



## **Transformation in the Environmental Sector**



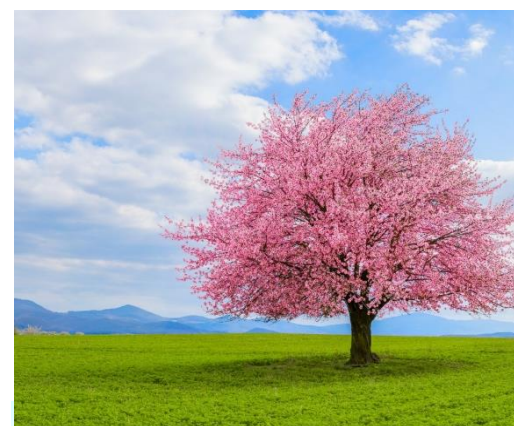
One of EAPASA's main goals is the promotion of transformation within the environmental assessment practice sector by focusing on support for previously or historically disadvantaged individuals (PDI/HDI) especially women, youth and people with disabilities. The aim is to achieve a progressive transformation and restructuring of the profession by ensuring a representation of all the demographics in the country.

Transformation is promoted through:

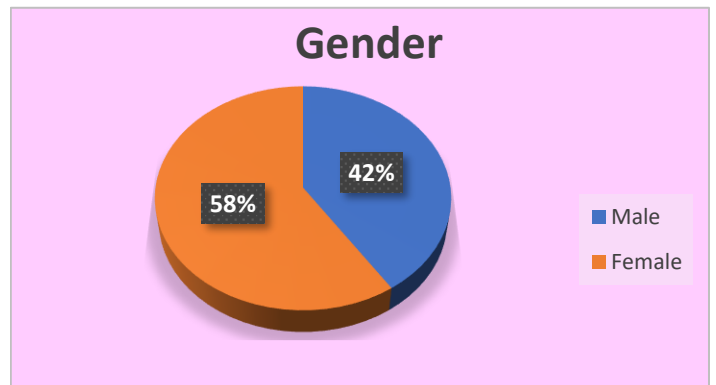
- Ensuring diversity and representativity on the EAPASA Board and the Committees of the Board.
- Applying the principles of Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) as a transformative approach to the registration process.
- Incentivising support for and mentoring of emerging black professionals through the Professional Development requirements of re-registration.
- Monitoring and reporting the demographics of Registered EAPs and Candidate EAPs.
- Supporting youth development programmes which aim to attract black, female and disabled candidates to relevant fields of study.

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# Celebrating Women's Month



EAPASA commemorates 20 000 women who courageously marched to the Union Buildings on 09 August 1956 against the apartheid Pass Law Acts. People of colour were forced to carry identification documents or a 'pass' on them at all times. Thousands of women marched to handover a petition containing more than 100 000 signatures opposing the introduction of passes for African women.

We also celebrate women in the Environmental Sector who now occupy high positions in government and private organisations. Other women have gone further to own consultancy companies which is a milestone in the empowerment of women in the South African society. Women are encouraged to embrace each other and support each other's goals and aspirations.

As a Regulatory Authority, EAPASA condemns acts of violence against women and children. Gender Based Violence (GBV) in the country is on a high rise and this affects women negatively on their career paths. Men should see to it that women and children are highly protected to build a prosperous society.

This year's women month will be celebrated under the theme, **"Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights for an Equal Future"**.

EAPASA is happy to announce that 58 % of our Registered EAPs and Candidate EAPs are women. This is a great indication of the significant role women play in the environmental assessment sector.





# EAPASA To Take Part in the IAIAsa 2021 Conference



The IAIAsa conference is drawing closer and this year, EAPASA will take part in a panel discussion. The panel will consist of representatives from the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP), the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), International Association for Impact Assessment South Africa (IAIAsa) and the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA).

The discussion will be on “**Improved governance, social justice, and policies: SDG 16 - Fulfilling Mandates Towards Improved Governance and Professional Standards**”. Panellists will focus more on interrogating how existing legislation and institutions have improved environmental and social governance issues in South Africa.

Institutions such as Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE), the Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA), the South African Council for Natural and Scientific Professionals (SACNASP), and the International Association of Impact Assessments South African Affiliate (IAIAsa), will focus on how they have managed the registration and regulatory aspects of practicing environmental professionals.

**Date:** 19 August 2021

**Time:** 14:20 to 15:20

**Venue:** Zoom (Virtual)

## International Environmental Calendar for 2021

World Wetlands Day:  
02 February 2021

World Recycling Day:  
18 March 2021

World Water Day:  
22 March 2021

Earth Hour:  
27 March 2021

Earth Day:  
22 April 2021

International Day for  
Biological Diversity:  
22 May 2021

World Environment Day:  
05 June 2021

World Oceans Day:  
08 June 2021

World Rainforest Day:  
22 June 2021

Nelson Mandela Day:  
18 July 2021

National Women's Day  
09 August 2021

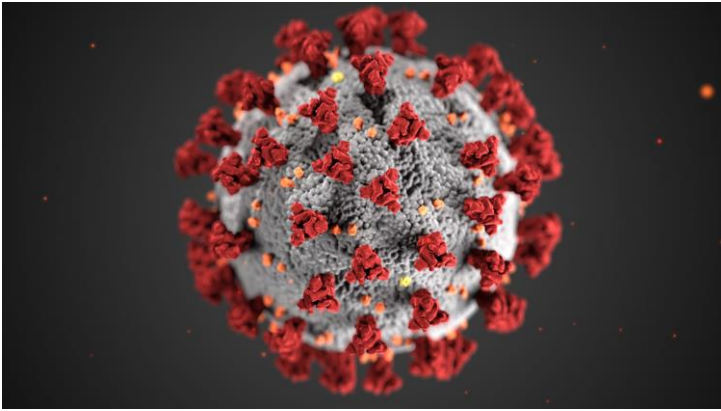
International Day for the  
Preservation of the Ozone  
Layer:  
16 September 2021

World Rhino Day:  
22 September 2021

World Rivers Day:  
26 September 2021

International Day for Natural  
Disaster Reduction:  
13 October 2021

# Impact of COVID 19 in the Environmental Sector



The COVID-19 pandemic continues to affect people negatively and differently across the world. Many people have lost their jobs, loved ones and their colleagues. In South Africa, different levels of lockdown were implemented to stop the spread of the virus and save lives.

Thousands of professionals found themselves between a rock and a hard place. Most organisations introduced the new norm of working from home. Professionals had to adjust in new ways of working and making use of technology tools such as Microsoft Teams or Zoom Applications.

EAPASA went further to investigate how Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs) have been affected by this pandemic. A survey was distributed via EAPASA social media platforms, newsletter and the website. Only 10% of the registered EAPs took part in the survey.

The responses were dominated by females at 60%, followed by males at 40% and most people who participated in the survey were between the ages of 26 – 40 years old. Many of these participants possessed at least a postgraduate degree with majority of them being Registered EAPs. The participants were either employed or self-employed with most people being from the private sector, followed by government officials.

The survey was completed mostly by Gauteng based EAPs. An analysis of the results indicated that most EAPs lives were affected on a day-to-day basis. Participants were of the view that the pandemic brought less opportunities for them within the sector.

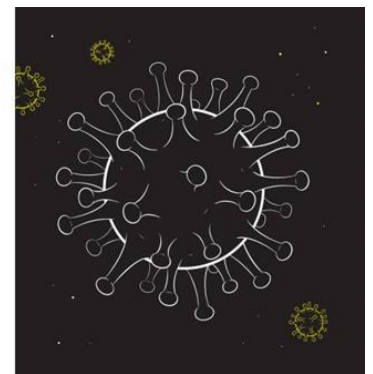
88% of EAPs agreed that the pandemic presented more health risks.

44 % of EAPs agreed that working from home was more effective while 44% neither agreed nor disagreed. 59% of EAPs were able to obtain permits and carry on with their work. Only 37% of state or private Officials were able to do site visits while a total of 41% were unable.

The majority of EAPs at 37% did not experience any difficulties in processing EIA Reports during lockdown. 24 % of EAPs agreed to having some difficulties.

68% of EAPs were unable to get their full income during the lockdown and only 24% were able to receive it. A total of 58% of EAPs strongly disagreed to receiving relief fund from government.

52% EAPs agreed to receiving communication about the COVID-19 Regulations from EAPASA. 55% of EAPs neither agreed nor disagreed in being able to process their applications. Only 21% of EAPs were able to process applications. A total of 21% of EAPs disagreed with the statement.



# EAP Registration Campaign

## Don't Delay, Apply Online



**EAP REGISTRATION  
STATUTORY DEADLINE:  
08 FEBRUARY 2022**

**PLEASE NOTE THAT THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE  
TO MEET THE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENT TO BE  
A REGISTERED OR CANDIDATE EAP IS BEFORE 11  
OCTOBER 2021**



Please Bear in Mind that - the 120-day Section 24H assessment process commences once:

1. The Registrar has deemed your submitted application to be complete, and
2. Proof of payment of your registration assessment fee has been received.

Please note:

- You are strongly advised to submit your application as soon as possible to ensure your application is evaluated before 08 February 2022.
- Non-registered EAPs will not be allowed to carry primary responsibility of EIAs after 08 February 2022.



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