

**Centre for Business & Economic Research (CBER)
London, United Kingdom**

Presents

**2026 CBER-MEC 15th International Conference
on Business & Economic Development (ICBED)**

Date

20-21 April, 2026

In Association with

**Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, USA
School of Business**

Venue

Marriott New York JFK Airport Hotel, Jamaica, New York, USA



Welcome Message from the Conference Chairs

We want to foster an intellectual curiosity that draws on the wisdom of the past while also encouraging new ideas. It is our sincere hope that during our conference, new and purposeful relationships will be formed that will benefit everyone involved.

This conference, organised by CBER in collaboration with Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, USA, seeks to elucidate a plethora of issues within the conference's sub-theme, namely

Innovation and Sustainability - Navigating the Future of Business and Economic Development

The conference tracks include Finance, Accounting & Organisational structure; Growth & Economic Development; Globalisation & International Trade; Branding & Marketing; Entrepreneurship in Emerging & Developing economies; Hospitality & Tourism Management; HRM Issues in Emerging Economies; Cloud Computing, Big Data & Cyber Security; Teaching & Learning Business Education with Technology; Business Student-centred Teaching & Learning; Bridging the Skills Gap; Partnership between Faculty, Industry, & Community.

We believe that the 2026 CBER-MEC 15th International Conference on Business & Economic Development (ICBED) will allow you to disseminate your research, learn from other researchers, and network with other like-minded scholars.

Dr Jo-Ann Rolle

Former Dean, School of Business

Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, USA

Dr. P. R. Datta

Scholarship Lead & Senior Lecturer, Regent College London, UK

Executive Chair, Centre for Business & Economic Research (CBER), UK

ICBED-2026 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Conference Chairs

Dr. Zulema Blair, Interim Dean, School of Business, Medgar Evers College, City University of New York, USA

Conference Chairs

Dr Jo-Ann Rolle, Former Dean Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, USA

Dr. P. R. Datta, Scholarship Lead & Senior Lecturer, Regent College London, UK; Executive Chair, Centre for Business & Economic Research (CBER), UK

Conference Committee

- * **Prof. Warren Mathews**, Belhaven University, USA
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- * **Dr. Byron Price**, Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York, USA
- * **Dr B.R. Chakraborty**, London College of Contemporary Arts (LCCA) & Centre for Business & Economic Research (CBER), UK
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- * **Prof. Srinivasan Sampalli**, Dalhousie University, Canada
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- * **Prof. (Dr.) Evangelia Fragouli**, Kingston Business School, Kingston University, London, UK
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- * **Dr Abdul Rahim Soomro**, Centre for Business & Economic Research, UK
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- * **Prof. Oliver Takawira**, Department of Finance & Investments, School of Management CBE, University of Johannesburg, South Africa

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- * **Prof. Alan Parkinson**, Director of Studies and Deputy Director (Education), School of Management, University College London
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ICBED-2023 Medgar Evers College, City University of New York, School of Business, New York, USA

15th International Conference on Business & Economic Development (ICBED), 20-21 April 2026-A Hybrid Conference

Invitation

You are invited to participate in the 2026 CBER-MEC International Academic Conference organised by the Centre for Business & Economic Research (CBER), UK, in association with Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York USA, during 20-21 April 2026.

CONFERENCE THEMES AND TRACKS FOR ICBED-2026

CONFERENCE THEME

Innovation and Sustainability: Navigating the Future of Business and Economic Development

ICBED-2026 offers various tracks which include: Finance, Accounting & Organisational structure; Growth & Economic Development; Globalisation & International Trade; Branding & Marketing; Entrepreneurship in Emerging & Developing economies; Hospitality & Tourism Management; HRM Issues in Emerging Economies; Cloud Computing, Big Data & Cyber Security; Teaching & Learning Business Education with Technology; Business Student-centred Teaching & Learning; Bridging the Skills Gap: Partnership between Faculty, Industry, & Community.

Authors are invited to submit their original research papers, case studies, reviews, work in progress, reports, abstracts, students' papers, or research proposals within the broad scope of the conference. The author's submission will be published in the conference proceeding under "Business & Management Review" online, while abstracts will be included in the conference programme. CBER utilises the double-blind review process for all submitted papers.

