

Environmental Assessment
Practitioners Association
of South Africa

Advancing environmental assessment practice in South Africa



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EAPASA NEWSLETTER



Welcome To

2023

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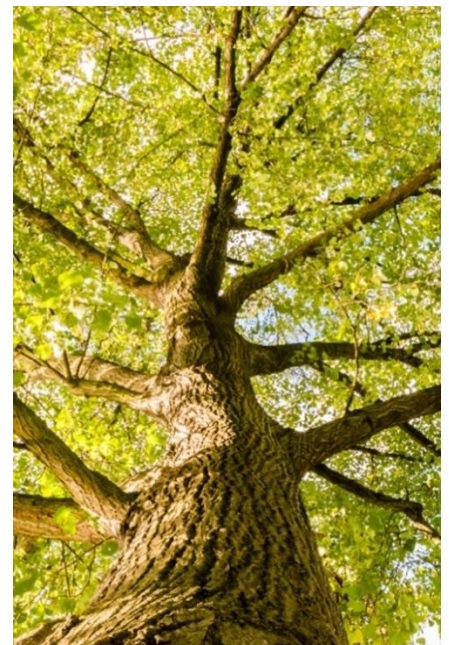
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On behalf of the Board Chairperson, Board members and Staff members, we welcome you into the new year. We are delighted to be back with renewed energy and enthusiasm. Our focus remains on improving the quality of environmental assessment practice in the country and beyond our borders.

We extend our gratitude to the Board members, Assessors, and Staff members for their commitment and contributions for serving our EAPs in the past year. EAPASA intends to continue representing all Registered EAPs and Candidate EAPs in the EA sector by continuing to provide governance processes that are transparent.

Unregistered EAPs are reminded to submit their applications so that they may be professionally registered and be able to enjoy the benefits of belonging to the Registration Authority.

EAPASA wishes you all the best for the year 2023!



Recap - 2022 Milestones

EAPASA Regional Conference, 28 – 30 Nov 2022



EAPASA hosted a successful Regional Conference last year in Mookgophong, Limpopo Province. The organisation extends its gratitude to the 130 delegates for their positive attendance.

The conference dealt with topics such as the alignment of Integrated Environmental Management and harmonisation of the EIA process in the SADC region, the role of Registration Authorities in improving IEM practice in Africa, and the application of adaptation, mitigation measures and early warning systems when faced with catastrophic natural disasters such as floods and droughts in Africa. EAPASA would like to thank the following SADC countries, Eswatini, Zimbabwe, Lesotho and Botswana for honouring the invite. We thank our local South African EAPs who attended the conference and continue to support EAPASA.

Delegates had an opportunity to engage with other relevant role players operating within the Environmental sector in Africa. This was an opportunity for delegates to expand their knowledge on regional standards and legislation for EAPs and unpack legislative instruments and tools in the SADC region.



The conference was graced by the MEC for Economic Development, Environment and Tourism in Limpopo, Hon. Rodgers Monama who delivered the keynote address.



The newly appointed CEO of Limpopo Tourism Agency, Mr Moses Ngobeni attended the conference to welcome the delegates.

The Award Ceremony:



The award ceremony was held on the second day of the conference to honour a number of EAPs, Organisations operating within the sector and Competent Authorities in South Africa and the SADC region for their efforts in improving the quality of environmental assessment practice and related disciplines.

We look forward to meeting more delegates at the next conference.

EIA for Infrastructure Projects Conference, 12 Oct 2022



EAPASA attended and hosted a panel discussion at the 1st Annual EIA for Infrastructure Projects Conference, which was held at the Indaba Hotel, Johannesburg on the 12 October 2022.

The topic of the panel discussion was “The role of Environmental Assessment Practitioners in Infrastructure Projects EIAs, EAPASA’s Perspective” which was presented by the Board Chairperson Ms Snowy Makhudu, Public Relations Chairperson, Ms Jacqui Hex and the Registrar Dr Patrick Sithole.

The history of EAPASA, positioning of the organisational structure, function, and operations of the organisation were imparted during the discussion. The conference was a success, reinforcing connections between the environmental assessment and civil engineering sectors, which often work hand-in-hand in developing infrastructure nationally and reiterated the significance of inter-disciplinarity in the professional space.

IAIA Climate Change Symposium, 28 Sept 2022



EAPASA also hosted a panel discussion at the IAIA Climate Change Symposium held from 26 – 28 September 2022 in Cape Town at the CTICC.

The aim of the panel discussion was to establish the role that is played by Registration Authorities / Professional Bodies in collaboration with other institutions in support of the climate change mitigation and adaptation agenda. Once again, we extend our gratitude to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE), Council for the Built Environment (CBE), and the International Association for Impact Assessment South Africa (IAIASa) for forming part of the panel.



IAIA Institutional Award, 12 May 2022



It was a glorious moment when EAPASA was named as the recipient of the IAIA's 2022 Institutional Award. The organisation was recognised for formalizing the internal structures and processes to include the continuing professional development processes for EAPs in South Africa.

TV & Radio Appearances



Over the past year, numerous radio and TV stations have interviewed EAPASA on the work conducted by the organisation, milestones achieved and to inform the broader community about the need for an environmental Registration Authority. The interviews were conducted with the following media houses, SA FM, Newzroom Afrika, SABC the Agenda, SABC Channel Africa radio, Radio 702, Phalaphala FM and Energy FM.

