



**science  
& technology**

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



National  
Research  
Foundation

## **THIRD ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR PAPERS**

# **NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GLOBAL CHANGE**

**Birchwood Hotel Boksburg, 26 – 28 November 2012**

**Organised by**

**Department of Science and Technology**

**and**

**National Research Foundation**

**in Collaboration with**

**Department of Environmental Affairs**

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the National Research Foundation (NRF), in collaboration with the Department of Environmental Affairs, are organizing a three days national conference on Global Change. The conference will take place at **Birchwood Hotel and Conference Centre, Boksburg** ([www.birchwoodhotel.co.za](http://www.birchwoodhotel.co.za)) on **26 – 28 November 2012** under the auspices of the Hon. Minister of Science and Technology.

## **Strategic Context**

Following the finalization of the Global Change Implementation Framework, one of the decisions by the global change research and policy communities was to have an annual event to reflect on the progress in, and showcase products and services emerging from the implementation of the Framework. These annual events would run from 2011 to 2018, and would consist of dedicated high level publications alternating with national conferences.

The first event in this series was the publication in 2011 of *‘Observations on Environmental Change in South Africa’* championed by the South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON). This dedicated high profile volume documents the latest observations of Global Change trends and their policy implications. The national Global Change Conference will constitute the high profile annual event in 2012.

## **Conference Theme**

The central theme of the 2012 Global Change conference is: ***“Understanding Global Change for Innovation towards a Resilient Society”***.

## **Purpose and Objectives**

The overall purpose of the biennial conference is:

- to grow existing global change programmes, and introduce new ones to enhance the implementation of the GCGC and support the country’s sustainable development and green economy ambitions; and
- to provide insight into the GC-related activities and their contribution to key national imperatives

The specific objectives of the 2012 conference are:

- to provide a platform for key global change stakeholders to share current South African research and innovation initiatives and interventions that are related to the global change grand challenge;
- to enhance the uptake of GC-related science/research in support of decision making;
- to facilitate networking for key global change stakeholders in the country and stimulate partnerships to enhance implementation of the Global Change Grand Challenge; and
- to drive the process of building the next generation of young scientists by creating a forum for them to present their research and interact with experienced scientists

This conference is expected to bring together approximately 250 professional and young researchers of the key global change programmes, the broader R&D community, business,

industry, government, civil society and funding agencies to present and discuss latest developments in global change research, as well as technology and policy solutions to mitigate the impacts of change.

## **Structure**

The conference will be structured into five major components:

- Plenary sessions for invited keynote lectures and selected research/technical papers
- Thematic parallel sessions for oral presentation of selected research/technical papers, and case studies;
- Poster sessions;
- Multi-stakeholder dialogue and panel discussions; and
- Exhibitions of products and services – scientific and non-scientific

These activities will span over two and half days (see draft programme in Annexure 1).

## **Call for papers**

The organisers will welcome abstracts presenting research results, technological innovation, management policy or products and services in any of the sub-themes below. The subthemes are broadly grouped into four categories in alignment with the four knowledge challenges of the Global Change Research Plan

### *A. Understanding a changing planet.*

- i. Dynamics of the oceans around Southern Africa
- ii. Carbon fluxes in the biosphere
- iii. Dynamics of the Earth systems
- iv. Improving Climate predictions - Down-scaling Climate models

### *B. Reducing the human foot print.*

- i. Conserving Biodiversity and Ecosystem services
- ii. Sustainable production and consumption
- iii. Institutional integration and governance

### **C. Adapting the way we live**

- i. Water resources use and governance
- ii. Coastal management
- iii. Food Security
- iv. Preparing for extreme events
- v. Sustainable Urban development
- vi. Deliberative transformation and behaviour change

### **D. Innovation for sustainability**

- i. Reducing risks and enhancing resilience to change
- ii. Improving Resilience and Capability (Complexity Science)
- iii. Technological innovation including Geo-engineering
- iv. Green Economy

- v. Social Learning
- vi. Methodologies for effective dialogue and negotiation

All abstracts will be reviewed by the Conference Scientific Advisory Committee which will advise on the acceptance and recommended mode of presentation (oral or poster). All abstracts must be submitted to Ms. Ntombizini Manana ([Ntombizini.manana@nrf.ac.za](mailto:Ntombizini.manana@nrf.ac.za)) on or before **26 October 2012**.

### **Guidelines for Preparation of Abstracts**

- Abstracts must be submitted as MS Word file and should not be longer than 1 A4 page laid out in the following format:
  - a. The preferred font type: ARIAL
  - b. Font size of 14pt for title; 10pt for affiliations; and 11pt for the text
  - c. Line spacing of 1.5
  - d. Left margin of 3 cm and 2.5 cm for the top, right and bottom margins
- Authors are required to provide 5 – 7 keywords for indexing purposes
- The name and contact details (e-mail and phone) of the corresponding author must be clearly specified. All communications will be done with this author only.
- If applicable, literature citations should be marked in the text as numbered end notes listed serially at the end of the abstract.
- The conference secretariat may undertake minor re-formatting but submissions that are grossly aberrant will be returned to authors.

