

ELA NEWSLETTER 45

22 November 2019

LEGISLATION

NOTICES

National Environmental Management Act 107 of 1998 - GN 1496 in GG 42849 of 22 November 2019 - Consultation on the intention to amend the EIA Regulations, 2014, as amended (regulation 54A) [also sent to members as separate email]

Plant Breeders' Rights Act 15 of 1976 - GN 1491 in GG 42849 of 22 November 2019 - Receipt of applications for plant breeders' rights

Agricultural Pests Act 36 of 1983 - GN R1511 in GG 42850 of 22 November 2019 - Control measures relating to honey bees amended

National Heritage Resources Act 25 of 1999 - GNs 1493 & 1494 in GG 42849 of 22 November 2019 - South African Heritage Resources Agency - Declaration of the June 16 Soweto Route, Orlando West, Soweto, Gauteng and the Walter Sisulu Square of Dedication, Kliptown, Soweto, Gauteng as National Heritage Sites

National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003 – Gen Notice 614 in GG 42849 of 22 November 2019 - Intention to declare an area in the Northern Cape Province a National Park (Meerkat) within the South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO) Area - for comment

PROVINCES

Eastern Cape

Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 - PN 319 in PG 4346 of 18 November 2019 - Joe Gqabi District Municipality - Appointment of municipal planning tribunal members and Agreement for the establishment of a Municipal Planning Tribunal (JGDMPT)

Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 - LAN 290 in PG 4346 of 18 November 2019 - Kouga Local Municipality - Establishment of the Municipal Planning Tribunal and the appointment of members

Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 - LAN 293 in PG 4347 of 20 November 2019 - Makana Local Municipality - Spatial Development

Framework Plan (2019) inclusive of Capital Investment Framework and Implementation Plan; CBD Traffic and Transport Management Plan (2019); and Development levy policy and calculator (2019)

Western Cape

Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 and Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 - LAN 58389 in PG 8179 of 15 November 2019 - Mossel Bay Local Municipality - By-law on Municipal Land Use Planning and By-law on Municipal Land Use Planning, 2014 amended

Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996, Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 and Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 - LAN 58389 in PG 8179 of 15 November 2019 - Mossel Bay Local Municipality - Integrated Zoning Scheme By-law

Western Cape Land Use Planning Act 3 of 2014 - PN 118 in PG 8180 of 22 November 2019 - Intention to amend the Provincial Spatial Development Framework, 2014 – for comment

National Environmental Management: Protected Areas Act 57 of 2003 - PN 119 in PG 8180 of 22 November 2019 - Declaration of a nature reserve - Van Loveren Nature Reserve

Mpumalanga

Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 and Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 - LAN 84 in PG 3106 of 22 November 2019 - Steve Tshwete Local Municipality - Public Transport By-laws, 2019

Spatial Planning and Land Use Management Act 16 of 2013 - LAN 87 in PG 3106 of 22 November 2019 - Dipaleseng Local Municipality - Invitation for public participation in the process of reviewing the Spatial Development Framework (SDF)

CASES

National

Tetani and Another v Buffalo City Metropolitan Municipality and Another (EL406/2019) [2019] ZAECELLC 31 (14 November 2019)

“[1] The applicants are husband and wife. They brought an urgent application in which they sought a rule *nisi* calling upon the respondents to show cause why they should not be interdicted and restrained from unlawfully disconnecting the electricity supply to the applicants’ premises, and be directed to reconnect the electricity supply to the applicant’s premises. The application was brought on an urgent basis. On 17 April 2019 Smith J, granted the following order:

‘1. The Applicants’ non-compliance with the rules relating to service of processes and papers as well as the timeframes set out, including the 72 hours’ notice referred to in section 36 of the General Law Amendment Act, 1955 (Act 62 of 1955) be and is hereby condoned;

2. That the Applicants be granted leave to proceed with this application by way of urgency in terms of rule 6(12);
3. That the Applicants be granted leave to serve the application papers and any order granted by this Honourable Court on the Respondent's physical address.
4. That a rule *nisi* issue calling upon the Respondents to show cause on 14 May 2019 at 09h30 or soon thereafter as the matter may be heard why an order in the following terms should not be made final:
 1. That the termination/disconnection/blockage of electricity supply to Mhlophe Avenue, Sunnyridge, East London ('the premises') on Tuesday, 16 April 2019 be and is hereby declared unlawful."

