MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

AHMED DRAÏA UNIVERSITY - ADRAR - ALGERIA

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FACULTY OF ECONOMIC, COMMERCIAL, AND MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

IN COLLABORATION WITH:

THE ARAB-AFRICAN CENTER FOR INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT (CAAID)

Within the framework of the Research Training Project (PRFU):
Mechanisms for Activating Feasibility Studies Based on Objectives
for Construction Projects to Support Local Development in Southern Algeria

AND IN COORDINATION WITH:

THE LABORATORY OF ALGERIAN-AFRICAN ECONOMIC INTEGRATION - ADRAR UNIVERSITY

Organize: The International Conference on:

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS: BETWEEN RESPONDING TO SPATIAL DEVELOPMENT REQUIREMENTS AND THE NEEDS FOR ENHANCING FOREIGN TRADE

The Algerian Border Areas as a Model

Held in Person and Online — **At the University of Adrar on February 1–2, 2027**



Conference Bodies

Honorary President of the Conference: Prof. Benamar Mohammed ElAmine – Rector of Adrar University

Conference Committees

General Supervision:

Prof. Mohamed Mediani
Dean of the Faculty of Economic, Commercial and Management Sciences

Mr. Amine Boutalbi
Director of the Arab-African Center for Investment and Development (CAAID)

Conference Chairperson: Prof. M'hammed Bendine – Head of the Research Project
Conference Coordinator: Prof. Abdelkrim Messaoudi – Ahmed Draïa University, Adrar
Scientific Committee Chairperson: Prof. Latifa Lemteouch – Ahmed Draïa University, Adrar
Organizing Committee Chairperson: Dr. Abdessalam Belbali – Ahmed Draïa University, Adrar

Preamble of the Conference

Infrastructure projects represent one of the most important development mechanisms for countries، due to their positive impact on economies، both at the macroeconomic level by increasing national income، encouraging both domestic and foreign investment، and boosting growth rates. They also support consumption، purchasing power، and job creation، or through improving the productivity of the institutions tasked with implementing these projects and achieving added value. Therefore، countries، especially industrial ones، have been keen to invest in such projects as they are one of the key tools to drive the economy. They have allocated significant financial resources to them and utilized many modern technologies and techniques، which have enabled them to generate considerable financial revenues.

Many economic theorists around the world agree that liberalizing foreign trade is a strong and important catalyst for economic growth and increased integration with the global economy. However، this activity often encounters several obstacles that weaken its economic contribution، the most important of which is the weakness of the infrastructure that facilitates access to foreign markets، particularly highways، airports، railways، and other related services. In this context، infrastructure projects—not only in their role of supporting various local economic activities—are considered one of the key mechanisms for enhancing foreign trade flows، increasing the level of openness of countries to the outside world، and stimulating infrastructure investments. Today، the decision-making process of companies in choosing their locations increasingly depends on the ease of access to well-maintained new roads، equipped with vital facilities to ensure the efficient and effective conduct of trade، commercial exchange، and transportation activities.

Countries have sought to keep up with global trends and take advantage of the opportunities provided by the construction sector، particularly with the increase in revenue due to the rise in energy resource prices since the beginning of the third millennium. This led to economic openness and an expansion of investments and construction projects (housing، energy delivery networks، roads، railways، dams، and other large-scale projects). However، this increase in the number and size of projects over a short period of time has not met the desired expectations، despite the positive results achieved، which have reflected on improving some overall performance indicators and enhancing non-hydrocarbon exports. In addition to emerging administrative problems and deviations، such as poor project quality، particularly regarding technical aspects or cost management and timelines، which often exceed the planned and studied targets، many projects have not prioritized achieving the intended developmental goals locally—after their exploitation—through studying their feasibility and their economic، social، and environmental impacts on development، particularly in the areas where they were implemented. The optimal selection of project locations، targeting regions to be upgraded، such as border areas that serve as gateways to external markets، was also often overlooked.

