

# The Hadedda Sloooooow Down

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At long last the official whined down to Christmas has begun. Having said that — it seems 2017 has come and gone in a flash!

Hopefully by now you have started to ease into the holiday feeling and can enjoy this jam packed last edition of the *Hadedda* Newsletter for 2017.

Some of our IAIA KZN Committee and Student Branch members have written up fantastic articles about our most recent events and happenings — just in case you weren't there.

We also have updates on the IAIA 18 Conference front — can you believe that it is only 5 months away! There are some awesome discount, bursary and scholarship opportunities for young professionals — many of which favour locals (South Africans) under the age of 30.

To add a bit of reality (with a splash of quirkiness) to this edition, I have thrown in an article about the true impact of Christmas and some handy greening tips to help you through.

From all of us on the IAIA KZN Committee - I would like to thank you for another year of enthusiasm. We appreciate the effort that you have put into the association, and we look forward to an exciting 2018!

I would personally like to thank the Committee for all their hard work and giving up their time to make the KZN Branch what it is.

**May you all have a very Merry Christmas, and I wish you all the best for the New Year. Keep safe over this festive season.**



Please follow our twitter page and like our National and Provincial Facebook pages



# DEA Provincial Seminar



environmental affairs

Department:  
Environmental Affairs  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



edtea

Department :  
Economic Development, Tourism and  
Environmental Affairs  
PROVINCE OF KWAZULU-NATAL

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2017 the National Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) held an Integrated Environmental Management Seminar at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, Pietermaritzburg campus. The knowledge sharing workshop, chaired by Mr Malcolm Moses of the KwaZulu-Natal Department of Economic Development, Tourism and Environmental Affairs (EDTEA), was well attended by practitioners, specialists, government employees and stakeholders alike. Two sessions were held; the first was presented by Dr Zakariyya Oumar, the DEA's chief GIS specialist and addressed the National Screening Tool. The Second was presented by Ms Humbulani Muhangane and addressed the latest amendments to the National Environmental Management Act (Act 107 of 1998) (NEMA): Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) legislation (2014, as amended).

## National Screening Tool

The National Screening Tool is a GIS web-based system that provides pre-screening of environmental sensitivities. The tool follows a six-step process and includes user inputs such as the proposed type of development and location. The six-step process culminates in the tool generating a report which provides the status of the receiving environment, determines areas of least impact within a development footprint, indicates environmental sensitivities and provides a recommendation on the

specialist studies consequently required. The report is intended to be utilised during Pre-Application Meetings with the Competent Authority, and will also be attached to EIA Application Forms. As per Regulation 5 (5) of GN.R 982 of the EIA Regulations (2014, as amended), the tool will be integrated into the Co-ordinated and Integrated Permitting System (CIPS), to provide for an integrated online application system.

The tool was developed in conjunction with and input from various governmental custodians who provided various GIS and planning datasets. As new information and datasets are provided by these custodians, so they will be added to the tool.

Interesting points noted following discussions after the seminar included the following:

- \* Protocols will be listed under each specialist study recommended within the report, so as to guide the user on a way forward;
- \* The report will follow a standardised template which allows for minimal editing by the user. The user can, however, add addendums for inclusion with the report;
- \* The tool is a web based system and does not require any software and only needs internet access; and
- \* Once the CIPS system is live, the screening tool will link to it to show current and approved applications.

It was stressed by the DEA that the tool is to provide a screening / guidance function only and does not absolve the user from compliance with the NEMA (Act 107 of 1998) Regulations and associated legislation. Field verification will be required to confirm the screening report output.

The tool is presently in a user testing period and it will then become available for voluntary use in 2018, after which the system is intended to go live.

## NEMA:EIA 2014 Regulations Changes

Ms Muhangane addressed the amendments to the NEMA: EIA Regulations of 2014, which have been in effect since April 2017. It was noted that whilst the 2014 Regulations have been amended, they are not to be referenced as 2017 Regulations, but rather as the EIA Regulations of 2014 (as amended, 2017).

Ms Muhangane noted that the minister is in the process of gazetting a generic Environmental Management Programme (EMPr) for electricity provision. The generic EMPr can be amended to include project specific information.

Many thanks go out to EDTEA for facilitating the seminar, and to the DEA for providing an informative seminar that maps an exciting way forward in terms of Integrated Environmental Management.

