



IAIAsa

2016 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

17-19 August | The Boardwalk, Port Elizabeth



For further information

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Letter from 2016 Conference Organising Committee

The International Association for Impact Assessment South Africa (IAIAsa) is a voluntary, non-profit organisation. The aim of IAIAsa is to bring together practitioners and users across all sectors of integrated environmental management and impacts assessment to exchange ideas, learn and network.

One of the unique features of IAIAsa is that it provides a platform for a wide variety of professionals to advance the state of the art and science of impact assessment in applications ranging from local to global; to develop international and local capability to anticipate, plan and manage the consequences of development.

Members include individuals from many disciplines and professions, including planners and managers, public interest advocates, government planners and administrators, private consultants and policy analysts, universities and their students. IAIAsa currently has approximately 900 active members, and a large network of affiliate members and organisations.

The 2016 IAIAsa National Conference is the 21st annual event of its kind, is to be held at The Boardwalk, Port Elizabeth. The Eastern Cape is the centre of a number of environmental and integrated management challenges, providing a diverse, complex and beautiful backdrop for this year's conference.

The theme: *Environmental Change & Challenges: Resilience, Adaptation & Sustainability* encompasses inter-related issues such as climate change, food security, loss of biodiversity, human rights infringements, inequality, environmental injustice and impacted ecosystem services. These issues are faced by most sectors in managing the social and physical environment, especially in the current dynamic landscape of South Africa.

Regards,

Danielle Sanderson
Conference Organising Committee Chair

*Be a part of
a vibrant network of members
a professional association that leads Integrated Environmental Management in SA
advancing innovation and communication of best practice
the promotion of sound science and integrated participatory decision making to
support sustainable development
a knowledge sharing community of practitioners*



WHAT, WHEN, WHERE

21ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR IMPACT ASSESSMENT, SOUTH AFRICAN AFFILIATE

Date 17-19 August 2016

Place The Boardwalk Conference Centre, Port Elizabeth

Do you want to present? Details will be up on the new conference website shortly – But get your theme and topic ready!

Registration fee	Type	Total (Incl VAT)
Registration (Members)	Early Bird	R 5,130
	Standard	R 6,270
	Late	R 7,410
Registration (Group of 5 or more)	Early Bird	R 4,788
	Standard	R 5,928
	Late	R 7,125
Registration (Non-Member)	Early Bird	R 5,985
	Standard	R 7,125
	Late	R 8,265
Student (Members)	Early Bird	R 2,850
	Standard	R 3,990
	Late	R 5,130
Student (Non-Members)	Early Bird	R 5,130
	Standard	R 6,270
	Late	R 7,410
Day Fee (Wednesday)	Early Bird	R 2,166
	Standard	R 2,736
	Late	R 3,306
Day Fee (Thursday)	Early Bird	R 2,166
	Standard	R 2,736
	Late	R 3,306
Day Fee (Friday)	Early Bird	R 1,140
	Standard	R 1,710
	Late	R 2,280



PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

Draft Program Overview - IAIAsa 2016

Tuesday 16 August				Wednesday 17 August			Thursday 18 August			Friday 19 August			
08:00				OPENING ADDRESS & KEY NOTE			SESSION 10	SESSION 11	SESSION 12	SESSION 20		SESSION 21	
World Café										Photo Comp			
08:30				Training Courses	Technical Tour								
09:00													
09:30													
10:00			BREAK			BREAK			BREAK				
10:30			SESSION 1	SESSION 2	SESSION 3	SPECIAL ADDRESS & AGM			SESSION 22	SESSION 23	SESSION 24		
11:00													
11:30													
12:00									CLOSING ADDRESS				
12:30			LUNCH			LUNCH			LUNCH				
13:00													
13:30	Pre-conference Registration		SESSION 4	SESSION 5	SESSION 6	SESSION 14	SESSION 15	SESSION 16	Technical Tour				
14:00		Student	Lighting	Tehcnical									
14:30													
15:00				BREAK			BREAK						
15:30				SESSION 7	SESSION 8	SESSION 9	SESSION 17	SESSION 18	SESSION 19				
16:00													
16:30													
17:00													
17:30													
18:00			Happy Hour / Other event										
18:30	Meet & Greet Cocktail						GALA DINNER						
19:00													
19:00 onward													



ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE & CHALLENGES: Resilience, Adaptation & Sustainability

We live in a fast-changing society. Adaptive management is required to manage change, and the current social, economic and governance frameworks that are in place may no longer be adequate to respond to the cumulative challenges that environmental change is triggering.

