IASP
International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation

CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

33rd IASP WORLD CONFERENCE
ON SCIENCE PARKS AND AREAS OF INNOVATION:
The Global Mind — Linking Innovation Communities for Internationalization, Sustainability and Growth

Moscow, Russia | 19th – 22nd September, 2016

Introduction

Skolkovo Technopark in partnership with MSU Science Park and Technopark Strogino will host the 33rd IASP Annual World Conference on Science Parks and Areas of Innovation in September 2016.

The conference will bring together experts from science and technology parks (STPs) and other areas of innovation (AIs), technology-based incubators, academia, the public sector and business to discuss and debate in depth the trends in STPs and other areas of innovation as increasingly complex structures for professional innovation support.

To serve their companies and communities, STPs and other AIs often collaborate and coordinate activities with different institutions and organisations, such as chambers of commerce, development and funding agencies, industry associations, networks, venture capital, etc. All of these institutions are welcome to make contributions to this conference.

Conference theme

The programme will be divided into a variety of sessions – retaining both the traditional plenary and parallel sessions on specific topics, as well as more innovative formats - to encourage a more dynamic knowledge exchange. The format of the sessions will only be determined after the paper review and authors are invited to choose from a range of topics to submit their abstracts.

All conference sessions will be related to the overall theme for the 2016 IASP World Conference, which has been set as:

"The Global Mind – linking innovation communities for internationalisation, sustainability and growth"

The concept of the Global Mind can be understood as a worldwide consciousness shared by an increasing number of innovation communities, closely tied to sources of science and knowledge, which pursues sustainable globalisation and aims at balancing the economic and social needs of a diverse range of nations and cultures worldwide.

Science parks and other Areas of Innovation are environments where the Global Mind can flourish and develop naturally. They provide space, facilities and services especially tailored for these kinds of communities and they offer a unique way to think, connect and interact. This collaborative nature stems from strong local roots, but also provides privileged access to international networks, markets and partnerships. Dynamic links among STPs and AIs from all over the world are essential to make the most of this international dimension. This local/global duality is one of the constitutive features of STPs and AIs.

In this conference we will deepen our understanding of how science parks and other areas of innovation can use the Global Mind —setting common goals and strengthening connectivity— for the benefit of their innovation communities (businesses, entrepreneurs, researchers and technicians) as well as for their cities and regions.

Key words: global, innovation communities, sustainable globalisation, connectivity, international dimension, local/global duality.

Overview of subthemes to choose from:

Related to the overall theme for the 2016 IASP World Conference **"The Global Mind – linking innovation communities for internationalisation, sustainability and growth"**, paper authors can choose from the following subthemes to submit an abstract:

- Subtheme 1: Social impact & social innovation
- Subtheme 2: STPs and collective thinking
- Subtheme 3: Micro-multinationals: a new opportunity for science parks and areas of innovation
- Subtheme 4: Strategies for the valorisation of tech/science/innovation investments in STPs/commercialisation of services/case study
- Subtheme 5: Creation/attraction of global talent
- Subtheme 6: Inter-regional cooperation schemes
- Subtheme 7: The impact of science parks and areas of innovation in an increasingly global world

The order of subthemes does not indicate their location in the conference programme nor whether they will be plenary or parallel sessions, as this will only be determined after the review of full papers (see technical specifications page 6).

In detail: subtheme descriptions and guidelines for authors

Subtheme 1: Social impact & social innovation

Innovation begins with a need that must be met. Strategies that put social needs at the heart of innovation will both solve real demand and serve the market: the Quadruple Helix operates in science parks when the mission of innovation is clear. Social innovation can be with or without technology, but it must have an impact on the reality of everyday life in the community. It is important to realise that today all processes to enhance innovation and the injection of innovation into business communities takes place within the framework of an increasing "social acceleration": the ever increasing speed of innovations in technologies and businesses are also producing changes in the psychology of individuals and societies, our values and expectations.

STPs and Areas of Innovation are one of the key tools for the urban, economic and social transformation of their communities.