*Imke Summers*

### Photos of the DEA Seminar on 3 November



# NEM:PAA's Nature Reserves AN UNCHARTED VOYAGE

Chapter 3 of the National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act (NEM:PAA, Act No. 57 of 2003) provides for, *inter alia*, the declaration of an area, which holds biodiversity value, as a Nature Reserve. The declaration of a Nature Reserve may be done at a national or provincial level but nonetheless unlocks a number of ecological benefits for the area and financial incentives for the landowners. However, while KZN initiated a number of declaration processes dating back to the late 2000s, many (if not most) of the processes, specifically involving private landowners, are still not finalised and ultimately remain vulnerable to challenge.

At least at a provincial level, the stagnant progression of these declarations appears to be a result of the declaration process

being entirely unknown, surprisingly complex and subject to the approval of multiple signatories at various levels of the provincial government. Each individual problem perpetuates the next. The fact that the role players are not familiar with an unknown but nonetheless complex process involving various private/public agreements, gazetted notices, title deed endorsements, management plans and principles of property law inevitably manifests in administrative inaccuracies which eventually jeopardise the validity of the process. Moreover, since signatories in the provincial government are not familiar with the process, in the absence of any engagements therewith to explain the process, important documents remain unsigned for a number of months.

In October 2017, the World Wide Fund for Nature ("WWF") together with the non-profit organisation, Conservation Outcomes, identified the concerns associated with the declaration processes in KZN. WWF undertook to fund a legal due diligence investigation as well as associated conveyancing and notarial fees for 24 declared Nature Reserves in KZN with the intention of eventually finalising the declaration processes thereof and developing systems in the province to streamline future declarations.

Although it is still too early to celebrate the success of the venture, it is heartening to see NGOs and non-profit organisations play such an important role in paving the way for Nature Reserves in KZN.

Samantha de Villiers



# IAIA18

## ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE IN SOCIETIES IN TRANSITION

The IAIA18 Conference will be held 16-19 May 2018 in Durban. For more information, visit [www.conferences.iaia.org/2018](http://www.conferences.iaia.org/2018) for all the details.

The preliminary programme has been released, as well as details of pre-conference field visits and training. The field visits look spectacular—offering opportunity to hike on the Wild Coast, visit northern KZN Nature Reserves, explore either of the Provinces World Heritage Sites, take day trip to interesting sites.

Exhibition opportunities are also now available—have a look on the website for all the options and details.

**IAIA18 registration  
is open - Early Bird  
Closes 8 February  
2018.**

### CALLING ALL YOUNG PERSONALS AND STUDENTS

#### Reduced Registration Fee

The student registration fee for the IAIA18 conference is US\$250. This is applicable for those that are still studying, as well as young professionals that were registered as a student within the past 2 years. A proof of student registration/records is all that is needed to support qualifying for the student rate.

#### Opportunities

Students are invited to take up the once in a lifetime opportunity of being a room monitor at IAIA18. Students will be scheduled on a first come first serve basis by the international coordinators.

#### IAIA18 Rita Hamm Scholarship

**Application deadline: 18 December 2017**

IAIA is pleased to offer the Rita R. Hamm IA Excellence Scholarship in honor of the legacy that IAIA's former CEO has left on the organization and the field of impact assessment. One scholarship is offered in conjunction with each annual IAIA conference, allowing a young practitioner in the region of the host country to attend. Applicants must have an accepted abstract for IAIA18 to be eligible.

#### Young Professionals Bursary

**Application deadline: March 2018**

For each annual conference, typically up to 15 bursaries are given to young professionals in the form of waived registration fees. For IAIA18, up to 40 bursaries will be granted. Recipients are expected to cover all other costs associated with attending the conference. It is IAIA's hope that these bursaries will help more young professionals from lower income economies attend our premier annual event.

Visit the IAIA18 conference website for more information on how to apply for these various opportunities.



# IAIA18

**DURBAN SOUTH AFRICA**

38th Annual Conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment  
16-19 May 2018 | Durban International Convention Center | Durban, South Africa

# I'm Dreaming of a Green Christmas



All is not so merry and bright when you do a little digging into the impact of Christmas on the environment. But to avoiding dampening the festive spirit — these facts are softened with some cool tips and tricks to lessen the cost — both on the environment and the wallet. So round up the troops and get cracking on some of these funky A to Z green Christmas tips (with some Alphabet letters missing).