Thus، there is an urgent need today to enhance infrastructure in a way that supports local development initiatives. At the same time، it is necessary to intensify new regional initiatives for joint construction، such as the "Belt and Road" project، which is one of the most important models for strengthening African integration based on the principle of balanced partnership and shared benefits. This endeavor aligns with the goals of the African Agenda for Development 2063، particularly the continent's desire to build strong، interconnected، high-quality infrastructure، arising from the need to push for a strategic orientation toward unity and continental integration to optimally meet the needs and priorities of African countries. Therefore، it became essential for Algeria، within its efforts to link national infrastructure with neighboring countries and the African hinterland، to emphasize strengthening the connectivity for which the initiative was created. This would complement many structural regional projects initiated by Algeria، such as the Trans-Saharan Road، the Trans-Saharan Fiber Optic Network to develop regional digital economies in the Sahel region، the Trans-Saharan Gas Pipeline linking Nigeria، Algeria، and Europe، as well as the development of the national railway transport network، which could extend to neighboring countries from various border regions. All of these initiatives are aimed at enhancing regional integration and increasing the level of trade exchanges.

African interconnection today requires the establishment of numerous projects aimed at enhancing the connectivity between African infrastructures. The weakness of this integration is largely due to deficiencies in fundamental logistics، such as building railways، constructing ports and airports، and opening new transport and shipping routes by land، sea، and air. Some government estimates suggest that the lack of infrastructure in Africa continues to reduce growth levels by about 2 percent and productivity by approximately 40 percent.

Therefore، it is essential to consider mechanisms to prioritize infrastructure projects that address the urgent needs of local development، particularly in areas targeted for support، such as remote southern regions and border areas، by evaluating their economic and social feasibility. These mechanisms should also focus on addressing infrastructure bottlenecks to activate trade exchange and enhance regional integration، while adopting an effective governance system that helps improve performance، manage، and monitor projects، providing an organizational framework for managing these projects through plans، processes، policies، rules، and regulations. This would allow for the delivery of projects within the specified timelines and approved budgets.

In light of the above، the main problematic of the conference is formulated as follows: How can a strategic vision be adopted to improve the feasibility of investment in infrastructure projects، taking into account spatial development priorities، in a way that contributes to stimulating exchange and foreign partnerships?

Conference Objectives:

The organizers of the conference from the University of Adrar and the Arab-African Center for Investment and Development (CAAID) seek to bring together experts، researchers، and specialists (academics and professionals) for research، enrichment، and the exchange of experiences and knowledge in order to achieve the following objectives:

_ Present various theoretical approaches to investment in infrastructure projects and study their feasibility concerning local and national development.

_ Highlight the importance of infrastructure projects in stimulating economic growth and driving spatial development، especially in remote and border regions.

_ Highlight the relationship between investment in infrastructure projects and the development of foreign trade.

_ Conduct a serious analysis and evaluation of the current reliance on feasibility studies for investment in infrastructure projects (economic، social، environmental، etc.)، focusing on long-term objectives to support spatial development and enhance foreign trade.

_ Examine the state of investment in infrastructure projects in Algerian border areas and crossing points، identifying key challenges and future prospects.

_ Investigate ways to adopt an effective governance system for selecting and managing infrastructure projects، aiming to positively impact spatial development and enhance foreign exchange and partnerships.

_ Present and evaluate various national، regional، and international experiences to support and promote investment in infrastructure projects and their feasibility studies to achieve local development goals، enhance intra-regional exchange، and strengthen regional integration

Topics of conférence:

* Topic 1: Theoretical Foundations of Investment in Infrastructure Projects.
* Topic 2: Developmental Dimensions of Infrastructure Investment (Economic، Social، and Environmental) and Their Role in Promoting Foreign Trade.
* Topic 3: Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Investment in Infrastructure Projects.
* Topic 4: Governance of Infrastructure Projects: Regional and Spatial Challenges.
* Topic 5: Evaluation of Feasibility Studies for Infrastructure Investment in the Southern and Border Regions of Algeria.
* Topic 6: Youth Entrepreneurship and Investment in Infrastructure Projects.
* Topic 7: Smart and Sustainable Management of Infrastructure Systems: Implications for Local Economic Activity and Intra-Regional Exchange.
* Topic 8: Prospects for Promoting Infrastructure Investment to Support Spatial Development and Strengthen Regional and International Integration: National and International Experiences.