We welcome contributions from programmes and projects that are connecting the needs of society or citizens with the solutions provided by STPs (entrepreneurs, researchers, companies…). We would also like to hear about how challenges are identified, how citizen participation is managed, how pilots are developed, how projects are financed and the role of public procurement, when and where solutions are scaled, how companies take advantage of this demand, who evaluates performance, and STPs' leadership role in social transformation.

Subtheme 2: STPs and collective thinking

Collective thinking or collective intelligence can be considered as a requirement for having a global mind in our industry. It emerges from collaboration, collective efforts, and competition of many individuals. New communication strategies, tools, and softwares have been developed to create synergy among experts who can continually learn from each other and to produce knowledge and understanding to face new challenges. Collective intelligence shifts knowledge and power from the individual to the collective.

STPs and Areas of Innovations are facing new problems and challenges every day and must be able to adapt and provide new solutions. It is through collective efforts that such solutions are more likely to be developed. We welcome contributions of abstracts describing the concept and methodologies for collective thinking and its application in STPs and AIs. Discussing how collective thinking tools in STPs and AIs can help solve our biggest societal challenges is also one of the goals of this subtheme. Contributions that provide good examples for such collective efforts are also welcomed.

Subtheme 3: Micro-multinationals: a new opportunity for science parks and areas of innovation

There is a whole new set of entrepreneurs that do things differently. They are born and fully immersed in a global world woven with massive and pervasive communication channels and technologies. Their innate technical skills are unprecedented and so is their international mindset: their constant immersion in social media and other IT based "universes" makes it inevitable.

This is multiplying the birth of micro-multinationals (global-born companies). New startups are not created to grow domestically as a prior step to going global; they are global from day 1. This happens in a variety of ways: startups created by partners with different nationalities; implementation of alliances between startups from other countries in order to reach international markets from the very beginning, etc. In this session we have two aims:

- To deepen our knowledge of the nature of these micro-multinationals: how are they created, how they handle their international nature, and the advantages but also the problems that this poses for them.
- What should STPs and AIs do in order to better attract this type of entrepreneur to their sphere of influence, and also how can they further enhance the birth of this type of companies? And once they are born, what should STPs and AIs do to retain them so they can grow in the park?

Subtheme 4: Strategies for the valorisation of tech/science/innovation investments in STPs / commercialisation of services / case study

Valorisation or value increase of technological, scientific or innovative investments in STPs is understood as a transformation of technology into economic and social benefits, based on targeted influence, especially through government support. It is important to reflect the contribution of universities and high schools in the development of innovations and their popularization among young entrepreneurs and researchers.

Services are key instruments provided by STPs to simplify the development and growth of startups. How can we commercialise these services and how can we show startups the importance and advantages of their use? An ever crucial topic when discussing the creation of successful startups is how to finance them. Contributions analysing new forms of financing the creation of innovative businesses (crowdfunding, bootstrapping, etc) are also welcome.

Case studies of different Science Parks and Areas of Innovation covering success stories / investment programmes / service policies in America, Asia, Europe and Africa are welcomed.

Subtheme 5: Creation/attraction of global talent

Talent is the raw material of the knowledge based economy. STPs and AIs are the platform to attract and retain global talent, as well as to create and develop such talent locally. Strategies and tools have been developed for several parks and regions in the world in order to best attract, retain, develop and create the right talent for them.

STPs and Areas of Innovation provide one of the best ecologies of innovation for local and international talent and we would like to explore this further at IASP 2016.

We welcome contributions of programmes and projects related to talent management: how schools are linked with STPs; how university students are connected with resident companies to develop professional careers; how university talent is stimulated through the innovation and entrepreneurship present in STPs; how can STPs excel in leadership capital; what programmes are in place to attract international talent, and what strategies are implemented to retain talent. How can STPs and AIs benefit and make best use of the virtual cycle of talent, "talent inspiring talent"?

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Subtheme 6: Inter-regional cooperation schemes

Regional Economic Communities (REC) or Regional Cooperation for Development (RCD) have developed in different areas with the purpose of bringing together individual countries for the purpose of achieving greater economic integration. STPs and AIs can play a pivotal role in such communities, focusing their activities on economic development through innovation. To some degree regional divisions in IASP and national science park associations have been established to create a platform for such cooperation.