This article has been extracted from a British article in The Mail and Guardian, written by Jessica Aldred.

## A is for artificial trees

These are not necessarily greener - although they last for longer, they are made from plastic, not recycleable or from a renewable source and have probably been shipped great distances. There are also question marks over where they are made and the labour used. Real trees also help to remove carbon from the atmosphere while they are growing (more on real trees below under C).

## B is for batteries

New gifts at Christmas often mean that households go through a lot of batteries. Batteries contain toxic chemicals, do not biodegrade and are difficult to recycle. As an alternative, use rechargeable batteries or try the new AA size USB rechargeable batteries. By opening the cap and plugging into a USB connector, you can recharge them pretty much anywhere.

## C is for:

**Candles** - Paraffin candles are made from petroleum residue and are no good for your health or for the environment. Candles made from soy, beeswax or natural vegetable-based wax are more eco-friendly because they biodegrade and are smoke-free.

**Cards** - Can you send an e-card instead? Purchase recycled or charity cards or cut up last year's and re-use them?

**Compost** - Compost all your food peelings or get a wormery to help break down the vegetable food waste into rich soil nutrition.

**Clothes** - Over 80,000 tonnes of old clothes will be thrown away this Christmas. So if you do get a new wardrobe, make sure you donate your old clothes to a local charity shop.

**Christmas trees** - Real trees are the more eco-friendly choice, as long as you consider where and how they have been grown.

Make sure you get one from a sustainable source.

Even better—you could also choose a tree with roots so that it can be replanted.

There are all kinds of Christmas tree alternatives too — a tree made out of recycled cardboard or reclaimed/off cut planks are not only funky, but can be easily stored away — ready and waiting for next Christmas .

## D is for:

**Decorations** - Use recycled decorations - use CDs and juice cartons to make your tree sparkle. Or decorate your tree with products that are fairly traded and ethically sourced.

There are endless ideas online so have a quick Google and you are sure to find some you like.

## Defrost your freezer before Christmas

- It will work more efficiently and create more space to store leftover food, so that it doesn't go to waste.

## E is for eco-bags

Use a cotton shopper bag instead of all that plastic.

## F is for food shopping

By the time the ingredients that make up the average British Christmas dinner arrive on our plates, they have travelled a combined distance of 49,000 miles. Turkeys from Europe, vegetables from Africa, wine from the southern hemisphere, cranberries from America - the turkey and trimmings add up to the equivalent of 6,000 car trips around the world, new research from the University of Manchester has found.

Buy an organic turkey. Ten million turkeys are eaten every Christmas, so try to make sure it has been reared in humane conditions.

Buy local or buy less. Produce bought locally means you will be

supporting small suppliers and the local community, while minimising your carbon footprint. Shop at a local farmers' market, or try growing some of your own vegetables where possible.

Buy your fruit and vegetables loose and ditch all that wasteful plastic packaging. Make sure the goods that are packaged are made from recycled materials.

Buy drinks in bigger bottles rather than small ones. One large bottle generates less waste than several smaller ones.

Try to avoid serving people with paper or plastic plates and cups if you are entertaining.

Pack all your goods into a reusable shopping bag or re-use old plastic bags.

Don't forget to put the vegetable peelings from your Christmas dinner in your home compost bin.

### K is for keeping the mileage down

Instead of whizzing around the country this festive season, opt to stay at home or travel locally. Not only does this reduce the emission impact of the season, but saves you the cost and stress of traveling on busy roads.

### L is for lights

Christmas tree lights left on for 10 hours a day over the 12 days of Christmas produce enough CO<sub>2</sub> to inflate 12 balloons, so turn them off when they are not needed.



If you want to be more environmentally friendly, try switching to either LED lights, choosing lights that are powered by solar power or

rechargeable batteries, or installing an energy-saving bulb to offset the energy usage.

If you haven't already - make it a new year's resolution to switch to energy-efficient light bulbs.

### P is for:

**Plastic-free** - More than 17bn plastic bags are handed out by supermarkets a year - that's 300 for every man, woman and child - causing nearly 60,000 tonnes of plastic to go to landfill sites.

