CALL FOR PAPERS

CENTRE FOR RESEARCH ON FINANCIAL MARKETS AND POLICY®

15th Annual Banking Research Conference 2026

September 17-18 Nairobi, Kenya

Theme: *Banking Amidst Macroeconomic Policy Reforms: Emerging Risks and Opportunities*

The Kenya Bankers Association (KBA) Centre for Research on Financial Markets and Policy® will hold the 15th Annual Banking Research Conference from 17th to 18th September 2026, in Nairobi, Kenya. This year's theme is *Banking Amidst Macroeconomic Policy Reforms: Emerging Risks and Opportunities.*

Emerging far-reaching reforms in both fiscal and monetary policies have direct implications for the banking sector's role in credit allocation, identification and management of risk. On the fiscal side are developing innovative fiscal policy reforms aimed at enhancing Government's liability management, positioning public debt on a sustainable path, while seeking to avoid crowding out of the private sector credit. On the monetary policy front are reforms in credit pricing seeking to enhance transmission of monetary policy, promote transparency and support credit growth to all segments. Understanding how these developments impact banking and the economy at large is essential for assessing pathways for sustainable economic growth and development.

The 2026 Annual Banking Research Conference seeks to bring together researchers, policymakers and industry stakeholders to discuss critical emerging issues and generate implementable policy recommendations.

The KBA Centre for Research on Financial Markets and Policy® therefore invites high quality analytical and empirical work on topics including, but not limited to, the following three sub-thematic areas:

Fiscal policy reforms
Optimal fiscal policy debt thresholds, tax policy reforms, achieving and sustaining fiscal consolidation, and optimal mix between domestic and external borrowing.

Monetary Policy and Bank credit pricing dynamics
Optimal Central Bank Rate estimation following Taylor rule and /or its variants, implications of industry transition to risk-based credit pricing on bank credit growth, stability, competition schemes, digitization, credit access, sectoral peculiarities, options for enhancing bank financing, non-performing loans management schemes and credit derisking mechanisms.

Risk identification and Management
Identification and measurement of emerging risks that affect banking, including the assessment of climate-related risks, implications of the risks on banking and economic resilience, and transition pathways towards stability.

Methodological Session
Showcasing innovative and practical solutions to prevailing industry challenges.

An honorarium will be given for each paper selected for the conference. The conference will be hosted both physically and virtually, with all authors required to present their work in person at the conference venue. All conference papers will be reviewed for possible publication on the KBA Working Paper Series (available at http://www.kba.co.ke/research-center/working-paper-series) which is also hosted on Econstor Repository (https://www.econstor.eu/handle/10419/249501).

REQUIREMENTS

Interested researchers should submit a research proposal to **research@kba.co.ke**, focusing on either one or a number of the sub-thematic areas.

Each proposal should not be more than five pages and should include a 300 - 500 word abstract, a clear motivation, key hypotheses to be tested and a brief description of the research methodology.

KEY DATES

17 April 2026	Deadline for submission of a research proposal
15 May 2026	Authors notification of submission outcome.
30 June 2026	The full research papers and policy briefs completed by the authors and submitted to KBA Centre for Research on Financial Markets and Policy®
August 2026	Technical Review Workshop (Virtual /in-person)
17-18 September 2026	15th Annual Banking Research Conference