Authors may consider the above-listed areas; however, if they wish to develop a special session around a specific topic, the information is available in the call for submissions document. Individuals may also register and attend the conference as a participant without submitting or presenting any work.

Conference Objectives

1. Promote interdisciplinary research and collaboration: Foster meaningful dialogue and partnerships among academics, industry professionals, policymakers, and development practitioners to address global challenges at the intersection of innovation and sustainability.
2. Explore innovative and sustainable business practices: Examine emerging trends, technologies, and models that drive responsible business growth, environmental stewardship, and long-term economic resilience.
3. Support inclusive and equitable economic development: Highlight strategies that promote inclusive growth, reduce socio-economic disparities, and empower underrepresented groups through entrepreneurship, education, and social innovation.
4. Disseminate cutting-edge research and real-world case studies: Provide a platform for sharing high-impact research findings, practical solutions, and success stories that contribute to sustainable development in diverse global contexts.
5. Develop future-oriented skills and knowledge: Equip participants with the tools, knowledge, and networks necessary to navigate the evolving demands of the global economy, including digital transformation, ESG integration, and adaptive leadership.

Conference Tracks

1. Finance, Accounting and Organisational structure
2. Growth and Economic Development in Emerging Economies
3. Globalisation and International Trade
4. Entrepreneurship in Emerging and Developing Economies
5. Cloud Computing, Big data & Cyber Security
6. Teaching & Learning Business Education with Technology
7. Branding & Marketing
8. Business Student Centred Teaching & Learning
9. Bridging the skills gap: Partnership between Faculty, Industry & Community

Who can attend this conference?

This international conference is ideal for a diverse audience, including:

- * **Researchers and academics:** Those in Business, Management, Economics, and related fields will gain valuable insights and opportunities to share and enhance their research.
- * **Corporate Professionals and Consultants:** Industry leaders, management consultants, and corporate trainers will benefit from fresh perspectives on global economic shifts, sustainability, and innovative business strategies.
- * **Government officials and policy makers:** Public sector leaders and policy advisors will gain knowledge on policies shaping global and national economies, especially in the context of sustainable development.
- * **Think tanks and social service organizations:** Representatives will find valuable discussions and collaborations around socio-economic challenges, resource distribution, and inclusive economic models.
- * **Entrepreneurs and business leaders:** Start-up founders, SMEs, and business executives can explore cutting-edge strategies for growth, resilience, and alignment with the SDGs.
- * **Doctoral and master's students:** Aspiring researchers and students seeking international exposure will find a supportive platform for sharing ideas, networking, and learning from field experts.

This conference offers a unique environment for learning, collaboration, and growth, making it beneficial for anyone interested in the evolving dynamics of the global economy.

Benefits to Conference Participants

1. **Gain cutting-edge knowledge:** Engage with internationally renowned experts in Business, Management, and Economics, gaining access to the latest research and insights across these fields. Participants will learn about innovative strategies and emerging trends that shape global economic dynamics.
2. **Showcase your work on an international stage:** Present your research as a paper or poster and receive recognition from a distinguished, multidisciplinary audience. This conference provides a prestigious platform to highlight your contributions and gain valuable feedback from peers and experts.
3. **Publication opportunities:** All accepted full papers abstracts will be published in the Business and Management Review (ISSN: Online 2051-8498), online proceedings volume, providing a lasting academic record of your work.
4. **Collaborate with global scholars:** Network with a vibrant, scholarly audience from around the world. This conference offers unique opportunities to build connections, explore collaborative projects, and form partnerships that could advance your academic and professional pursuits.
5. **Best paper awards and Journal opportunities:** Conference attendees will participate in voting for Best Paper awards, with winning papers considered for publication in reputable journals – offering an additional opportunity to disseminate impactful research.
6. **Discounts for Future Conferences:** Registered participants will automatically receive a 10% discount on fees for our future conferences, supporting ongoing engagement with this international community.
7. **Earn CPD Credits:** Participants will receive a CPD certificate worth 15 credits, providing formal recognition of professional development and enhancing your professional credentials.