Now and after Christmas, use a cotton eco-shopper or take old plastic bags and reuse them.

With retailers are yet to get the message on excessive packaging, try to avoid purchasing products and food that are over-packaged.

**Presents** Buy local or buy less. Each Christmas, 4,000 tonnes of products arrive from China. Presents bought locally means you will be supporting small suppliers and the local community, while minimising your carbon footprint.

Buy durable gifts and avoid buying or requesting presents that rely on disposable parts like batteries. Try to look for alternatives, for example, goods that are solar or wind-up powered.

Do you have to buy gifts? Could you buy an "experience" instead? Try cinema tickets, club memberships, gift tokens. Sponsor an animal, buy them some rainforest to protect - but don't give them another unwanted gift which they will simply throw away.

### R is for recycle

According to Recyclenow.com, Households in England will throw out an additional 3m tonnes - that's five sacks of rub-

bish per family - over the festive period. Much of this will be waste that could have been recycled.



If you're not doing it already, it's getting harder to have an excuse not to recycle, with recycling centers in most centres which will take paper, card, glass and metal cans.

### T is for ...

#### Turning off your appliances -

Turning your appliances off at the mains, rather than leaving them on standby. This saves huge amounts of carbon.

**Turn off the aircon** — Not only does this save carbon and money, it's a good excuse to rather spend your time outdoors soaking up the summer sun.

### U is for using the right-size

Use the right-sized pan for the vegetables you cook, and only boil the kettle with the amount of water you need.

### W is for wrapping

This constitutes one of the biggest Christmas wastes - it is estimated that last year's wasted paper in England would be enough to wrap up the Channel island of Guernsey. If just half of this was 8,000 tonnes produced recycled, it would save 25,000 trees. Try wrapping your presents in brown or recycled paper, recycled foil or newspaper, and using string or raffia (made from bark which regenerates) to tie it up.

**SO HOW WILL YOU BE GREEN-ING UP YOUR CHRISTMAS?**



# What about a Burger?

## LCA STUDENT BRANCH EVENT

On the 28th of September, the IAIA SA KZN Student Branch, in collaboration with Dayle Trotter (a lecturer at UZKN-PMB) hosted a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) event during a third year undergraduate Environmental Science (ENVS) tutorial. LCAs form part of the ENV322 module and to enhance the students understanding and practical insight, Dayle invited Sian Oosthuizen from the Institute of Natural Resources (INR) to present a guest lecture to the students. 2017 marked the fourth year that Sian has run this guest lecture.

The event was open to any students and involved Sian giving an interactive presentation, where she continually posed questions to students to encourage them to unpack the components and intricacies of LCAs. This was followed by a practical exercise, where the students wore the cap of a LCA expert and where tasked with undertaking a narrative LCA of the ever popular Nandos chicken burger.

Theolin Naidoo, a postgraduate student and demonstrator provides an animated recollection of his experience.

*"I first learned about LCAs when I was third-year ENVS student – I was even present at the equivalent event some two years ago. Fast-forward to the present, I found myself in the shoes of a demonstrator whose task was to ensure that the students attending the event were all seated and attentively listening to Sian's presentation.*

*As the students settled, I listened to Sian carefully explain the fundamentals of LCA's and reminisced about when I first heard it, but as she mentioned three particular words 'cradle-to-grave', which of course is one of four types of LCA's which can be conducted, a little voice in my head mumbled "cock-a-doodle-doo", being the easily distracted person which I am, I followed that voice into a strange place. There I watched as dawn broke, a little chick hatched out her*

*egg to the sound of her dad's voice waking up the neighbourhood, "cock-a-doodle-doo" he cried. She quickly grew, Tammy as I came to know her, she lived a healthy and successful life as a chicken in a massive free-range farm. While watching Tammy eat her whole-grain naturally grown feed one day, I saw a path in the distance and decided to follow it, there I met Maria, a well-rounded, juicy potato who was full of life and 100% natural. I watched her for some time, immersed by her full-figure*

