

# CALL FOR RESEARCH PAPERS: W&RSETA RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2022



## *“Building wholesale and retail sector competitiveness through digitisation for effective skills development”*

The W&RSETA invites its stakeholders (trade unions and employers), academics from universities, HETs, TVET colleges, and professional bodies to submit research papers for presentation and discussion at the inaugural Wholesale and Retail SETA Research Conference in May 2022.

### Sub-themes:

- Digitisation for employment in the Wholesale and Retail Sector – A New Era
- Building competitiveness through a disruptive economy
- Emerging skills set requirements and effective ways to implement skills development interventions

### 1. Background

As part of its mandate, the W&RSETA must conduct research that should inform the strategic direction of the organisation on skills planning, sector priorities, learning interventions, and management thereof, and to continuously improve skills development interventions across the Wholesale and Retail Sector. The W&RSETA is responsible for conducting research for the sector; provide and disseminate key outcomes, findings, and recommendations of research studies. The intelligence from the various research studies enable the SETA to attain further insights position itself to address labour market challenges.

### 2. Objective

The W&RSETA invites its stakeholders (trade unions and employers), academics from universities, HETs, TVET colleges, and professional bodies to submit research papers for presentation and discussion at the inaugural Wholesale and Retail SETA Research Conference in May 2022.

### SUBMISSION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

- The research paper must be aligned to the conference theme: *Building Wholesale and Retail Sector competitiveness through digitisation for effective skills development*.
- Submission must be made in a form of an abstract.
- Concepts and underlying principles should be emphasised, with sufficient background information to orient any reader who is not a specialist in the particular subject area.
- The research paper must not be older than five (5) years.
- The papers will be evaluated and the authors will be required to provide a summative presentation for discussion at the Research Conference. The author(s) are required to deliver a **15-minute** presentation of their paper during the Research Conference and participate in a 10-minute discussion.
- The closing date for submission of research papers is **31 March 2022** and no papers will be accepted after the closing date. Submissions must be made to Mxolisi Maphakela at [mmphakela@wrseta.org.za](mailto:mmphakela@wrseta.org.za)
- The selection panel will consider the submission to ensure that the proposed submissions are relevant to the theme of the Research Conference.

**NB: W&RSETA funded Masters and PhD beneficiaries are encouraged to make submissions.**

For further information or queries please contact Mr. Mxolisi Maphakela at [mmphakela@wrseta.org.za](mailto:mmphakela@wrseta.org.za)