



CALL FOR PANEL DISCUSSION PROPOSALS

IFIP-UNIVEN-CSIR International Conference in Cybersecurity

11 – 12 December 2025

CSIR ICC, Pretoria, South Africa

As cyber threats grow in complexity and scale, cybersecurity has become a critical component of cyber resilience. No individual, organisation, or nation is entirely immune to attacks. The University of Venda (UNIVEN) and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) are jointly organizing this conference under the auspices of the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP).

The conference aims to address the main cybersecurity challenges, including human factors, AI-driven cyberattacks, ransomware, and nation-state threats. It will also explore advanced defence mechanisms such as quantum security, blockchain, and zero-trust models to secure critical infrastructure, enhance cyber resilience, and leverage AI and machine learning for threat detection and automation.

Practitioners, researchers, policymakers, and professionals from academia, industry, and government are invited to submit papers and/or propose panel discussions shaping the future of cybersecurity. All presentations and panel discussions will be in **English**.

The theme for the IFIP-UNIVEN-CSIR International Conference in Cybersecurity is: *“Advancing innovative cybersecurity solutions and approaches to protect digital ecosystems.”* We invite submissions on a broad range of subthemes, including but not limited to:

- Emerging Cyber Threats and Trends
- Critical Infrastructure Security
- Cyber Resilience and Risk Management
- AI and Machine Learning in Cybersecurity
- Cybersecurity Policy and Compliance
- Human Factors and Social Engineering
- Cybersecurity in Peace and War
- Cyber Warfare
- Future of Cyber Defence

Conference Format

The two-day conference will be held in a hybrid format, allowing both in-person and virtual participation. The program will include paper presentations, panel discussions, keynote addresses, and interactive sessions to foster knowledge exchange and networking.

Panel Discussion Proposals

Panel discussion proposals should be 300-500 words long, outlining the key discussion points relevant to the conference theme. The acceptance of the panel discussion proposal will be based on relevance to the conference theme, originality and innovation, and contribution to the field.

Submission, Acceptance and Publication Process

- Panel discussion proposals must be written in English and submitted via EasyChair for a **peer review** process.
- **Accepted proposals require at least one author to register.**
- Delegates will receive an electronic set of proceedings.

Important Dates

- Panel Discussion Proposal Submission Deadline: **30 July 2025)**
- Notification of Panel Discussion Acceptance: **30 August 2025**
- Author Registration Deadline: **23 September 2025**

For more information, visit the conference website (<https://ifip-univen-icc.csir.co.za/>).

Program Chairs

Dr. Jabu Mtsweni:	CSIR, South Africa
Prof. Modimowabarwa Kanyane:	University of Venda, South Africa