Notyawa v Makana Municipality and Others [2019] ZACC 43

"Summary: Local Government: Municipal Systems Act 32 of 2000 — unreasonable delay — interests of justice — Promotion of Administrative Justice Act 3 of 2000 — legality review" – appointment of municipal manager

International

R (on the application of Wright) (Respondent) v Resilient Energy Severndale Ltd and Forest of Dean District Council (Appellants) [2019] [UKSC](#) 53 [also read comment [here](#)]

"[1] This case concerns a challenge by the respondent ('Mr Wright') to the grant of planning permission by the local planning authority (the second appellant: 'the Council') for the change of use of land at Severndale Farm, Tidenham, Gloucestershire from agriculture to the erection of a single community scale 500kW wind turbine for the generation of electricity ('the development'). Mr Wright is a local resident. The first appellant ("Resilient Severndale") was the successful applicant for the planning permission." [Legalbrief 22 November 2019]

PUBLICATIONS

National

Index and Annotations to the South African Law Reports, Juta's (2014-2018)
([Juta](#) November 2019)

International

2019 *Transnational Environmental Law* 8(3) November – now [available](#) – can be downloaded until 31 December 2019

IRENA, “Future of solar photovoltaic” ([Report](#) November 2019)

Stewart T *et al* “A third of the tropical African flora is potentially threatened with extinction” 2019 5(1) [Science Advances](#) DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.aax9444

Quezada JC *et al* “Carbon neutral expansion of oil palm plantations in the Neotropics” 2019 5(11) [Science Advances](#) DOI: 10.1126/sciadv.aaw4418

BLOGS, DISCUSSIONS, WEBSITES, VIDEOS, ETC

South Africa

- **Climate change and energy**

[Daily Maverick](#): Planting S “Climate crisis opportunity: Making money on the road to hell” 22 November 2019

[Daily Maverick](#): Sayed MK “The climate crisis discourse needs to include developmental states” 22 November 2019

[GroundUp](#): Postman Z “Dispute over electrification in Tembisa” 21 November 2019

- **Local government**

[Daily Maverick](#): Wayland D “From plastic bottle to ... plastic bottle: how Cape Town recycles” 22 November 2019

[IOL](#): September L “Cape Town, a real tale of two cities” 21 November 2019

[IOL](#): James G “How can protecting Bo-Kaap’s heritage come before the creation of much-needed jobs?” 19 November 2019

- **Mining**

[Daily Maverick](#): Stoddard E “Joint operations centre set up to quash platinum belt unrest” 22 November 2019

[BusinessLive](#): Steyn L “What’s really fuelling SA mine protests?” 21 November 2019

- **Water, waste and chemicals**

[Daily Maverick](#): Ellis E “Nelson Mandela Bay still waiting for drought disaster declaration” 22 November 2019

[GroundUp](#): Sizani M “Nelson Mandela Bay is drowning in rubbish” 22 November 2019

[Mail & Guardian](#): Pillay S “How our urine and faeces can be used to fuel growth and create a cleaner environment” 23 November 2019

- **Miscellaneous**

[GroundUp](#): Mbovane T “Concern over unclean conditions at initiation schools” 21 November 2019

Africa

- **Biodiversity**

[The Conversation](#): Murray-Hudson M and Dauteuil O “Botswana’s Okavango Delta is created by a delicate balance, but for how much longer?” 14 November 2019

[IOL](#): Frykberg M “One out of three African tropical plants faces extinction” 21 November 2019

- **Climate Change and Energy**

[IOL](#): Magome M “Pics: Deadly drought is leaving millions in southern Africa hungry” 21 November 2019

- **Local government**

ICLEI CityTalk [Blog](#): “Mainstreaming nature in Malawi: Bringing local-level knowledge to national decision-making” 19 November 2019

- **Mining**

[The Conversation](#): Boafo J “Ghana’s traditional and state powers must collaborate to halt illegal mining” 12 November 2019

[Place](#): Ndhlovu L “Homes, land destroyed as desperate Zimbabweans turn to illegal gold mining” 20 November 2019

[Mining Weekly](#): “Corruption, child labour risk in Congo’s cobalt industry, OECD warns” 15 November 2019