*and the large amounts of water and minerals which was needed to maintain that figure. After a while spent gazing at Maria, I stumbled across a new path which led me to meet several other characters along the way, each different and needing specific types of resources in specific quantities to maintain their lifestyles. I eventually found myself in-front of a shiny silver gate which opened into a brightly lit room labelled Nando's, there I saw a plate of grilled chicken, chips and a portuguese roll, neatly placed, and behind it was a lovely brown paper bag labelled peri-peri. Before I could touch it, I heard the phrase which I'm assuming universally ends all daydreams, "if you don't answer this question, I will choose someone randomly'. Yes, it was Sian, done with her presentation and now posing questions to the class.*

*That's the beauty of LCA's, one you're familiar with the process it allows you to easily obtain a very useful skill, and that is to create an interesting story of how an item is produced. Yes, my story with Tammy and crew may have been painfully personified, but it allowed me to actively consider just how much natural resources and energy are used in the production of a simple meal, but also, how I would like those resources to be used, grown, and sustained in a "perfect" world. The LCA event was not just a lecture to me, it was the teaching of a skill which in my opinion fosters environmentally savvy consumers, environmentally considerate and efficient businesses, and dynamic, system-thinking students who are not confined to just one academic field."*

Theolin Naidoo



# ECO Best Practice

The debate on the what, why and who of environmental compliance monitoring is heating up in South Africa.

IAIAsa KZN Branch held a lively seminar on the best practice for ECOs in KZN on 19 September at UKZN, Pietermaritzburg. The two presenters were James Wood of Icon Construction (passionate about environmental issues), and Adrienne Edgson, an independent environmental consultant (passionate about good compliance and monitoring).

The key issues discussed were the poor state of environmental compliance monitoring in South

Africa and how it can be improved, and the why there is a difference between an ECO and an environmental compliance auditor.

James discussed how the ECO needs to play a better role in the construction team, including:

- \* Understanding contractual requirements (e.g. ensuring that contractors really have budget for rehabilitation);
- \* Understanding the project environment (e.g. having a working knowledge of wetlands); and

- \* Ensuring that the recommended measures are practical (e.g. not requiring water for dust suppression in a water-scarce environment).

An ECO, although not mandated by the South African legislation, is generally written into environmental authorisations as a requirement in terms of the Environmental Management Programme (EMPr). Adrienne pointed out that an ECO's role is to assist the site contractors in managing environmental issues on an on-going basis; whereas an environmental auditor (mandated, as per Section 34 of the EIA Regulations) must be completely independent (i.e. not the ECO) and audit compliance with the conditions of the environmental authorisation and the EMPr. In Adrienne's words "You cannot be the helping-hand [ECO] and the enforcer [auditor] for the same project".

The outcome of the seminar was a consensus that environmental auditing and ECOs need to become a specialist niche (as opposed to a junior consultant merely gaining field experience), and need to have good knowledge AND experience in the field if they are to be effective.

IAIAsa KZN will be hosting a workshop in March 2018 with a panel of specialist from around the country and KZN, to identify the roles and responsibilities of ECOs, and what is needed to develop guidelines for ECOs and gain specialist status in South Africa. We will keep you up to date on the final dates and times of this workshop.

*Danielle Sanderson*





# Peachy Pairs

## IAIASa STUDENT MENTORSHIP PROGRAMME (ISMP) 2017

2017 marked the second year of the ISMP. The Programme aims to develop a platform for communication and learning between environmental management students and their working environments.