All systems are inter-related and global issues such as climate change, food security, loss of biodiversity, human rights infringements, inequality, environmental injustice and impacted ecosystem services are all relevant in the South African context.

These issues are no longer a philosophical or political debate, but an urgent imperative to take action. Environmental practitioners are in a good position to take the lead in finding possible solutions. In order to survive in an ever-changing world, systems need to be resilient. The structures and measures implemented in the environmental management field do not always provide the adaptability to cope with and manage these changes. How can we start planning and taking action for environmental change?

SUBTHEMES

The following sub-themes have been identified for the conference. Under each sub-theme is a paragraph aimed at stimulating ideas and thoughts. Please don't see this as a limitation. Participants are welcome to interpret and explore the sub-themes on a deeper level, and we look forward to sharing ideas and experiences at the conference.

1. ADAPTING AND RESPONDING TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

Under this sub-theme we invite presentations about the impact of climate and environmental change on the biophysical and social environment. During recent years environmental disasters such as increasingly extreme weather events and anthropogenic impacts have had a domino effect economic, social and natural systems. In many instances the impacts are felt by the most vulnerable aspects of the environment.

Now, more than ever, it is important to create resilient management options and societies and invest in resilient eco-systems. Participants are invited to explore how and if the effects of climate change can be included in environmental planning from a social and biophysical perspective. Innovative ways of taking on these challenges need to be found. Can tools such as carbon tax, environmental communication, green buildings or technological advances be used in this quest?

2. ENERGY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Energy has become an expensive resource, and ways in which renewable energy can benefit many levels, from local communities to global economies. Under this sub-theme we invite presentations on energy and sustainability. Participants are requested to share their experience with the renewable energy programme and innovation in the renewable energy sector. Environmental practitioners are aware of the fact that there is always an impact, and discussions on trade-offs, offsets and challenges in the renewable energy field are invited.

3. REGULATING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGE

The South African environmental legal system is a dynamic one, which is tasked with responding to a similarly dynamic international legal regime as well as to the environmental and social changes and challenges it regulates. This theme invites presentations on the challenges of a dynamic regulatory and physical environment, and the relationship between the law and the environment. Practitioners may share their views on the role of the law in regulating a changing environment and enabling environmental adaptation to respond to such changes, as well as the role of environmental law in the context of human rights, the rights of nature, environmental justice and social justice. Practitioners should critically reflect on whether environmental laws sufficiently promote and allow for resilience, adaptation and sustainability in response to environmental changes. Does the law work for the environment?



4. THE ROLE OF BUSINESS IN INTEGRATED ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (IEM)

The environmental changes and challenges faced today are magnified by a wide variety of factors, which require flexible, innovative and cooperative approaches to responses in all sectors. Under this theme we invite presentations that investigate the role that the corporate world plays in integrated environmental management. Participants are encouraged to share their experience about the impact of having in-house environmental practitioners. This theme wishes to explore whether environmental management and EIA remains a grudge-purchase, or whether some use it as a business-planning tool. Did big business buy into IEM, or do we still need to make the business case for IEM?

5. THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Under this theme we invite presentations on the future of sustainable development. We encourage discussions on environmental thresholds / reserve determination. Participants are requested to share their views on the management of protected areas and the importance and role of eco-system services. Is the real cost of eco-system services ever taken into account?

Environmental practitioners have all been exposed to the impact of socio-political systems on environmental processes and practice, and the global value given to the sustainable development goals brought the planet versus people debate into the spotlight again.

A green economy is one that results in improved human well-being and social equity, while significantly reducing environmental risks and ecological scarcities. Will this concept and approach contribute towards sustainable development, or become another mechanism for corporate control of the environment?

WHAT'S NEW THIS YEAR

2016 marks a new phase for the IAIAsa National Conference. With an increasing number of delegates wanting to present, together with a change in the way conferencing is working worldwide, the Conferencing Organising Committee (COC) has proposed to include a new series of talks as a trial during this year's conference – there will be something to suit everyone - including:

PRESENTATIONS	Serving a wide audience, we realise people often do not have the time to write full papers, therefore there will be no requirement to submit a paper with your presentation this year. Presentations will be carefully selected and should be of scientific and practical relevance.
LIGHTNING TALKS	10 slides, 5 mins, 1 idea
"SPEED GEEKING"	Demonstrations, new technology, new ideas

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

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