



## CALL FOR PAPERS

### **Theme: Banking and Economic Infrastructure Development – Kenya's Experience and Prospects**

As a continuation of the theme of "Putting Banking at the Centre of the Economy's Growth," the KBA Centre on Financial Markets and Policy® will this year put a spotlight on banking and economic infrastructure development in the context of Kenya. This focus is conceptually underpinned by the seminal *World Development Report 1994* on "Infrastructure for Development" in which strong private sector participation in infrastructure investment was anticipated.

The private sector's foray into investment in infrastructure in Kenya, albeit arguably lower than government investment, is now more visible. The anticipation is that the legal framework under the Public Private Partnership (PPP) – the *Public Private Partnership Act, 2013* – seeks to allow for increased private sector participation in infrastructure provision. The financing needs for such investments will correspondingly increase. Therefore the role of the banking industry becomes critical, hence the motivation of this year's research conference focus.

The research papers seeking to address this focus area will need to align themselves to any one of the following key areas:

- The space of commercial banks with regard to infrastructure financing – collaboration and partnership models between commercial banks and Development Finance institutions (DFIDs); potential syndication by banks; and participation in the government infrastructural bond programmes.
- Banking industry's capacity – financial and/or skills capacity in infrastructure financing.
- Economic infrastructure-agricultural productivity nexus – the extent to which banks can support agriculture-linked infrastructure complementary to the government's investments such as dams and irrigation canal.

Given that increased investments in infrastructure will have environmental implications, the studies to be undertaken should take into account **green economy (green growth)** considerations as a key component of the analytical framework.

The KBA Centre on Financial Markets and Policy® therefore, wishes to take this opportunity to invite you to submit a proposal for the paper to be presented in the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Kenya Bankers Association Banking conference to be held in September 2015. The emphasis of the conference will be on high-quality research on the theme motivated above, with a clear balance between theory and application, and policy relevance of the research findings.

The Kenya Bankers Association will give a honorarium for each paper selected for the conference. Further, all conference papers will be reviewed for possible publication on the KBA centre on financial markets and policy® Working Paper Series ([www.kba.co.ke/workingpaperseries/](http://www.kba.co.ke/workingpaperseries/))

#### **Requirements**

1. Researchers should submit a written research proposal to the KBA. All proposals should be strongly aligned to the above motivated theme. **"Banking and Economic Infrastructure Development – Kenya's Experience and Prospects"**. Each proposal should not be more than three pages.
2. The research area can focus on either *one of the areas outlined or bring out dimensions of linkages to other areas in the theme line*.
3. The proposal should include a research abstract that outlines:
  - the motivation of the study;
  - key hypotheses to be tested; and
  - research methodology.
4. A brief biography of the researcher/ research team including their professional qualifications and research experience is required.

#### **Key Dates 2013**

3rd April 2015	Deadline to submit research proposal to KBA
17th April 2015	Selection of research papers and notification of authors
20th July 2015	The full research papers completed by the authors and submitted to KBA Centre of Research on Financial Markets and Policy®
August 2015	Technical Review workshop
September 2015	4th Annual KBA Banking Research Conference

#### **Submissions**

Researchers who wish to submit their research proposals can do so via the following:

Email: [research@kba.co.ke](mailto:research@kba.co.ke)

Mail: Attention to - The Director, KBA Centre for Research on Financial Markets and Policy; 13th Floor, International House; P.O Box 73100 - 00200, Nairobi