### **Registration**

Registration for the conference is free. All interested participants are required to complete the conference registration form (Annexure 2) and return by email to the address indicated on the form. The registration deadline has been further extended to **31 October 2012**. Please note that confirmation of attendance is on a first-come first-serve basis.

### **Logistics**

The conference organizers will provide a free conference package to all registered participants. This includes the conference kit, lunches and refreshments (tea/coffee breaks). With the exception of invited speakers and sponsored students all participants are expected to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements. Please contact Birchwood Hotel directly (([www.birchwoodhotel.co.za](http://www.birchwoodhotel.co.za)) to book your accommodation if you wish to stay over at the venue. If you need assistance for accommodation within Boksburg please contact Event Helpline ([lynne@eventhelpline.com](mailto:lynne@eventhelpline.com)) or Amatheko ([www.amatheko.com](http://www.amatheko.com); [mabena@amatheko.co.za](mailto:mabena@amatheko.co.za); [ben@amatheko.com](mailto:ben@amatheko.com)).

### **Sponsorship**

A limited number of sponsorships will be provided to students whose abstracts are accepted for oral or poster presentation. Sponsorship shall cover travel expenses and full board accommodation at, or in the vicinity of the conference venue.

## Dates to Remember

- Deadline for registration of participants: **31 October 2012**
- Deadline for submission of abstracts: **26 October 2012**
- Feedback from reviewers: **31 October 2012**
- Feedback to abstract authors: **31 October 2012**
- Confirmation of participation and final submission of corrected abstracts (where applicable): **02 November 2012**

## Conference Secretariat

Achuo Enow - Knowledge Fields Development, NRF [a.enow@nrf.ac.za](mailto:a.enow@nrf.ac.za);

Ntombizini Manana - Knowledge Fields Development, NRF.  
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Lientjie Mogano – Knowledge Fields Development, NRF [Lientjie.mogano@nrf.ac.za](mailto:Lientjie.mogano@nrf.ac.za);

## Conference Management Team

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## Local Organizing Committee

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## **Scientific Advisory Committee**

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# First National Global Change Conference

26 – 28 November 2012

## DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

**CONFERENCE CHAIR:** Dr Albert Van Jaarsveld (CEO, NRF)

DAY ONE: 26 NOVEMBER		
07:30 – 09:45	Registration (Tea and Coffee served)	Conference Secretariat
10:00 – 11:00	<b>Opening Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction and Welcome</li> <li>• Official Opening Address</li> <li>• Keynote Lecture (Overview of GC Science)</li> <li>• Video clip on GC highlights (5 -7 minutes)</li> </ul>	Conference Chair Hon. Minister Derek Hanekom MP Prof Mark Swilling (SUN) <i>tbc</i> SAEON/ATLAS/ACCESS
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Plenary Session I: High-level Panel Discussion: Stakeholder Perspectives</b>  Introductory remarks Brief remarks by panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Civil Society Perspective</li> <li>• Government Perspective</li> <li>• Business Perspective</li> <li>• Research Perspective</li> <li>• Academia Perspective</li> </ul> Open Discussion	<b>Chair/Moderator:</b> Dr A van Jaarsveld  Hon. Minister Trevor Manuel MP <i>tbc</i>  Dr Deon Nel (WWF) <i>tbc</i> Ms Nosipho Ngcaba (DG, DEA) Mr Mbangi Nephumbada (DWA) <i>tbc</i> Ms Valerie Geen (NBI) CEO, HSRC <i>tbc</i> Prof Rashid Hassan (UP) <i>tbc</i> Prof Edgar Pieterse (ACC) <i>tbc</i>
12:30 – 14:00	<b>Lunch Break; Exhibitions and Poster Session</b>	
14:00 – 15:30	<b>Parallel Sessions I: Understanding a changing planet</b>  1A. Dynamics of the oceans around Southern Africa 1B. Carbon fluxes in the biosphere 1C. Dynamics of the Earth systems 1D. Improving and communicating downscaled climate predictions	Chair: Dr Monde Mayekiso (DEA)  Chair: Dr Bob Scholes (CSIR) Chair: Dr Linda Makuleni (SAWS) <i>tbc</i> Chair: Prof Bruce Hewitson (UCT)
15:30 – 15:50	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	