Mentorship Program

MENTORING



In 2022, one hundred and two (102) Candidate EAPs took part in the EAPASA Mentorship Program. This program allows mentors to manage the process of developing the skills necessary for a subsequent Applicant to obtain registered EAP status and career development. Please follow this link to read more information on the Mentorship Program <https://eapasa.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/EAPASA-Mentorship-Programme-2021.pdf>

International Environmental Calendar for 2023

World Wetlands Day:
02 February 2023

World Recycling Day:
18 March 2023

International Day of
Forests:
21 March 2023

World Water Day:
22 March 2023

UN World Meteorological
Day:
23 March 2023

Earth Hour:
27 March 2023

Earth Day:
22 April 2023

International Day for
Biological Diversity:
22 May 2023

World Environment Day:
05 June 2023

World Oceans Day:
08 June 2023

World Rainforest Day:
22 June 2023

Nelson Mandela Day:
18 July 2022

National Women's Day
09 August 2023

Arbor Day
01 September 2023

Finance Desk



Annual Fees: Registered EAPs and Candidate EAPs are reminded to settle their outstanding annual fees before the end of 28 February 2023.

Please note: Members who are not in good standing, will not be issued with their valid EAPASA EAP certificate.

Payments:

- When making payments, please use your registration number as a reference e.g., 2021/001

- Kindly email the proof of payment to finance@eapasa.org



International Environmental Calendar for 2023

International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer:

16 September 2023

International Coastal Clean-up Day:

16 September 2023

World Water Monitoring Day:

18 September 2023

World Clean-up Day:
19 September 2023

Zero Emissions Day
21 September 2023

World Rhino Day:
22 September 2023

World Rivers Day:
26 September 2023

World Environmental Health Day:
26 September 2023

World Habitat Day:
04 October 2023

International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction:
13 October 2023

International Day of Climate Action
24 October 2023

World Fisheries Day
21 November 2023

EAPASA CPD SUBMISSION



EAPs are kindly requested to record CPD credits guided by the three (3) categories described in the CPD guideline document. The EAPASA CPD Categories and Record Sheet can be downloaded on the EAPASA website.

Evidence must be attached to the CPD Record Sheets and be submitted to cpd@eapasa.org.

Important: EAPs that are behind with their CPD submission are reminded to catch up as soon as possible. It is the responsibility of an EAP to ensure that at the end of 5-year period, all 25 CPD credits have been acquired. Supporting documents must be submitted.

EAPs who are unable to make their submissions are required to complete the non- submission form <https://eapasa.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/EAPASA-Adjusting-CPD-Requirements-form.pdf>



Misconduct of EAPs



All Registered EAPs and Candidate EAPs are reminded to adhere to the EAPASA Code of Ethical Conduct and Practice.

Complaints against EAPs are being lodged with the Registrar and EAPASA is obliged to enforce a code of conduct regulating the ethical and professional conduct of registered members.

Unethical EAPs must note that the organisation will take any reasonable steps necessary for the protection of the public and the environment.

EAPASA can only act against Registered EAPs and Candidate EAPs. Complaints received against non-registered persons are referred to the relevant environmental Competent Authority and / or the South African Police Services for investigation.

Registered members can click on this link to read more on the Sanctions <https://eapasa.org/site/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/EAPASA-Malpractice-Policy-Annexure-C-Sanctions.pdf>

All charged EAPs, their contraventions and penalties may be advertised on the EAPASA website for a period not exceeding 5 years which will be in line with their registration cycles.



WHAT TO EXPECT IN 2023



EAPASA has a busy year scheduled, with different activities to look forward to. Being proactive and productive will not only assist us in achieving our goals, but also will be of great value to our members. Below are some of the activities to get excited about:

Virtual CPD Workshops: As a Professional Body recognised by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA), it is imperative that EAPASA ensures its members undertake CPD. In light of this, the organisation has scheduled numerous virtual CPD workshops throughout the year catering for both Official and Private EAPs. Please keep a lookout for our emails and our social media posts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn) for further information closer to the workshop dates.

The MEC/HOD Drive: EAPASA, as the single Registration Authority for EAPs in South Africa, strives to establish and maintain mutually beneficial working relationships with various government departments at national, provincial and local levels. Hence our Board members are on a drive to meet and engage with Honourable MECs and HODs from environmental departments across the nine provinces of South Africa to discuss the professionalisation of the environmental sector.



EAP Registration Workshops: Still a student but interested in joining EAPASA? Keep an eye out for EAPASA's University Registration Workshops.

EAPASA Annual Conference 2023: Enjoyed the 2022 EAPASA Regional Conference? We are pleased to announce that EAPASA will be hosting another annual conference this year.

We continue with our plan of engaging institutions of higher learning in South Africa and hosting registration workshops for students in the environmental field. These workshops will enable you to register with EAPASA in a simple and streamlined process. Please stay tuned for our workshops at your University.

Important dates for submitting abstracts and registering for the conference will be communicated through our communication channels.

One can look forward to three (3) days of insightful, empowering, and exciting discourses that will surely be of great value to EAPs across the SADC region. You will not want to miss it! Make sure to follow us on our social media platforms or alternatively visit our website www.eapasa.org for more details on the 2023 conference.

CONTACT EAPASA



Telephone: 012 880 2154



E-mail: info@eapasa.org or secretariat@eapasa.org



Website: www.eapasa.org



LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/13007257/admin/>



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Twitter: <https://www.twitter.com/EAPASA1>



Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/eapasa_1/



Address: Unit 19, Oxford Office Park, 3 Bauhinia Street,
Highveld Techno Park, Centurion, 0157

PO Box 67 586, Highveld, 0169