About CBER

Centre for Business & Economic Research (CBER) was founded in London in 2006 to inspire, recognise and to support excellence in business and Economic research. Currently, the Centre has three main areas of endeavour: organising an annual cycle of international academic conferences, producing academic journals and offering bespoke consultancy projects both in the United Kingdom and further afield. CBER works assiduously to facilitate international collaboration, providing an independent and credible source of advice, as well as contributing to academic debate and research. The Centre is fortunate to have a truly international following and is committed to encouraging knowledge sharing, foresight planning and greater interaction between academics, policymakers, thought leaders and those engaged in diverse commercial activities. Through both its own researchers and a network of specialists internationally, it is well placed to provide targeted consultancy work aimed at providing fresh insight and understanding that is underpinned by credible research methods and a thorough and objective approach.



About Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York

Medgar Evers College is a senior college of The City University of New York, offering baccalaureate and associate degrees. It was officially established in 1970 with co-operation between educators and community leaders in central Brooklyn. It is named after Medgar Wiley Evers, an African American civil rights leader. The college is proud of the strong academic programs offered through its five schools: the School of Business; the School of Education; the School of Liberal Arts; the School of Professional and Community Development; and the School of Science, Health, and Technology. Under the current leadership of Dr. Patricia Ramsey, President, the college believes that education has the power to transform the lives of individuals positively and is the right of all individuals in the pursuit of self-actualisation. Consequently, the college's mission is to develop and maintain high quality, professional, career-oriented undergraduate degree programs. Their rigorous curriculum, new degree programs and ever-expanding, award-winning faculty produces global citizens who are equipped for high-quality jobs. The college's diverse student body is presented with opportunities and new worlds through the Center for Black Literature, the Caribbean Research Center, the Center for Law and Social Justice and The DuBois Bunche Center for Social Policy.

Conference Programme Schedule

The following is a tentative programme schedule for this conference:

Monday, 20 April 2026 (In-person)

8.30 am: Conference registration for **Day-1**

9.00 am to 5:00 pm: Conference sessions

Tuesday, 21 April 2026 (Online only)

8.30 am: conference registration for **Day-2**

9.00 am to 5:00 pm: Conference sessions

The above dates are fixed, but the session schedule is likely to change based on expert speakers' availability and accepted proposals for various activities. Conference schedule will be declared one month before the conference.

Certificate of Participation

Each registered participant who attends the conference virtually or Face to Face shall be awarded a Certificate of Participation/contribution. The certificate will have all the co-authors' names with a clear indication as to who has presented.

Submission Categories

Authors are invited to submit their original research papers, case studies, reviews, work in progress, reports, abstracts, students' papers, or research proposals.

Submissions and Double Blind Review Process

Each of the submissions shall go through the process of double-blind review. Reviewers will evaluate each work based on (a) Quality of the research; (b) Contribution and big picture significance of the work to the field of management; and (c) Interest of the topic to the audience (d) Relevance of the submission to the theme and sub-topics of the conference.



Key dates & Deadlines

- * **Deadline for submission of manuscripts:** 20th February 2026
- * **Deadline for workshop proposal submission:** 20th February 2026
- * **Communicating the decision regarding acceptance/revision/rejection to the author(s):** within 2 weeks post-submission
- * **Deadline for final submission (Abstract/Full paper):** 20th of March 2026
- * **Deadline for Conference registration payment:** The date of the final submission
- * **Conference dates:** 20-21 April 2026

Registration Fee

At least one of the authors(s) of the accepted paper **MUST** register for the conference to have their output included in the Conference Proceedings. The participant(s) who register before receiving the decision regarding "Acceptance" of their Extended Abstracts are not guaranteed that their submissions shall be accepted. Participants who wish to attend the conference but are not submitting any output must also register. The registration fee is as follows:

#	Registration Type	Early Bird Registration Fee (Until 20 Feb, 2026)	Standard Registration Fee (After 20 Feb, 2026 to 20 Mar, 2026)
1	Author's Conference Fee (In-person)	£ 390	£ 430
2	Author's Conference Fee (online)	£ 350	£ 375
3	Observer's Conference Fee (In-person)	£ 350	£ 375
4	Observer's Conference Fee (Online)	£ 250	£ 300

*Currency in Great Britain Pounds (GBP)

Registration for Students (10% discounts): Kindly note that the student fee is applicable only for full-time doctoral / master/bachelors students. This is NOT applicable for any part-time doctoral / master student. Participants who are part-time doctoral / master students will not get any student concession and will have to pay the regular registration fee. At the time of the registration and fee payment, full-time students must send an e-mail with evidence of their full-time studentship, including an identity card and a certificate from the director.