[Mail & Guardian](#): “Gold rush destabilises central Sahel” 22 November 2019

- **Water, sanitation, oceans and chemicals**

[IISD](#) SDG Knowledge Hub: Paul D “On World Toilet Day, UN Highlights Plight of Sanitation Workers” 21 November 2019

- **Miscellaneous**

[The Conversation](#): Kimani D and Areneke G “African multinationals bring home much more than profits” 17 November 2019

[Mail & Guardian](#): Ngumbi E “African governments must invest in science for future growth” 23 November 2019

International

- **Biodiversity, protected areas and culture**

[IISD](#) ENB: 11th Meeting of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Article 8(j) and Related Provisions and 23rd Meeting of the Subsidiary Body on Scientific, Technical and Technological Advice of the Convention on Biological Diversity: 20-22 and 25-29 November 2019 | Montreal, Canada

[Place](#): Chandran R “India drops plan to let forest officials use force after protests” 16 November 2019

- **Climate change and energy**

[Carbon Pulse](#): “More ambitious Alberta climate plan would yield little economic harm, despite govt claims -economist” 18 November 2019

[Place](#): Wulfhorst E “US announces \$30 million to bolster coasts from flooding, rising seas” 19 November 2019

[IISD](#) SDG Knowledge Hub: Antonich B “Carbon Pricing and Markets Update: Preparing Mechanisms for Rising Demand” 21 November 2019

[The Independent](#): O’Grady S “Why have electric cars failed to spark with consumers?” 22 November 2019

[The Guardian](#): Bell A “We’ve already got a climate crisis – let’s not turn it into a culture war” 22 November 2019

- **Local government**

ICLEI CityTalk [Blog](#): Bizzotto M “New report charts the evolution of urban resilience” 20 November 2019

[ICLEI](#): “Recife becomes first Brazilian city to declare climate emergency” 20 November 2019

[GCN](#): Kanowitz S “Bringing better data to local climate action planning” 24 October 2019

ICLEI CityTalk [Blog](#): “The water-energy-food nexus – an intersectoral approach to resource efficiency” 15 November 2019

[Place](#): Elks S “E-transport boom could see first major European city go car free in 2020” 15 November 2019

[Place](#): Goering L “Baking cities advance 'slowly' in race against rising heat threat” 15 November 2019

[IISD](#) SDG Knowledge Hub: Dean B “Lack of Sustainable Cooling Threatens Safety, Health and Food Security of Hundreds of Millions” 21 November 2019

[Place](#): Bacchi U “Greener, longer life: More trees reduce premature deaths in cities” 20 November 2019

[Place](#): Rowling M “‘Smart cities’ urged to look beyond rich, white men” 21 November 2019

[The Guardian](#): Petersen H-E and Chaurasia M “Indian city's cow dung ban leaves a bitter taste for street food vendors” 22 November 2019

- **Water, oceans, waste and chemicals**

[Place](#): Lei Win T “Fish in fashion: Scientists and designers create products to soothe stressed oceans” 21 November 2019

- **Miscellaneous**

ICLEI CityTalk [Blog](#): “Seven European cities pilot solutions to be more circular” 15 November 2019

[IOL](#): Pakiam R “Asia needs \$800bn over the next decade to feed itself” 21 November 2019

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

National

[Stakeholder Consultation Workshop -WRC Corporate Plan Development 2020/25](#)

Date: Monday, 25 November 2019

Venue: WRC offices, Bloukrans Building, Lynnwood Bridge Office Park

Time: 10:00 – 13:30

The Water Research Commission (WRC) cordially invites you as a stakeholder to attend the WRC Corporate Plan Development session looking at the upcoming five-year cycle 2020/25. As a national public agency, the WRC actively strives to support the Government of South Africa in achieving its strategic outcomes, with particular reference to the National Development Plan (NDP) objectives as well as the Corporate Plan (Annual Performance Plan) of the Department and the performance agreement of the Minister of Water and Sanitation. Stakeholder consultation is an ongoing and iterative process that incorporates discussions and recommendations from the WRC stakeholders in various forums. The consultative process employs both forecasting and back-casting approaches to the development of strategic objectives, involving an analysis of the WRC's current positioning in the sector as well as a reflection on potential developments in the external organisational environment that could have an impact on the five-year planning cycle.