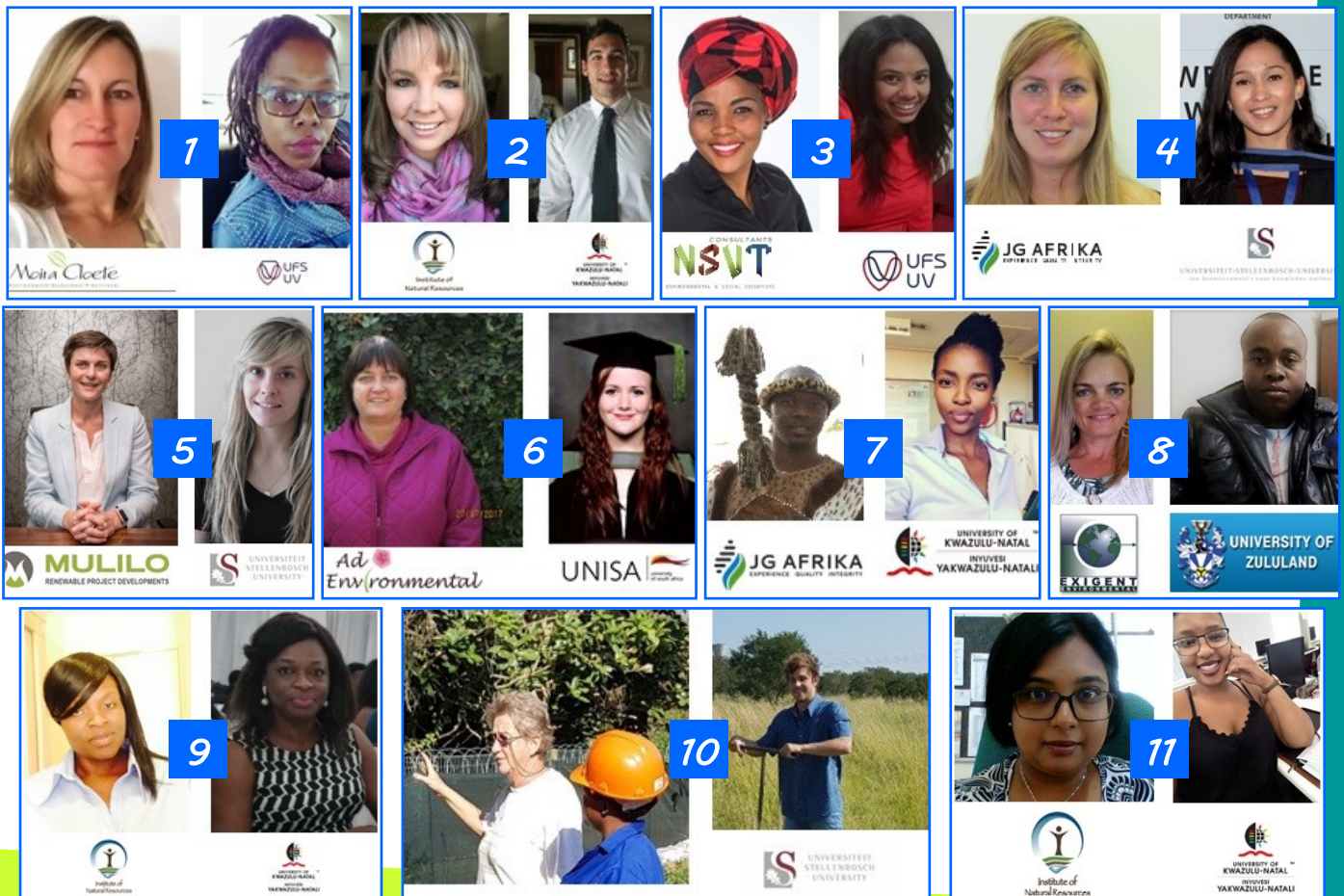
This year, the ISMP had 11 pairs across the country and proved to be yet another successful and rewarding experience.

The pairs were as follows (mentors on the right of each image, and students on the left):

1. **Moira Cloete** - owner/environmental consultant based in Elliot; and **Lunga Mbulana** - MSc student (env. mang.) at the University of the Free State
2. **Sian Oosthuizen** - environmental scientist at the Institute of Natural Resources (INR) (in Sian's absence, her colleagues took over the mentorship); and **Matthew Dickey** - MSc student (env. sci.) at the UKZN.
3. **Lorato Tigedi** - founder of NSVT Consultants; and **Jessica Spannenberg** - PhD student (geohydrology) at the University of the Free State.
4. **Anël Dannhauser** - environmental consultant at JG Afrika; and **Roxanne Mentoor** - Honours student (env. mang.) at Stellenbosch University.
5. **Karen Low** - Environmental Manager at Mulilo Renewable Project Developments; and **Claudia Schröder** - MPhil student (env. mang.) at Stellenbosch University.
6. **Adie Erasmus** - owner of AdiEnvironmental cc; and **Annemie du Randt** - BSc Honours student (env. monitoring and modelling) at the UNISA.
7. **Sandile Nkomonde** - environmental scientist at JG Afrika; **Phindile Ndlovu** - MSc student (env. sci.) at the UKZN.
8. **Jacolette Adam** - Managing member of Exigent; and **Zakhele Ngcobo** - BSc Honors student (applied climatology) at the University of Zululand.
9. **Jabulile Matshazi** - senior consultant at the INR; and **Arogundade Adeola** - post-graduate student (geog.) at the UKZN.
10. **Adrienne Edgson** - environmental consultant; and Warren Gale - MPhil student (env. mang.) at the University of Stellenbosch
11. **Dianne Sennoga** - senior environmental scientist at the INR; and **Nokwanda Gumede** - BSc Honours student (env. sci.) at the UKZN.

