



ECAMA - The Economics Association of Malawi

The 2015 ECAMA Research Symposium

First call for extended abstracts

The second annual research symposium of the Economics Association of Malawi (ECAMA) will be held in Lilongwe from 4th to 5th June, 2015.

ECAMA aims to provide independent, evidence-based economic advice to its members and other stakeholders in Malawi. Annually ECAMA holds an annual conference to encourage open, proactive debate and policy dialogue on pertinent economic issues in Malawi so as to inform policymaking and influence the development agenda of the country. With support from the respective country programs of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) and Innovations for Poverty Action (IPA) in Malawi, ECAMA will host its second annual research symposium.

The theme for the 2015 ECAMA Research Symposium is: ***Agricultural transformation and value chain development for sustainable economic development***

Sub-themes:

- i. Agricultural productivity and diversification
- ii. Technology adoption and mechanization
- iii. Linking farmers to markets (e.g., market information systems, contract farming, out grower schemes)
- iv. Trade and industrial strategies (incl. political economy and institutional challenges)
- v. Technical and institutional analyses of value chain development, value addition and agro-processing
- vi. Export promotion and import substitution
- vii. Macroeconomic stability and development

Extended abstracts (between 1000-2000 words) should be submitted online by email to ifpri-ecama@cgiar.org by March 31, 2015. Abstracts should include introduction, methods, results, recommendations & policy implications. To view last year's conference page and accepted paper presentations, go to <http://bit.ly/ECAMAResearch>.

Prize for outstanding papers

ECAMA will select three best contributed papers for presentation in an upgraded contributed paper plenary session.

The timeline for the organization of the conference is as follows:

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| • Submission of extended abstracts (between 1000-2000 words) | March 31, 2015 |
| • Decision communicated to selected authors | April 10, 2015 |
| • Submissions of full papers | May 4, 2015 |