Aim

To make the WRC's corporate future planning an inclusive process to solicit and accommodate inputs from various stakeholders within the water sector and more specifically, the Department of Human Settlements, Water and Sanitation.

Who should attend

The workshop targets different stakeholder groups (Government Departments, Municipalities, Research Councils , Academia, NGOs, NPO, Private Sector , Consultants , International and other stakeholders) who have interest in the Water Research Commission.

[Click Here To RSVP](#)

CBSS Water Governance Training Courses

Now endorsed by WISA, delegates qualify for three CPD-points - full details [here](#)

- 12-14 May 2020, in Nelspruit (registration closes 20 April 2020) – more information [here](#)
- 11 – 13 February 2020, Stellenbosch, registration closes 27 January 2020
- 10 – 12 March 2020, Pretoria, registration closes 24 February 2020
- 12 – 14 May 2020, Nelspruit, registration closes 23 April 2020

Course costs differ, depending on the city, and can be found [here](#).

Discounts are available for Early Bird payments, bona fide students, WISA members, and group registrations. Registration [here](#)

Webber Wentzel: Mining Indaba Cocktail Function – Save the date

Date: 4 February 2020

Venue: Venue: Webber Wentzel Offices | 15th Floor | Convention Tower | Heerengracht | Foreshore | Cape Town

Time: 17:00

Mandela Institute of the School of Law Postgraduate Certificate Courses in Law and Sustainability 1 & Water Law

Place: University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg

Dates 3 February to 14 May 2020

For course details, entry requirements, application process and other course offerings visit the Mandela Institute [website](#).

Registration closes on 29 November 2019.

Registration and inquiries: [Mandela Institute](#), Tel: 011 717 8435/8438; [E-mail](#)

International

Sabin Colloquium on Innovative Environmental Law Scholarship

Venue: Columbia Law School, New York, New York

Dates: 7-8 May 2020

This 8th Annual Sabin Colloquium will allow junior environmental law scholars to present early-stage work and receive constructive feedback from a panel of senior scholars and from each other.

Eligible applicants are pre-tenure professors, fellows, visiting assistant professors, and other junior scholars in similar academic positions. Papers on environmental law, energy law, natural resources law or water law are eligible. No junior scholar may participate in the Colloquium more than twice.

The panel will select the proposals for discussion based on the degree of innovation they exhibit, the extent to which they point toward practical solutions to environmental problems, and whether, based on the scholarly and analytical quality of the proposals, they are likely to lead to high-quality work products.

To enter, please submit a cover letter, an outline or concept paper of 5 -15 double-spaced pages, and [email](#) a C.V. by March 1. If an article has already been drafted, please just submit a summary of no more than 15 pages. Footnotes are not expected. Articles that have already been accepted for publication are not eligible. This event is for early-stage work that can still be significantly shaped by the discussion at the Colloquium.

Authors of selected papers will be notified by March 30. All Colloquium participants will be expected to participate in the full program (the afternoon and evening of May 7, and all day on May 8) and to read and comment on each

others' proposals. The domestic travel costs of all participants will be reimbursed. However, in the interest of minimizing the program's carbon footprint, an option of participating via video link will also be provided.

IAIA Free Webinar: Addressing Health in Environmental Impact Assessment - A Draft for Consultation

Date: 3 December 2019

[Registration](#) and time

IAIA21 Save the Date

Place: Vancouver, Canada

Date: 18-21 May 2021

ICLEI Webinar: Technical nature-based solutions: Urban stories of widening roll-out

Date: 05 December 2019

[Registration](#)

Fedarene: Webinar – Long-Term Energy Planning for Carbon Neutrality in EU Cities and Regions

Date: 18 December 2019

More [information](#)

Webinar on Sustainable Energy for Household Cooking Needs in Humanitarian Settings

When: 28 November, Thursday

Time: 10:30 am CET (check your [local time](#))

This webinar on sustainable cooking fuels and technologies will begin with a high-level overview of the basics of clean cooking in humanitarian settings. In addition, two case studies will provide a deep dive into work on the ground:

The UNHCR will present its experiences from Bangladesh, focusing on the planning and implementation of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) interventions, as well as demonstrating the benefits of LPG for people's lives.