International Conference :

Infrastructure Projects: Between Responding to Spatial Development Requirements and the Needs for Enhancing Foreign Trade

The Algerian Border Areas as a Model

Submission Guidelines

The following conditions must be met by research papers submitted to the conference:

1. Compliance with academic standards: The research must comply with the scientific publication standards commonly recognized in peer-reviewed academic forums.
2. Originality: The research must not have been previously published in a peer-reviewed journal or presented at another forum.
3. Formatting requirements: The research should be written on A4-sized paper, using the Simplified Arabic font (size 14) for papers in Arabic, and Times New Roman (size 12) for papers in French and English, with line spacing of 1 cm and 3 cm margins on all sides of the page.
4. Tables: The font size in tables should be 12 for Arabic papers and 10 for papers in other languages.
5. First page (author information): The first page of the research must include the following author information: name, academic rank, affiliated institution, email address, phone number, research title, and the relevant thematic track.
6. Languages and abstracts: The research may be written in Arabic, French, or English. It should begin with two abstracts: one in the language of the research and the other in a different language. The font size for abstracts should be 12 for Arabic and 11 for non-Arabic languages, with each abstract not exceeding 200 words.
7. Appendices, references, and footnotes: Appendices, references, and indexes must be included at the end of the research. Footnotes should be inserted automatically at the bottom of each page (with new numbering on each page), using font size 10 for Arabic and size 9 for non-Arabic languages.
8. Length: The total length of the research should not exceed 16 pages, including the author information page, references, and appendices.
9. Authorship: Research papers with more than two authors will not be accepted. For joint submissions, the participant who will present the research at the conference must be clearly indicat-

Publication of Accepted Papers

All research papers submitted to the conference will undergo peer review. Accepted papers, once revised and finalized by their authors, will be published in special issues of:

- Journal of Economic Integration – published by the Algerian-African Economic Integration Laboratory at the University of Adrar. Or in a book bearing an International Standard Book Number (ISBN).

Conference Participation Fees

1/ Participants from Outside Algeria

Participant Category	Registration Fee	Included Benefits
Professors and Researchers (On-site Participation)	100 €	Participation certificate, officially stamped conference programme, conference kit, publication in the indexed Journal of Economic Integration or in an internationally numbered book (ISBN), with access to the publication link. Accommodation for three nights, meals, coffee breaks, and sightseeing tours.
Professors, Researchers and PhD Students (Online Participation)	50 €	Participation certificate, officially stamped conference programme, publication in the Journal of Economic Integration or in an internationally numbered book (ISBN), with access to the publication link.

Submission Guidelines

Conference Participation Fees

2/ Participants from Within Algeria

Participant Category	Registration Fee	Included Benefits
Professors and Researchers from Algerian Universities (On-site Participation)	12 000 DZD	Participation certificate, officially stamped conference programme, conference kit, publication in the indexed Journal of Economic Integration or in an internationally numbered book (ISBN), with access to the publication link. Accommodation for three nights, meals, coffee breaks, and sightseeing tours.
Professors and Researchers from Algerian Universities (Online Participation)	6 000 DZD	Participation certificate, officially stamped conference programme, publication in the indexed Journal of Economic Integration or in an internationally numbered book (ISBN), with access to the publication link.
Professors from the University of Adrar (On-site Participation)	5 000 DZD	
PhD Students from Algerian Universities (Online Participation)	3 000 DZD	
PhD Students From the University of Adrar (In-person or Online Paticipation)	2 000 DZD	

Important Dates

- Deadline for submitting the full paper: January 2, 2027.
- Deadline for notifying participants of the final decision of the Scientific Committee: January 15, 2027
- Conference dates: February 1–2, 2027.

Contact Information

All research papers written in Arabic, French, or English must be submitted exclusively in Microsoft Word format (WORD) through the online registration form, accessible via the following shortened link:

https://forms.gle/fkKYAKtSLeT6jLXV6

Alternatively, by scanning the following QR code:

For inquiries or updates, please contact us via the following email address:

Infras_Projects@univ-adrar.edu.dz

Or via WhatsApp at either of the following numbers:

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You may also visit the official conference website at the following address:

https://Infrasproj.univ-adrar.edu.dz