We look forward to receiving the feedback from these pairs and will share it with you in the New Year.

Over the page are the details of the 2018 call for mentors, as well as a reflection by a 2016 ISMP mentee, and visuals of the 2017 pairs in field.



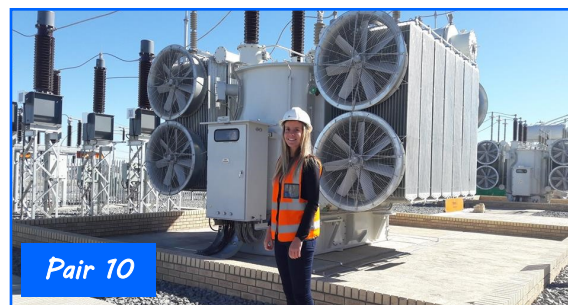


## From ISMP 2016 Mentee to Intern

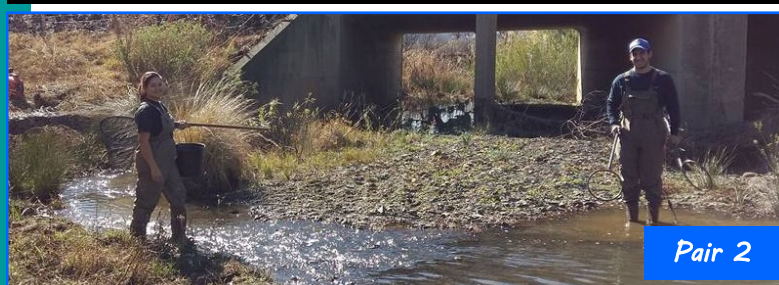
"In a competitive job market with an influx of graduates, too often one has to acquire experience beyond the limits of tertiary education in order to secure work positions. I am now an intern at an environmental consulting company called NM Environmental, and I'm grateful for my ISMP experience for the competitive advantage it afforded me in order to secure this position. Sandile Nkomonde from JG Afrika (KZN) was my ISMP mentor, and a very great one at that. His passion for impactful development of youth cannot be ignored. My ISMP mentorship involved a lot of environmental auditing work. I had to do background studies, field visits, site observations, theoretical/legislative research and report writing. It definitely was not a vacation or "just-for-show-on-the-CV" experience. It is through this environmental auditing experience that I got my current position. I would like to thank Sandile Nkomonde and JG Afrika for taking me in as their mentee and the invaluable experience I received. I would also like to express my gratitude to IAIAasa for the ISMP, which has materialistically bridged the gap between university and the working world for me. Your commitment to the future of the IEM field is exemplary."



Pair 2



Pair 10



Pair 2



Pair 6

## CALL FOR 2018 ISMP MENTORS



### ABOUT ISMP

- ISMP: IAIAasa Student Mentorship Programme.
- Volunteer to become a mentor to a postgraduate student.
- Involves 80 hours of mentorship spread over a 9 month period.
- Gain IAIAasa recognition for your contribution to the development of youth.

### CRITERIA

- You work in environmental management or related fields.
- You work at a company/organisation/organ of state.
- Your office is located in South Africa.
- You have at least 3 years relevant experience.
- You are an IAIAasa member (current or new).

### ABOUT THE STUDENTS

- Postgraduate students in environmental management and related fields.
- Fulltime registered students during the ISMP year (1 March to 30 November).
- Registered at a South African university.
- IAIAasa student members (current or new).

### TO BECOME A MENTOR

- Send an email expressing your interest to [operations@iaiasa.co.za](mailto:operations@iaiasa.co.za) and an ISMP mentor application form will be sent to you.
- Please can you also indicate if you need to renew your IAIAasa membership or want to become a new member in order to be eligible for mentorship.
- Deadline 30 November.

**ISMP offers a platform for communication and learning between environmental management students and their working environments**