The International Lifeline Fund will give an overview of their different approaches to providing cooking energy to individuals and communities in Uganda. They will share their experiences and lessons learned about what works or what doesn't, and why.

Last but not least, the Modern Energy Cooking Services (MECS) Challenge Fund will be presented.

Register [here](#)

More [information](#)

NEWS

National

- **Biodiversity**

“Two suspected poachers killed in KZN reserve” [TimesLive](#) 13 November 2019 [Legalbrief Environmental 19 November 2019]

Chirume J “Eastern Cape fishers welcome issuing of fishing rights” [GroundUp](#) 18 November 2019

Cockburn H “Half of the world's donkey population could be killed in next five years amid surge in demand for Chinese medicine” [The Independent](#) 22 November 2019

- **Climate change and energy**

Hlatshaneni S “SA’s new ‘green’ car taxes once again aim at a ‘soft target’” [The Citizen](#) 18 November 2019 [Legalbrief Environmental 19 November 2019]

“Refuted: Green light for Western Cape to source energy direct from IPPs” [ESI Africa](#) 19 November 2019

Roelf W “Eskom, which uses coal-fired power plants, has been granted a reprieve until 2020 to meet air emissions standards” [Business Day](#) 20 November 2019

- **Local government**

General: Heritage victory for Bo-Kaap

“Bo-Kaap residents have claimed another victory after the Cultural Affairs & Sport MEC’s Independent Appeal Tribunal dismissed an appeal by Any Side Investment relating to 150 Buitengracht Street, Cape Town, says a Cape Argus report. Bo-Kaap Civic and Ratepayers Association chairperson Osman Shaboodien said the building, if approved, would add to the ‘concrete wall’ on Buitengracht Street, dividing the poor working-class Bo-Kaap from the rich city. The proposed construction is a nine-storey mixed-use development next to the historic Auwal Mosque. It includes retail and short-term rentals with only five parking bays. Bo-Kaap residents said it was out of character with the historic Bo-Kaap buildings. Initially, approval was given to the developers to demolish the current houses on the site but then an appeal was lodged, delaying their plans. According to Any Side Investments, the site has been vacant for more than 10 years and it had acquired the property in 2017, with heritage approved rights in place for a nine-storey building. However, Any Side Investments had appealed a decision by Heritage Western Cape in 2018.”

Full Cape Argus report (subscription needed) [Legalbrief 19 November 2019]

- **Mining**

Mabuza E “ConCourt overturns Zwane, Molewa's permission to mine in protected area” [TimesLive](#) 18 November 2019 [Legalbrief 19 November 2019]

Yeld J “Constitutional Court rejects coal mining company’s attempt to appeal” [GroundUp](#) 20 November 2019

“Sand mine would devastate Philippi horticulture area, say campaigners” [EWN](#) 13 November 2019 [Legalbrief Environmental 19 November 2019]

Niselow T “Trial date finally set for Khulubuse Zuma, Zondwa Mandela in water pollution case” [Fin24](#) 22 November 2019

Steyn L “Transnet signs deal to help unlock Waterberg coal” [BusinessLive](#) 21 November 2019

“Criminals are an element of mining community unrest” [BusinessLive](#) 21 November 2019

- **Water, waste, oceans and chemicals**

Shange N “Hawks arrest 10 over R600m toilet tender in Eastern Cape” [TimesLive](#) 21 November 2019 read also [News24](#) report [Legalbrief 22 November 2019]

- **Miscellaneous**

DARDLEA: Competent Authority updated forms

From 4 Oct, with the coming in to effect of the Screening Tool, DARDLEA have had to amend their EIA application forms to include the National Sector Classification. Some other minor amendments to the application forms have been made. the new forms must be used from 4 October 2019. [IAIASa News 2019/2020 | 15 November 2019]

[Application for authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 \(Act No. 107 of 1998\), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 \(as amended\)](#)

[Application for amendment of an environmental authorisation in terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 \(Act No. 107 of 1998\), as amended and the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations, 2014 \(as amended\)](#)

KZN EDTEA have also provided [updated application forms](#)

Pdf Application forms are available under the “Environmental Management Applications” drop down menu [here](#) [IAIASa Newsletter November 2019]

Recirculation of stakeholder needs assessment Survey Deadline 11 December 2019

The 2025 SAE 2025 Visioning Workshop was held in Pretoria on 17 & 18 October 2019. During the workshop it was agreed that the presentations would be shared, and that all stakeholders would be encouraged to participate in the development of the Vision going forward.