Examples of actual collaborations going on in different regions can be presented as case studies for this session. Descriptions of the creation of new clusters, or of existing clusters as examples of smart cooperation promoted by STPs and AIs, are also welcome.

Subtheme 7: The impact of science parks and areas of innovation in an increasingly global world

STPs often carry out analysis and studies to assess their impact on performance. Such assessments are important to position ourselves as parks and areas of innovation with our relevant audiences and stakeholders. As we would expect, in view of the many existing models and strategies, they do so in a variety of ways. This diversity makes it somewhat complicated to obtain a unified global picture of the impact of STPs in the world. However there are a number of indicators that are quite universal. Job creation, typology of jobs, number and rate of startups being created, patents and licenses, joint research between universities and companies, are but a few of these common indicators.

In view of the increasing internationalisation of STPs and AIs, we wonder whether these classic indicators are still valid, or if it is necessary to review them and also to find new ones. In this session we would like to discuss our STP and AI evaluation methodologies. How well are we assessing our results, performance and impact? How should we review the existing indicators and which ones are we missing? We would also like to hear ideas about how we could move towards an evaluation methodology of STPs and AIs that could be truly global or, in other words, that could enable us to obtain a worldwide overview of our industry and a sufficiently standardised set of indicators to understand the global impact of science parks and areas of innovation.

Authors are asked to indicate which subthemes the presented abstract relates to.

Authors are encouraged to include either case studies with a focus on "lessons learned" in the delivered articles or to ensure that best practice is always included where applicable.

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Submission of abstracts (paper proposals) is open to everyone. Authors do not need to be members of IASP, and participation from a variety of organisations and sectors is welcomed.

Proposals to present contributions at this IASP World Conference in 2016 will undergo the review process below. Selections will be made according to the paper content and its ability to address the topics and themes outlined above. The conference organisers will aim to include papers from the broadest possible range of expertise and perspectives.

Selection of Abstracts

Anyone interested in presenting a paper at the conference must first submit an 800-1200 word abstract to the Steering Committee Secretariat. Submissions should be made through the online system available at (insert conference website here) **by 4th November 2015**.

You can access the system from the conference website (www.iasp2016moscow.com) by clicking on the 'Submission' icon on the homepage and then 'Submission of abstracts' at the bottom of the page.

If you already have an account in the system, you can sign in with your existing username and password, or you can create a new profile. Once you are registered, you will be able to upload your abstract by clicking on 'submission' in the left pane.

All abstracts must be in English.

Abstracts will be evaluated by the Conference Steering Committee and review panel. The authors will be notified by 24th January 2016 as to whether or not their abstract has been selected for the next step in the paper selection process (full paper for review). Any indication of conference sessions at this stage is tentative.

The authors whose abstracts have been selected will need to submit their complete papers no later than 4th May 2016. Only those authors whose abstracts are approved may submit a full paper for review.

Selection of Full Papers

Full papers will be evaluated by the Conference Steering Committee and review panel. The panel will select the final papers that best contribute to the theme and desired discussion at the conference based on the clarity and relevance of their argument. Authors will be notified by 14th June 2016 as to whether their full paper has been selected for inclusion in the conference programme. If approved for a speaking slot it is also at this stage that authors will informed about the type of session (plenary or parallel) as well as any recommendations from the Steering Committee for the final version of the paper.

Given the limited number of speaking opportunities at the conference, some of the full papers that are approved by the review panel may be included in the conference proceedings but may not be allotted time for an oral presentation at the conference.

Important deadlines

Submission of abstracts	4th November 2015
Notification to authors	24th January 2016
Submission of full papers	4th May 2016
Notification to authors	14th June 2016
Conference dates	19th – 22nd September 2016

Steering Committee Secretariat

For more information about the Call for Contributions process for the conference, please contact Ebba Lund or Francesca Antoniazzi at papers@iasp.ws.

Conference Secretariat

For more information about the conference and the city of Moscow, please visit the conference website (www.iasp2016moscow.com) or email the Conference Secretariat at iasp2016submission@sk.ru.

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