15:50 – 17:20	<b>Plenary Session II: Innovation for sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Green Economy</li> <li>• Reducing risks and enhancing resilience to change</li> <li>• Improving Resilience and Capability (Complexity Science)</li> <li>• Technological innovation including Geo-engineering</li> </ul>	<b>Chair:</b> Mr. Imraan Patel (DST)
18:00 – 21:00	<b>Gala Dinner</b>	
<b>DAY TWO: 27 NOVEMBER</b>		
07:30 – 08:55	Registration	
08:30 – 10:30	<b>Plenary Session III: Adapting the way we live</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water resources use and governance</li> <li>• Coastal management</li> <li>• Food Security</li> <li>• Preparing for extreme events</li> </ul>	<b>Chair:</b> Dr Harrison Pienaar (CSIR) <i>tbc</i>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Parallel Session II: Reducing the human foot print</b> 2A. Conserving Biodiversity and Ecosystem services 2B. Sustainable production and consumption 2C. Institutional integration and governance	Chair: Dr Tanya Abrahamse (SANBI) <i>tbc</i> Chair: Mr Ndivhuho Raphulu (NCPC) <i>tbc</i> Chair: Dr Marius Claassen (CSIR) <i>tbc</i>
12:30 – 13:30	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
13:30 – 15:00	<b>Plenary Session IV: Adapting the way we live; Innovation for sustainability</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable Urban development</li> <li>• Social learning</li> <li>• Methodologies for effective dialogue and negotiation</li> <li>• Deliberative transformation and behaviour change</li> </ul>	<b>Chair:</b> Prof Heila Lotz (RU) <i>tbc</i>
15:00 – 15:30	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	
15:30 – 16:30	<b>Volunteered Parallel Sessions I</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Land use and land cover Change</li> <li>• Green Economy</li> <li>• Ecosystems and people's Livelihoods</li> </ul>	<b>Convener:</b> Dr. Guy Midgley (SANBI) <b>Convener:</b> Prof Mark Swilling (SUN) <b>Convener:</b> Mr. Stanley Liphadzi (WRC)



16:30 – 17:30	<b>Volunteered Parallel Sessions II</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Science and Governance of Geo-engineering</li> <li>• Global Change and Society</li> <li>• Mountains as arenas for measurement and mitigation of Global Change</li> </ul>	<b>Convener:</b> Prof Andy Parker (Harvard) <b>Convener:</b> Prof Blignaut & Dr J Pauw <b>Convener:</b> Prof Willem Ferguson (UP)
18:00 – 20:00	<b>Sponsored Dinner</b>	
<b>DAY THREE: 28 NOVEMBER</b>		
08:30 - 10:30	<b>Plenary Session V: Reports from Parallel Sessions</b>	Session Chairs/rapporteurs
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Refreshment Break</b>	
11:00 – 12:00	<b>Closing Session</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Awards</li> <li>• Conference Wrap up</li> <li>• Closing Address</li> </ul>	Conference Chair Conference Chair Dr Nqaba Ngcobo, MP (S&T Portfolio Committee Chair)
12:00	<b>Lunch and Departure</b>	

## REGISTRATION FORM

### Delegate details:

Full Name: .....

Job Title/Student number: .....

Telephone: ..... Fax: .....

Email: .....

### Organisation details:

Name of organisation/Institution.....

Address: .....

.....

Post code: .....

### Type of Contributions:

I wish to give an oral presentation on a paper entitled:

.....

.....

I wish to present a poster on a paper entitled:

.....

.....

I wish to attend **but will not** present a paper:

.....

.....

Please submit completed registration form by email to:

Ms. Ntombizini Manana ([Ntombizini.manana@nrf.ac.za](mailto:Ntombizini.manana@nrf.ac.za))

**Annexure 3: List of alternative accommodation closer to Birchwood Hotel**

**Garden Court O.R. Tambo International Airport**

**Tel: +27 11 392 1062**

**Fax: +27 11 974 8097**

**Email: gcortambo.reservations@tsogosun.com**

**Intercontinental Johannesburg OR Tambo**

**Tel: +27 11 961 5400**

**reservations@icairport.com**

**www.tsogosunhotels.com**

**Southern Sun O.R. Tambo International Airport**

**Tel: +27 11 977 3600**

**Fax: +27 11 975 0258**

**Email: ssortambo.reservations@tsogosun.com**

**Emporor's Palace**

**Tel: +27 11 928 1000**

**E-mail: info@emperorspalace.com**

**www.emperorspalace.co.za**

**Protea Hotel OR Tambo**

**Tel +27 11 390 1160**

**Email: room@proteahoteltransit.co.za**

**www.proteahotels.com**

**City Lodge**

**Tel +27 11 552 7600**

**Email: clort.resv@citylodge.co.za**

**www.citylodge.co.za**

**Town Lodge**

**Telephone: +27 11 974-5202**

**Email: [tlairport.resv@citylodge.co.za](mailto:tlairport.resv@citylodge.co.za)**

**[www.citylodge.co.za](http://www.citylodge.co.za)**

**Road Lodge**

**Email: [rlairport.dm@citylodge.co.za](mailto:rlairport.dm@citylodge.co.za)**

**Tel: +27 11 392-2268**

**[www.citylodge.co.za](http://www.citylodge.co.za)**