificate of participation.

COMMITTEES

Scientific Committee

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President, University of Gafsa, Tunisia

Mohamed Ali Borgi
Dean, Faculty of Sciences of Gafsa, Tunisia

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Mohsen Brahmi · University of Sfax
Sofien Tiba · University of Sfax

Abdelkader Krimi · FSG
Hayet Tlijani · ISET Gafsa
Chanez Dali · FSG

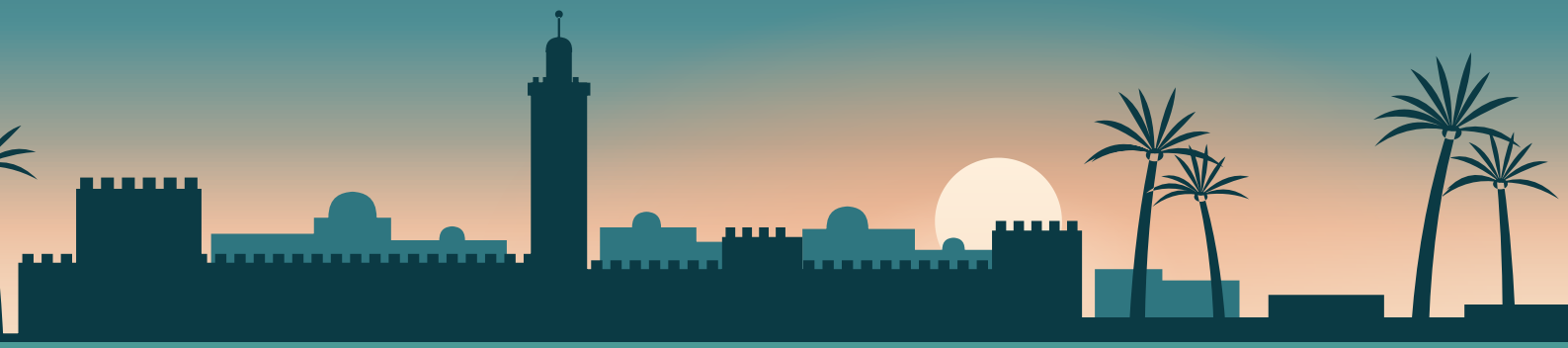
Zohra Allaoui · FSG
Moufid Radaoui · FSG
Othmen Khaldi · FSG

FSG — Faculty of Sciences of Gafsa · ENIGA — National Engineering School of Gafsa · ISET Gafsa — Higher Institute of Technological Studies of Gafsa

CONTACT INFORMATION

We look forward to *welcoming you in Tunisia.*

We eagerly anticipate your valuable submissions and the privilege of hosting you in Tunisia in 2027.



WHATSAPP INQUIRIES

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SUBMIT YOUR ABSTRACT

events.cimeg.ca/cimegs-ic2027/submit.php

Abstract deadline · 15 January 2027

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