As agreed, please find the URL to access the presentations for the workshop - [here](#).

It was also agreed during the visioning workshop for the State of Environment to re-circulate the Stakeholder user needs assessment survey that was conducted in September 2019 prior to the visioning workshop.

Attached find the link to access and complete the survey [here](#).

With this, as a valued user or prospective user of the department’s state of environment products, we would sincerely appreciate the investment of 15 minutes of your time to complete the survey.

The deadline for the completion of the survey is 11 December 2019.

Malgas B “Watch | West Coast livelihoods in danger as steel plant closes” [News24](#) 22 November 2019

Land reform: KZN failures point to difficult road ahead

“A National Assembly Agriculture, Land Reform & Rural Development Committee report on its oversight visit to KZN points to the need for a complete rethink on how to facilitate the meaningful, sustained development of land reform beneficiaries and emerging farmers. Across the full spectrum of government interventions there appears to have been evidence of widespread financial mismanagement; inadequate support, capacity building and skills development; and poor planning and coordination. If the ‘lived experiences’ of land reform beneficiaries and small-scale farmers in KZN is any indication, accelerated land redistribution in the interests of developing an ‘inclusive agricultural sector’ is doomed to failure.”

Read full report in Legalbrief Policy Watch 21 November 2019

International

- **Biodiversity, protected areas, animal rights and culture**

Perper A “An Australian koala hospital raised more than R11 million to help rescue native animals injured in the devastating wildfires roaring across the country” [Business Insider](#) 22 November 2019

“Decapitated Sumatran elephant found dead in Indonesia” [News24](#) 21 November 2019

“Oh duck off!! French court kicks out neighbour's complaint about rowdy birds” [IOL](#) 22 November 2019

Cockburn H “Third of tropical African plants set to go extinct, study suggests” [The Independent](#) 22 November 2019 [see also Publications above]

Cockburn H “Ash dieback: Genetic resistance offers new hope over ‘unstoppable’ disease expected to kill 70 per cent of species” [The Independent](#) 20 November 2019

Gregory A “Leaf blowers contributing to ‘insect armageddon’ and should be avoided, German government warns” [The Independent](#) 20 November 2019

Carrington D “Light pollution is key ‘bringer of insect apocalypse’” [The Guardian](#) 22 November 2019

Henley J “Iceland accused of putting mackerel stocks at risk by increasing its catch” [The Guardian](#) 21 November 2019

Cockburn H “Amazon deforestation accelerates by almost a third in year since far-right Bolsonaro took power, space agency reveals” [The Independent](#) 20 November 2019

Stafford A “Calls for man who killed 420 wedge-tailed eagles to face charges under wildlife act” [The Guardian](#) 21 November 2019

Davis N “Noise pollution rules should be tightened to protect wildlife, say scientists” [The Guardian](#) 20 November 2019

- **Climate change and energy**

Robertson H “Climate change may give Saudi Aramco that sinking feeling” [BusinessLive](#) 21 November 2019

Cockburn H “‘We’re in a deep hole’: Fossil fuel production on track to exceed safe climate change limits by 120%” [The Independent](#) 22 November 2019

Bayartsogt K “Mongolia's new 'cleaner' fuel linked to deaths, illness” [Mail & Guardian](#) 19 November 2019

“Pall of smoke a grim reminder of climate change risks” [Sydney Morning Herald](#) 22 November 2019 – see also [here](#) for television news

“Nevada to evaluate market-based climate policies as part of executive order” [Carbon Pulse](#) 22 November 2019

“RGGI increasing CO₂, co-pollutant burden on environmental justice communities –report” [Carbon Pulse](#) 22 November 2019

- **Mining**

Paton C “State’s Strategic Fuel Fund to finance exploration in South Sudan” [Business Day](#) 19 November 2019

- **Water, waste, oceans and chemicals**

Waldorp T and Moon S “Monsanto pleads guilty to illegally spraying banned pesticide in Maui” [CNN](#) 22 November 2019

Taylor D “Court fines Weetabix £140,000 for polluting river near factory” [The Guardian](#) 22 November 2019

