



Environmental and Resource Economics Conference Announcement

“Environment & Economy: Mind the Gap”

21st and 22nd May 2009

The Ritz Hotel and Conference Centre, Sea Point, Cape Town

A Cape Action for People and the Environment (C.A.P.E.) event hosted by the
South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)

With partnership and sponsorship from:

*Botanical Society of South Africa
Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, Working for Water
WWF Table Mountain Fund
ASSET Research*



Background and themes

The environmental and resource economics field continues to grow fueled by a greater appreciation of the need to understand the economic roots of environmental challenges and to formulate economically sound solutions. Despite a relatively high level of interest and activity in the field, opportunities for learning and cross-pollination are relatively limited. As part of the C.A.P.E. programme, SANBI and its partners are thus pleased to announce a two day conference on economics in natural resource management that will take place in Cape Town on the 21st and 22nd May 2009.

The conference will have a relatively broad focus on environmental resource economics as it applies to natural resource management. As such it will cover the economics of:

- Biodiversity conservation;
- Water resource management with particular emphasis on the management of natural aquatic environments;
- Agricultural resource management with particular emphasis on the management of natural landscapes;
- Climate change as it relates to natural resource management questions; and
- Marine resource management.

Papers and posters are invited under these broad themes and are expected to include contributions on:

- Economic or market-based instruments
- Payment for Ecosystem Services
- Environmental Resource Economic inputs to planning processes (e.g. conservation planning and spatial planning)
- Ecological-economic modelling
- Valuation of environmental goods and services
- Livelihoods issues as they relate to natural resource management
- Political economy and policy considerations in natural resource management
- Natural Resource Accounting

Objectives

The conference will bring together those with an interest in economics from the public and private sectors, academia and consultancy to share results of recent research and to discuss issues relevant to the practical application of environmental resource economics. By creating a mutual platform for those who commission work and those who undertake it, the conference aims to contribute to the effective use of environmental economics for environmental policy and management, as well as influence the research agenda. In essence, it will strive to match theoretical inputs with practical considerations around policy and implementation.

Who should attend?

All researchers, managers, policy makers, government officials, NGO representatives, donors, consultants and students working on or interested in the economic issues associated with natural resource management. While the geographic focus is likely to fall on South and southern Africa, participants from other areas in Africa would be most welcome.

Conference committee

Hugo van Zyl, Christo Marais, Martin de Wit, James Blignaut, Edwin Muchapondwa, Jane Turpie, Onno Huyser, Mark Botha, Russell Wise, Theo Kleynhans, John Donaldson, Lozelle du Plessis, Ephias Makaudze, Stephen Hosking, Eric Mungatana, Tracey Cumming, Geoff Antrobus & Nhlanhla Mbata

Conference secretary

Wendy Paisley
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Call for presentations, papers and posters:

- Contributions in the form of papers (presentations of 15 minutes plus discussion time) or posters on the conference themes would be most welcome.
- In order to facilitate wider participation, you may also submit abstract ideas for short papers (8-10 minutes plus discussion time) which could include research notes, professional practice notes, policy or implementation notes, etc.
- Presenters will be encouraged to submit their papers and/or presentations during the course of the conference for uploading onto the conference website to facilitate access to information and the wider sharing of ideas. These would then constitute the proceedings of the conference.
- Paper and poster titles and abstracts must reach Wendy Paisley **via email** no later than **20 January 2009**.
- Abstracts should be a maximum of 300 words and specify whether they are for a paper, a short paper or a poster. The abstract should contain the title, three to five key words, names of authors and their organisations, email address of the corresponding author. Please prepare the abstract in Arial Narrow 11 with single spacing saved in Microsoft Word. No references, tables, figures or logos should be included in the abstract.
- Guidelines for preparation and submission of papers/presentations will be provided to authors of accepted abstracts in early February 2009. Accepted abstracts will appear in the conference programme.

Provisional programme

Two full days of plenary and parallel sessions are planned to ensure focused discussions on key issues as well as more general discussions and presentations. Local and international speakers will be in attendance to provide inputs on key topics. Note that registration will open at 16h00 on the 20th May and welcome drinks and snacks will be provided in the evening on the 20th May.

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for best overall presentation and poster as well as best student presentation and poster

Registration fees

Early Bird registration forms and fees should reach Wendy Paisley before **20 March 2009** to avoid paying the Late Registration fee. Thereafter the Late Registration Fee will be applicable. The cut-off date for all registration is before **30 April 2009**.

Registration fee amounts:

	Full Registration	Full Registration for Students
Early Bird (<i>before 20 March 2009</i>)	R990	R620
Late Registration (<i>before 30 April 2009</i>)	R1210	R720

- Full registration fees include administrative costs, morning teas, lunches, afternoon teas, and dinners only, for the duration of the conference. Full Rates do not include accommodation or breakfast.
- Daily rates are also available – see registration form for details.

Registration forms and fee payment

- Registration forms accompany this announcement or can be requested from Wendy Paisley. Invoices with banking details will be sent to those that submit registration forms to allow for payment. A person shall only be considered registered on receipt of both registration form and registration fee with proof of payment.
- Registration fees are transferable to other persons provided a fresh registration form is completed and reaches the secretariat before **24 April 2009**.

Accommodation

Accommodation can be booked at The Ritz Hotel through their website (www.africanskyhotels.co.za/hotels.htm) or by phoning +27 21 439 6988. There are also a number of other accommodation options nearby that can be accessed through www.tourismcapetown.co.za

Cut off dates

Papers & posters – titles and abstracts in	20 th January 2009
Early Bird Registration – registration and payment completed	20 th March 2009
Late Registration – registration and payment completed	30 th April 2009
Cancellation – 75% reimbursement	If made between 15 April 2009 and 30 April 2009
Cancellation – No reimbursement	After 30 April 2009