To get a concessional fee as a student, the participant must send an e-mail to a **CBER Admin**:

- (i) Scanned identity card as a student
- (ii) Scanned letter on the letterhead signed by the Programme Leader / Head of the Department or concerned authority at the university stating clearly that the participant is a full-time student in a programme.

Payment for Registration Fee

Online Payment Method

CBER uses Credit Card and PayPal Merchant Services for online payment. We prefer the online payment method via **Credit Card** online transaction as it is easy, quicker and is the most protected online payment systems as it uses modern encrypted security measure.

Other Payment Methods:

Overseas contributors may transfer the registration fee directly to the Bank Account as below:

Centre for Business & Economic Research

HSBC Bank

235 Northolt Road,

Harrow,

Middlesex HA2 8HP

The United Kingdom.

Account No: 71468979

Sort Code: 40-42-28

SWIFT Code: HBUKGB4155J

IBAN No: GB46HBUK40422871468979

The registration fee includes the Conference abstract Proceedings, online publication of the proceedings (Full-text articles only), conference entry to all sessions, Conference Program Brochure, Certificate of contribution (digital copy).

Important: After making the payment of your registration fee, please e-mail to info@cberuk.com with the following details:

1. Conference reference number
2. Your full name
3. Paper title (if submitted and accepted)
4. Date of your fee payment
5. Amount of your fee payment
6. Mode of your fee payment (i.e., Credit Card, PayPal or Direct Bank Transfer)
7. Scanned copy of your Payment Confirmation with reference number



GENERAL INFORMATION

1. **Presentation timing:** A full paper is normally allocated approximately 12 minutes for presentation followed by 3 minutes for questions from the audience. The track chair will keep an eye on time and will alert you when time is beginning to run short by holding up cards indicating '3', '2' and '1' – these being the number of minutes that you have remaining. Please note that we actively encourage constructive questions from the audience. Your co-operation in bringing your presentation to a close within the time specified is essential to the smooth running of the conference and to be fair to other presenters.
2. **Presentation equipment:** Presentation rooms will be equipped with a laptop and projector screen for PowerPoint presentations.
3. **Presentation:** The CBER requests that PowerPoint presentations be sent in good time so that they can be uploaded onto the conference laptop. Please email these with your name and the conference that you are due to present at: info@cberuk.com. It is also a sensible precaution to make sure that you hold a copy of your presentation with you. Any presentation that has not been submitted on time will not be pre-loaded and remain the responsibility of the presenter. Please note that for the virtual mode of presentation, the PPT slides will be shared via the Zoom screen share option by the presenter.
4. **Conference Tracks/sessions:** The CBER works assiduously to organise papers to fit in with the relevant tracks. There are occasions when individual authors request that papers be moved to fit in with flights etc. Please note that whilst the CBER will do its level best to accommodate individual needs, it must be mindful of ensuring that the conference is balanced and appropriately structured.
5. **Punctuality:** As this is a Hybrid conference, please ensure that you join your session promptly and are aware of the order of speakers from the conference proceedings. Please allow extra time to join online and wait for the session to start.
6. **Conference Proceedings:** The conference proceedings- "The Business & Management Review" is open access proceedings which means that all content is freely available without charge to the user or his/her Institution. Users are allowed to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of the articles in the conference proceedings without asking prior permission from the publisher or the author. CBER is committed to publishing all full-text articles that were accepted for the conference (these will be available online within 4 weeks from the conference dates). However, all abstracts are included in the abstracts proceedings."
7. **Internet access/Wi-fi:** For Wi-fi access please ask at the conference desk who will be happy to assist you
8. **Photography:** Photographs will be taken at the conference by an official photographer or CBER team member; such photographs may be used in post-conference publicity and on future marketing materials. A link will be sent to all participants once these photos are uploaded.
9. **Conduct:** In the event of inappropriate behaviour by any delegate in the view of the Organiser or the conference venue operator, the delegate may be refused entry or asked to leave and excluded from the conference without a refund or compensation.
10. **Recording:** The session or part of the session will be recorded and used for internal and external purposes. The edited version of the video will be uploaded via the relevant YouTube Channel