VACANCIES / OPPORTUNITIES / FUNDING / BURSARIES ETC

National

Invitation to register your profile on the Water Research Commission Blue Directory

The Water Research Commission (WRC), South Africa’s premier water knowledge hub, recognises the value of building strong networks in order to promote knowledge-sharing with everyone affected by water. Therefore, the WRC is in the process of establishing a Stakeholder Research Directory (Blue Pages), a web-based ‘Who’s Who’ in the water and sanitation research space that will be profiling professionals who have done an incredible work within the water field while also providing snapshots of their profiles in order to benefit South Africa and the international community. The Blue Directory will serve as the organisational customer relationship management tool and a stakeholder database that is easily searchable and host groups of stakeholders in different categories such as sanitation, wastewater, groundwater, hydrology, mining, ecology etc. The directory will assist anyone working in 'water' field to easily find relevant people and knowledge, share ideas, network, build partnerships and collaborate on research and other projects. In order to build and maintain this directory as a valuable information resource, we encourage people active in the water sector such as yourself to submit and update their profiles regularly.

Kindly note that all water stakeholders have been pre-selected for registration on the Blue Directory. You are therefore requested to please register your profile, a verification email will be sent to you to confirm your details and registration will be done.

Registration to this directory is free and open to anyone willing to be part of the water and sanitation community.

In order to register, please click on the [link](#) and do not forget to read and accept the terms and conditions of this directory.

Should you encounter problems accessing the Blue Directory, do not hesitate to Contact Mrs Hlengiwe Cele on [email](#) or call her on 067 260 1011.

AWARD: Natural Resource Management and Biodiversity Conservation intern

This is a fixed-term contract position at the Association of Water and Rural Development (AWARD), an NGO based in Hoedspruit, Limpopo Province. This position will form part of the Blyde Restoration Project funded through the Land User Incentive programme under the Department of Environment, Forestry & Fisheries (DEFF), Chief Directorate: Natural Resource Management (NRM). The Blyde Restoration Project is aimed at supporting the restoration of degraded ecosystems, and the maintenance of these and adjoining healthy ecosystems in the upper Blyde, Klaserie & Sand Catchments, in order to sustain ecosystem services and biodiversity critical to human livelihoods in these catchments in the long term. This is in line with the DEFF NRM vision to support sustainable livelihoods for local people through integrated landscape management that strives for resilient social-ecological systems and which fosters equity in access to ecosystem services.

Job Purpose: The incumbent in this position will support capacity development as well as GIS planning and mapping aspects of the project, with a specific focus in ecological restoration and NRM practices (as ecosystem-based adaptations). Key natural resource management practices which will be focused on includes invasive alien plant control, wetland restoration, and ecological monitoring. A further key focus will be on the development of capacity and custodianship of catchment residents (local communities, especially young people) to enhance their active involvement in sustainable NRM in the project catchments.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Support collaborative planning and implementation of project activities informing ecological restoration and NRM practices,
- Provide input and partake in technical and spatial planning, and monitoring in relation to the above activities,
- Support the capacity development of practitioners on key technical and operational aspects of NRM practices, Support mapping of invasive alien plants, wetland degradation and other forms of ecological degradation,
- Support spatial and other monitoring of restoration interventions and their impacts,
- Lead and support facilitation of training events, meetings and field work,
- Provide support and mentoring to the NRM restoration teams,
- Support development of collaborative partnerships and institutional arrangements amongst different stakeholders groups for collective restoration and NRM practices,
- Report writing,

- Data capture and management,
- Contribute to action-research on social learning, social-ecological systems, participatory and co-engagement approaches within the NRM practices and related interventions for adaptation to the global change drivers.

Qualifications, experience and key competencies: Job specific:

- Minimum Honour's degree in Natural Resource-, Environmental-, Biodiversity Conservation - management, or related field, Knowledge of Natural Resource Management Programmes and ecological restoration,
- Experience in Natural Resource Management Programmes and ecological restoration initiatives will be advantageous,
- Intermediate or advanced skills in GIS,
- Interest and experience in ecological fieldwork,
- Interest or experience in participatory & co-engaged processes, □ Interest or ability to work in complex and multi-stakeholders environment,
- Good report writing, presentation and communications skills,
- