



EAPASA receives international recognition for formalizing internal structures and process to include continuing professional development for environmental assessment practitioners in South Africa.



The Environmental Assessment Practitioners Association of South Africa (EAPASA) has received the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) 2022 Institutional Award in Vancouver, Canada. The award was presented to EAPASA at the IAIA's 41st Annual Conference which took place from 4-7 May 2022.

EAPASA has been honoured for formalizing the internal structures and processes to include the continuing professional development processes for Environmental Assessment Practitioners in South Africa, that can become a benchmark for similar initiatives in other countries.

The IAIA Institutional Award is presented to a national or international government or non-governmental organization for outstanding contribution to impact assessment practice or other environment-related activity deserving of recognition.

This is yet another milestone achieved by the Association and an indication of hard work in ensuring the advancement of the practice and quality of environmental assessment in South Africa.

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### **Welcome to the new Board Members**



Mr Sabelo Nkosi



Adv. Thomas Tshabalala



Mr Khathutshelo Tshipala



Adv. Adila Chowan

EAPASA welcomes Mr Sabelo Nkosi, Advocate Thomas Tshabalala, Mr Khathutshelo Tshipala and Advocate Adila Chowan as newly elected Board Members. It is anticipated that the new Board Members will contribute immensely to the strategic direction of the organisation by providing financial oversight, legal guidance and strengthening the organisation's programs and other operational activities.

EAPASA would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the outgoing Board Members for their contributions during their time in office. The outgoing Board Members include; Mr Danie Neumann, Advocate Thato Moeeng, Mr Phumudzo Nethwadzi, Mr Zama Dlamini, Ms Letlhogonolo Tungamirai, Mr Siyabonga Gqalangile and Mr Ntsako Baloyi.

EAPASA wishes them all the best in their future endeavours, and we will continue to tap into their knowledge and experience as and when required.

## **EAPASA University Roadshows**

















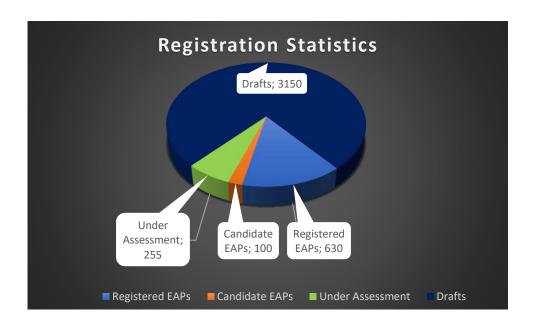
The EAPASA's Public Relations and Registration departments are embarking on physical and virtual workshops targeting institutions of higher learning in South Africa. The aim of this exercise is to assist students in the Environmental Studies field understand the Registration Process and Mentorship Programmes offered by the organisation. The initiative is also meant to forge stronger ties between EAPASA and the tertiary institutions in preparation for the upcoming formal accreditation of Environmental Studies programmes which will be based on the EAPASA Qualification Standard (SAQA ID: 61831).

The 2022/23 financial year has seen EAPASA hosting the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT) and Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT) students. The upcoming university workshop will be held at the University of Witwatersrand and the dates will be confirmed shortly.

Increasingly, students are showing interest in becoming professionally registered as soon as they complete their studies and also understanding how being registered benefits them career wise. The attendance by students has been pleasing and EAPASA looks forward to engaging with more universities.



## **EAP Registration Statistics and Benefits of Registration**



There has been a significant growth in the number of Registered EAPs and Candidate EAPs. A large number of applications (over 3000) are still indicated as draft Applications on the registration system. Those who have completed their applications should ensure that they have clicked on the submit button and also paid for their applications so that they can be taken for assessment. Unregistered practitioners are encouraged to apply and submit their applications as soon as possible so that they meet the 08 August 2022 registration deadline.

### THE TOP 10 BENEFITS OF EAPASA REGISTRATION

- 1. Registration as an Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EAP) ensures compliance with national legislation and allows a practitioner to operate/function independently.
- 2. Enhancement of Quality Assured Environmental Assessment Practice through certified recognition of qualification(s), competence and knowledge which adds value, status, and marketing/employability for a practitioner.
- 3. A Registered EAP is recognised as a "professional" just as other professions in other sectors, which creates a feeling of "trust", "confidence" and "worth" to clients and colleagues. This automatically connects the practitioner to other registered professionals and related professional organisations.
- 4. Assists in improving career prospects thereby ensuring that the registered practitioner remains relevant in the sector.
- 5. Protects Registered EAPs who comply and uphold the EAPASA code of ethics from people and clients involved in unprofessional and unethical behaviour.