11. **Social media Live Streaming:** We may Livestream the whole or part of the session for external viewers.
12. **Certificate of Participation:** Each registered participant who participates in the conference shall be awarded a **Certificate of Contribution** worth 15 CPD points. The certificate will have the name of each author with a clear indication of who has presented.
13. **Authorship:** Presenters have a moral obligation to acknowledge all contributions to their paper, both orally at the time of presentation and by referencing authors in papers submitted to the conference.
14. **Republishing a Presentation:** Authors are free to publish their presentations elsewhere without fear of copyright problems and permission from the CBER
15. **Abstract-Only Publications:** Authors often elect to publish only the abstract of their presentation in the conference proceedings. This effectively gives the author until the conference date to complete the paper. This also means that the author is free to submit the paper to another journal without copyright consequences. This is possible because the paper has never been published elsewhere since only the abstract was published in the proceedings. CBER does not copyright the proceedings, which means that authors are still free to do as they see fit with the paper. Consequently, authors can claim academic credit for a conference presentation, a refereed conference proceedings publication, and possibly a journal publication from one piece of research. Please note that only the full-text papers are published in the online conference proceedings.
16. **Dress Code:** Lounge suits or whatever you feel most comfortable in.

Terms and Conditions for CBER Conferences

1. **Fees:** All attendance fee must be prepaid and must be received in pound sterling.
2. **Visa Requirements:** It is important to note that some delegates may require a visa and if so, applying for one is their sole responsibility. CBER is happy to furnish via applicants with a letter if requested in good time.
3. **Substitutions:** After the deadline of conference cancellation no refund can be made, however, conference fees can be transferred to a substitute delegate and Substitute delegates are welcome at any time. Just let us know who they are, and who they are replacing.
4. **Access Requirements:** We would like all our delegates to fully participate in the conference so please let us know if you have any special access requirements.
5. **Hotel accommodation:** This is not included. An accommodation booking form, listing a range of hotels close to the venue, will be included with the confirmation of your place at the conference.
6. **Special Offers and Discounts:** Early bird Discounts are available as per the pricing structure. CBER is also happy to offer a discount of 10% to any individual who has previously attended any of its conferences. Please be sure to notify us if you believe that you are eligible for such a discount.
7. **Photography:** Photographs will be taken at the conference by an official photographer or an CBER team member; such photographs may be used in post-conference publicity and on future marketing materials. By completing and submitting the Booking Form, the customer consents to the official photographer taking such photographs, which may feature the delegate.
8. **Conduct:** In the event of inappropriate behaviour by any delegate in the view of the Organiser or the conference venue operator, the delegate may be refused entry or asked to leave and excluded from the conference without refund or compensation.
9. **Insurance:** Delegates are responsible for taking appropriate insurance (including travel) cover in connection with their attendance at the Conference. The Organisers are not responsible for the safety of any property of the Company or Delegate, or for its loss, damage or destruction or for any loss or damage sustained by the Company or the Delegate, in each case for any reason whatsoever. No responsibility can be accepted by the Organisers for any consequences arising from postponement or abandonment of the Conference.
10. **Important:** By registering for and/or attending the conference, all delegates agree to be bound by, and comply with, these Terms and Conditions. It is the delegate's responsibility to read and understand these Terms and Conditions.
11. **Payment & Cancellation:** Once a paper has been submitted and accepted for inclusion in the Conference proceedings there is no option to cancel and collect back the fees. For further details please visit www.cberuk.com and click on the T&Cs.

Useful links:

Websites:

- (1) Conference Webpage: https://cberuk.com/conference_details&id=7061
- (2) CBER: www.cberuk.com
- (3) Submission guidelines

Disclaimer

This conference is subject to the terms and conditions mentioned on www.cberuk.com changing from time to time.



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