

FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE IN AFRICA IN THE DIGITAL ERA: CHALLENGES, CONSTRAINTS AND PROSPECTS

15 & 16 November 2023

Faced with the increasing crises in recent years (economic, health and financial), the economic world has been constantly wondering about strategic solutions to overcome them. Indeed, the management best practices offer an array of approaches and models that hammer on keywords such as flexibility, resilience, demarcation and value creation. In such a context, the issue of financial governance has become an acute theme.

In the meantime, the significant growth of digitalization, which is essentially based on the principle of innovation combined with numerical transformation, has prompted the development of various reflections on the theoretical foundations and key factors that influence the new development paradigm of companies and States.

Financial governance, like the digitalization of activities, faces a turbulent and constantly changing environment, characterized by increasing competition, rapid development of technologies and risks and uncertainties. This requires effective change speed that involve regular adjustments through innovative policies and strategies adapted to this new context.

Moreover, the African continent is no exception. We are witnessing hybrid realities with regard to financial governance within different organizations, companies and institutions. According to the African Development Bank¹, African countries have implemented a plan to redress socio-economic situation in their states through strategies and action plans geared towards financial governance.

Nevertheless, the leaders of African countries have been invited to proceed first to reforms; primarily those pertaining to financial governance. Accordingly, several recommendations have been made for the socio-economic development of African countries whether in the public sector, private sector, academia, and in the social and solidarity economy organizations.

The 2023 edition of the CIRMO 7 conference organized by the LAREMO research laboratory of the EST in Casablanca is expected to provide a precise diagnosis of this context. Under an African dimension, the comparative reflections, the crossed views on financial governance, its content, its contributions, the lived experiences, the illustrated cases, the implemented

¹ The 2014 and 2018 Annual Report of the African Development Bank Group.

strategies but also the constraints and the stakes to succeed in this financial governance in the digital era, are as many investigations prospected, whose results are the delimitation of progress tracks in order to raise the expected challenges.

AREAS OF INTEREST:

1. Financial governance in the private sector

- Financial governance in the light of African experiences
- Crowdfunding and financial governance mechanisms
- The financial governance of innovative companies and start-ups
- Governance of family-based businesses in Morocco: Scope and specificities
- Gendered leadership and corporate financial governance
- Financial governance and financial strategy of innovative companies
- Financial governance and the quality of financial information
- Best Practices in Corporate Financial Governance
- Accounting and financial innovation: the challenges of effective financial governance
- Market finance at the service of corporate financial governance

2. Financial governance in the public sector

- The digital transformation of accountability
- The Integrated Expenditure Management system and the State budget reform
- Financial governance of cities and sustainable urban development
- The governance of public/private partnerships in the new digital ecosystem
- Financial governance and sustainable development
- Responsibility and financial transparency: what post-covid mutations?
- Financial governance of the public sector: what current and future challenges
- Financial governance and budgetary reforms
- Financial governance and performance of public institutions
- Modern budgeting of public finances
- Public financial governance between democracy and management
- Financial governance of local counties

3. Financial governance of social and solidarity organizations

- The professionalization of the governance of Social and Solidarity Economy organizations
- Participatory governance in social and solidarity economy
- Associations' online Financial communication
- The financial governance of sports associations (clubs and federations)
- The governance of health welfare and social security organizations
- Governance of Savings and Credit cooperatives
- The Impact of good and bad financial governance on the SSE sector
- Opportunities and the new benchmarks to ease the effects of the crisis:

- challenges of financial governance
- Transformation of SSE practices in the digital era: challenges of financial governance
- Governance of organizations and social innovation
- Governance of cooperatives in Morocco: Specificities and deficiencies
- Mechanisms of financial governance in social and solidarity organizations
- Financing social and solidarity organizations: challenges and constraints

4. Financial governance of academic institutions

- The computerization of university financial services and the governance of public funds
- The new model of governance of university institutions
- The challenges of financial governance at the university schools
- Digital transformation: a lever for good financial governance of universities
- Financial governance and the new public management of universities

PAPER SUBMISSION

Researchers and practitioners who are willing to participate in this conference should submit their proposals in Arabic, French, or English.

The full paper should not exceed 20 pages (including footnotes, bibliography and figures) in Word A4 format. The tables and figures should be integrated in the text, numbered and described.

- Text: Times New Roman 12 Font. Single-spaced.
- Margins: top and bottom: 2.5 cm, right and left: 2 cm
- Title: centered, Times 14 font, bold, capitalized.
- Name(s) of author(s): centered, Times 12 font, with institution, affiliated laboratory, and email address.

Papers should be sent to the following email address: cirmo2023@estc.ma

BIBLIOGRAPHY AND REFERENCING

- Journal Article:
Author Last Name, First Name. Title." *Journal/Magazine/Newspaper Title*, Publication Information [volume, issue/number, year, pages].
- Electronic Article:
Author Last Name, First Name. "Title of Page or Article." *Title of Site*, Sponsor or Publisher [include only if different from website title or author], Date of Publication or Update Date, URL. Accessed Date.
- Book: Author Last Name, First Name. *Title*. Publisher, Year. Pages
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PUBLICATION

The selected papers presenting successful research will be published in a special issue of the REMAC journal of the LAREMO Laboratory or in book Chapters.

REGISTRATION FEES

- Scholars/researchers: 800.00 MAD / 80 Euros
- Doctoral students: 300.00 MAD / 30 Euros
- Practitioners: 1000.00 MAD / 100 Euros.
- Gala dinner: 250 MAD (Optional)/ 25 Euros.

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AGENDA

- **09 April 2023:** Proposal submission deadline (Abstract: 300 words + keywords) by filling in the following form:
<https://forms.gle/EGrDzP33SHj2KySY9>
- **23 April 2023 :** Notification of acceptance
- **25 Juin 2023 :** Full text submission
- **10 September 2023 :** Review decisions returned
- **01 October 2023:** Final paper submission and fee payment.

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