



environmental affairs

Department:
Environmental Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Request for Abstracts

The Department of Environmental Affairs and its science-policy interface partners invites you to submit an abstract of not more than 200 words, for consideration to be presented at the

3rd ANNUAL NATIONAL BIODIVERSITY RESEARCH AND EVIDENCE INDABA

Date: 26 & 27 July 2018

Venue: Gauteng (To be confirmed)

Background of the Annual Indaba

The Department of Environmental Affairs is committed to strengthen the knowledge, science and policy interface. This commitment is guided by the Environment Sector Research, Development and Evidence framework approved by Minister and Members of Executive Council (MINMEC) in June 2012. This framework provides for the development of sector thematic evidence strategies and plans as identified in the framework which includes: Sustainable Development & the Green Economy; Biodiversity, Climate Change; Air Quality; Oceans & Coasts; Chemicals & Waste; Impact Management and Compliance & Enforcement. As such, in line with the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP), the Minister approved the National Biodiversity Research and Evidence Strategy (NBRES) and its Implementation Plan in 2015.

An inclusive process for updating the Implementation Plan for the Strategy was facilitated in 2016 through the inaugural National Biodiversity Research and Evidence Indaba on the 10th to the 11th of August 2016. This was followed by the 2nd Indaba hosted on the 17 -18 August 2017. The aim of the Indaba was to engage key stakeholders within the environment & biodiversity sector, including key policymakers and researchers on the best approaches for strengthening evidence to influence decision and policy making. The 3rd Annual NBRES Indaba builds on this process in an effort to further engage with stakeholders on emerging evidence needs and priorities to update the implementation plan in line with the NBSAP strategic objectives.

Themes for abstracts

The Biodiversity Research and Evidence Indaba is guided by the NBSAP and NBRES strategic objectives. In line with the strategic objectives, you are therefore invited to submit an abstract under the following strategic objectives which are aligned to this years identified thematic focal areas:

- Strategic Objective 1: Management of biodiversity assets and their contribution to the economy, rural development, job creation and social wellbeing is enhanced
- Strategic Objective 3: Biodiversity considerations are mainstreamed into policies, strategies and practices of a range of sectors
- Strategic Objective 4: People are mobilised to adopt practices that sustain the long-term benefits of biodiversity
- Strategic Objective 5: Conservation and management of biodiversity is improved through the development of an equitable and suitably skilled workforce

The guiding details on the short, medium and long term evidence priorities of interest for the Indaba are outlined in the 2016-2017 Implementation Plan (page 11-15 and page 23-26).

https://www.environment.gov.za/sites/default/files/docs/biodiversity_strategy_implementationplan.pdf

This year's Indaba will focus on the following thematic areas derived from the strategic objectives above:

- Biodiversity Economy (with a specific focus on Predation Management)
- Rehabilitation and restoration (with a specific focus on Alien Invasive species)
- Species of special concern (with a specific focus on Elephant Management)
- Global change (with a specific focus on the Nexus between Biodiversity and Climate change adaptation, including Land Degradation)
- Foundational Biodiversity

Scientists, researchers and government officials are encouraged to submit their abstracts of not more than 200 words. For all general enquiries contact: Keith Chuma on KChuma@environment.gov.za or [012 399 9009](tel:0123999009); Sabela Ramafoko on sramafoko@environment.gov.za or [012 399 9536](tel:0123999536). Deadline for submission: 06 July 2018 (Notification of acceptance: 13 July 2018).

We look forward to receiving your abstracts and hopefully seeing you at the 3rd Annual National Biodiversity Research and Evidence Indaba.

Mr Kiruben Naicker- Director: Science-Policy Interface