



Università
di Catania

International Association for Quality, Innovation and Sustainability

IAQUIS is a novel initiative designed to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange among researchers, educators, practitioners, and doctoral students through quality, innovation, and sustainability to achieve societal impact. We aim to create and cultivate synergies among three crucial areas, generating fresh insights, practices, and solutions to confront contemporary challenges faced by individuals, organizations, and communities. Through fostering a culture of openness, excellence, and creativity, we aspire to advance knowledge and understanding of the complex interplay between quality, innovation, and sustainability. Our overarching ambition is to contribute to a more equitable, resilient, and sustainable future for all.

2nd IAQUIS CONFERENCE

The Transformative Edge: Integrating Innovation, Quality and Technology for Sustainable Business Ecosystems

CATANIA, Italy

SEPTEMBER 16 – 18, 2026

The objective of the 2nd IAQUIS International Conference is to stimulate and strengthen collaboration and knowledge exchange among researchers, educators, practitioners, and doctoral students from diverse countries, disciplines, and professional backgrounds. The conference aims to advance understanding of how innovation, quality, and technology can be strategically integrated to foster sustainable and resilient business ecosystems and generate meaningful societal impact.

The conference seeks to explore how organizations and institutions can navigate contemporary challenges and drive transformative change toward a more equitable and sustainable future.

Over the course of the three-day conference, participants will have the opportunity to present and discuss their research in plenary and parallel sessions, as well as engage in rich informal and convivial moments designed to encourage dialogue, networking, and the creation of new synergies.

All contributions will be united by a strong focus on the interplay between quality, innovation, sustainability, and technology. Adopting an interdisciplinary and cross-cutting perspective, the conference welcomes theoretical, empirical, and practice-oriented contributions from a wide range of fields that can offer fresh insights, innovative practices, and actionable solutions.

In addition, a pre-conference Doctoral Consortium will be organized to support doctoral students. The consortium will focus on how to develop impactful research papers, providing participants with constructive and in-depth feedback from experienced international scholars.

The 2nd IAQUIS International Conference will be held in Catania (Italy), a city rich in history, culture, and innovation, offering a vibrant and inspiring setting for scholarly exchange.

We look forward to welcoming you to Catania!

Venue

Catania is a vibrant Baroque city located on the slopes of Mount Etna, famous for its UNESCO World Heritage historic centre built in striking black lava stone.

It offers a unique mix of Roman ruins, lively street markets and a renowned culinary tradition dominated by street food and pastries.



CONFERENCE TRACK AND TOPICS

Track 1: Digital Transformation, AI, and Data for Quality & Sustainability

Focus: digital technologies, analytics, AI, Industry/Society 5.0

- Artificial Intelligence in quality system management
- Data analytics for quality management
- Digital networking in quality and sustainability
- Industry 5.0 and Society 5.0
- Role of quality management in Industry 5.0
- Society 5.0 and sustainability digital innovations
- TQM in the digital age

Track 2: Quality Management Models, Standards, and Operational Excellence

Focus: QM theory, tools, standards, performance improvement

- Evolution of Quality Management Models and Standards
- Operational Excellence (OPEX), Lean Production and Six Sigma
- Performance improvement (e.g., sustainable Lean Six Sigma, KPIs, agile sustainability)
- Risk management in quality management
- Sustainable quality management, standards and certification

Track 3: Circular Economy, Green Innovation, and Sustainable Design

Focus: circularity, eco-design, materials, production systems

- Circular Economy and sustainability
- Methodologies and tools for a Circular Economy approach

- Role of quality management in circular economy
- Innovation in sustainable product design
- Innovation, Quality, and Sustainability for Packaging
- Green chemistry

Track 4: Sustainability Strategy, ESG, and Policy Implementation

Focus: governance, reporting, SDGs, finance, systemic change

- ESG for sustainable development and Green Reporting
- Credit, banking, and financial institutions' contributions to sustainability (sustainable finance)
- Operationalization of the SDGs
- Fostering sustainable transition
- Sustainability and energy transition