International Environmental Calendar for 2022

World Wetlands Day: 02 February 2022

World Recycling Day: 18 March 2022

International Day of Forests: 21 March 2022

World Water Day: 22 March 2022

UN World Meteorological Day: 23 March 2022

Earth Hour: 27 March 2022

Earth Day: 22 April 2022

International Day for Biological Diversity: 22 May 2022

World Environment Day: 05 June 2022

World Oceans Day: 08 June 2022

World Rainforest Day: 22 June 2022

Nelson Mandela Day: 18 July 2022

National Women's Day 09 August 2022

Arbor Day
01 September 2022

- 6. Assists practitioners with access to improved standards of environmental practice through strategic partnerships with Voluntary Associations (VAs) like the International Association for Impact Assessment-South Africa (IAIAsa) and other Professional Organisations like the Council of Built Environment (CBE) and the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP).
- 7. Potential for higher earnings due to recognition as a professional.
- 8. Registration as an EAP levels the playing field for all practitioners in what has become a "cut-throat" sector.
- 9. Access to international markets and clients since EAPASA is the first legislated EAP Registration body in the world.
- 10. Provides an opportunity for Registered EAPs to give back to the community by empowering graduates through the EAPASA Mentorship Programme.



International Environmental Calendar for 2022

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer:

16 September 2022

International Coastal Clean-up Day: 16 September 2022

World Water Monitoring
Day:
18 September 2022

World Clean-up Day: 19 September 2022

Zero Emissions Day 21 September 2022

World Rhino Day: 22 September 2022

World Rivers Day: 26 September 2022

World Environmental Health Day: 26 September 2022

World Habitat Day: 04 October 2022

International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction: 13 October 2022

# EAP Registration Improvements and Updates - Equivalent Qualification Registration System and Revised Core Competencies



The EAPASA Registration department would like to inform applicants of the following changes that have been made to the registration process based on Regulation 15 (1)(a) of the NEMA Section 24H Registration Authority Regulations, 2016:

- In terms of Subregulation 15(1)(a)(iii), registration can be done using RPL. This is the process that has been followed to date. Prospective EAPs are informed that the Core Competencies have been revised recently from the 23 questions to 19. Please note that if you have not worked on your application in recent times, you may need to go through it again to confirm alignment before submitting due to the changes.
- EAPASA is also excited to announce that the core competency questions have been revised for Candidate EAPs from 19 CCs to 12 CCs. We further, made sure that the core competency questions are clearer and easier to respond to for Candidate EAPs.
- •In terms of Subregulation 15(1)(a)(ii), registration can be done using the Equivalent Qualifications criteria. The Equivalent Qualification is aligned with EAPASA's SAQA Qualification Standard ID: 61831. EAPASA recently conducted a study that analysed and compared all environmental qualifications/programmes offered in the higher learning institutions.

The following programmes were approved as meeting the 6 Core Competencies, these are:

- Masters majoring in Environmental Science (Coursework), University of Limpopo
- MSc majoring in Environmental Management (Coursework), University of the Free State
- BSc Environmental Science (Honours), Rhodes University
- BSc Honours in Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Limpopo
- MSc in Environmental Management (Coursework), North West University
- MSc in environmental Biotechnology (Course work), Rhodes University
- MSc in Environmental Sciences (Coursework), University of Johannesburg
- BA Geography and Environmental Management, University of the Free State
- BSc Geography and Environmental Sciences, University of the Free State
- PG Diploma in Environmental Management, Stellenbosch University
- PG Diploma in Sustainable Development, Stellenbosch University
- BSc Honours in Geography and Environmental Science, University of Cape Town
- BA Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Western Cape
- MPhil in Environmental Studies, University of Fort Hare
- MSc Environmental Management, University of Venda
- MSc Environmental Management (Coursework), University of Pretoria
- MPhil Environment, Society and Sustainability, University of Cape Town

As universities provide their complete programmes and modules, EAPASA will continue to update the list of programmes that meet the requirements.