Track 5: Supply Chains, Agriculture, and Industrial Ecosystems

Focus: production networks, logistics, agriculture, ecosystems

- Sustainable Supply Chain Management, Green Supply Chain and quality
- Precision farming for quality and sustainability
- Service ecosystem transformation

Track 6: Consumers, Society, and Social Sustainability

Focus: consumption, behavior, social impact, LCA

- Consumer behaviour for quality improvement innovation and/or sustainability
- Sustainable consumption and consumer
- Social LCA for a quality approach

Track 7: Leadership, Culture, and Organizational Transformation

Focus: human factor, leadership, organizational change

- Quality culture, leadership, and human factor in quality management
- Sustainable leadership and management change
- Sustainable organization
- Multi-stakeholder dialogue for sustainable transformation
- Disruption and transformation through quality and sustainability

Track 8: Quality Management in Services, CSR, and Emerging Markets

Focus: services, CSR, contextual and regional perspectives

- Quality management in service industries
- Quality, innovation and corporate social responsibility
- Sustainable quality management in emerging markets
- Integration between quality and sustainability

The contributions may be of disciplinary, multidisciplinary or inter-disciplinary character. Also, we welcome papers of conceptual, empirical and practical characters.

IAQUIS Membership

Conference fees are aligned with IAQUIS membership.

Participants are advised to complete IAQUIS membership **prior to paying the conference registration fee.**

Conference Registration fee

IMPORTANT:

- The registration fees for the IAQUIS and AISME conferences **should be considered formally separate.**
- By becoming an **AISME member** through payment of the membership fee, you automatically obtain IAQUIS membership as well, **but not viceversa.**

IAQUIS Members

Participant	For IAQUIS conference		Discounted IAQUIS Conference Fee (for those also paying the AISME conference fee)*	
	Early-bird Fee until 15 th of June, 2026	Regular Fee	Early-bird Fee until 15 th of June, 2026	Regular Fee
Practitioner/Professor	€ 590,00	€ 690,00	€ 540,00	€ 640,00
PhD Student	€ 390,00	€ 490,00	€ 340,00	€ 440,00
Accompanying Person**	€ 250,00			

*For AISME fees, please consult the following link: [Call for paper AISME 2026](#)

**The accompanying person fee includes dinners and transfer. We could also offer a specific program of visits and tours for accompanying persons, providing an additional price.

NOT IAQUIS Members

	For IAQUIS conference		Discounted IAQUIS Conference Fee (for those also paying the AISME conference fee)*	
Participant	Early-bird Fee until 15 th of June, 2026	Regular Fee	Early-bird Fee until 15 th of June, 2026	Regular Fee
Practitioner/Professor	€ 660,00	€ 760,00	€ 610,00	€ 710,00
PhD Student	€ 460,00	€ 560,00	€ 410,00	€ 510,00
Accompanying Person*	€ 250,00			

*For AISME fees, please consult the following link: [Call for paper AISME 2026](#)

**The accompanying person fee includes dinners and transfer. We could also offer a specific program of visits and tours for accompanying persons, providing an additional price.

Conference fees must be paid through the official conference website

Important Dates

Abstract deadline: ~~April 15, 2026~~ **New deadline for abstract submissions: May 15, 2026**

Acceptance: ~~April 30, 2026~~ **Acceptance Deadline Extended: May 25, 2026**

Early fee registration closed: ~~May 30, 2026~~ **New Early Bird payment deadline: June 15, 2026**

Extended abstract/full paper deadline: July 15, 2026

Doctoral Consortium call for contributions - PhD project deadline: July 15, 2026

Author regular registration deadline – August 23, 2026

IMPORTANT: At least one co-author is expected to register by **15 June 2026** for the paper to be included in the conference proceedings and programme.

Scientific Committee

Alessandro Ruggieri – Professor, University of Tuscia

Maria Francesca Renzi – Professor, Roma Tre University

Manuel Francisco Suarez Barraza Ph.D. in Management Science Managing Director, Universidad de las Americas Puebla

Bo Edvardson – Professor, Karlstad University

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Carmen Jaca – Professor, Tecnun, Engineering School of Universidad de Navarra

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Local Chair

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