Currently applicants are registered through Section 15 (1) (a) (iii) "is deemed to be competent, based on a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) assessment in terms of the relevant environmental assessment qualification registered with the national qualifications authority".

Applicants will now be registered through Section 15 (1) (a) (ii) "has an equivalent qualification to the qualification contemplated in sub regulation (1)(a)(i). There are 17 Qualifications that have been approved by the Board which can be found on our online registration system by clicking on this link <a href="https://registration.eapasa.org/admin/approved-qualifications">https://registration.eapasa.org/admin/approved-qualifications</a>. More qualifications will be included with time when universities have provided EAPASA with their environmental programmes.

Both of these systems are being used to register applicants. Depending on the applicant's experience and qualifications, the applicant will select the qualification or populate the qualification section of the application and the system will direct them to the registration system that they must use to apply for registration.

The applicant will have access to the Equivalent Qualification system after they have populated the qualification section of their application. The applicant must go into the qualifications section and choose one of the qualifications that are listed there should they have it. Only after they have selected one of the approved qualifications they will have access to 6 Core Competency questions.

Should you not have one of the listed qualifications, you will continue with the current RPL system which requires you to respond to 19 Core Competency questions. Should you still require further clarity, do not hesitate to contact EAPASA.



# **Importance of CPD**



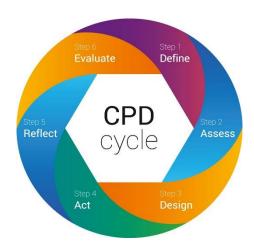
Continuing Professional Development (CPD) can be defined as the systematic maintenance, improvement and broadening of knowledge and skills.

It is an ongoing development of personal qualities necessary for the execution of professional and technical duties, and contributes to capacity building in the field and throughout the Environmental Assessment Practitioner's working life.

One of EAPASA's objectives is to provide guidance and frameworks to ensure that CPD is established and consistently implemented by Registered Environmental Assessment Practitioners (EAPs)

EAPs should bear in mind that undertaking CPD helps them to:

- Maintain and increase the level of technical competence.
- Extend one's range of skills and developing an area of expertise.
- Promote confidence and pride in one's work.
- Establish links and networks with fellow professionals, thereby increasing one's career opportunities and prospects.
- Keep abreast with the current standards or trends related to the environmental profession.
- Stay interested in their current work.



# **EAP Registration Campaign**



# Don't Delay, Apply Online



Registration



# EAP REGISTRATION STATUTORY DEADLINE: 08 AUGUST 2022

# PLEASE KEEP IN MIND THAT YOU HAVE **69 DAYS** LEFT TO MEET THE LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENT TO BE A REGISTERED EAP OR CANDIDATE EAP.

Please remember that – the 120-day timeline according to Section 24H NEMA Registration Authority Regulations assessment process commences once:

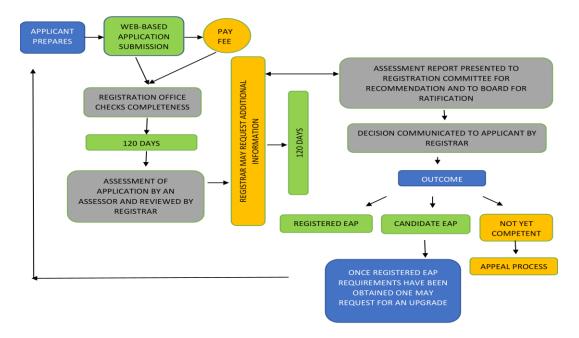
- 1. The Registrar has deemed your submitted application to be complete, and
- 2. Proof of payment of your registration assessment fee has been received.

### Please note:

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

### **FINANCE DESK**

EAPs should keep in mind that with all applications, payment must be made before the application gets processed. Refer to the diagram below:



It is also important to understand the difference between application fee and annual fee. Application fee refers to the money one pays after the submission of the application. While annual fee refers to the money one pays for membership as per the SAQA requirement.

### Payment for Application fee:

- Registered EAP R1500
- Candidate EAP R800

### Payment for Annual fee:

- Registered EAP R1200
- Candidate EAP R600



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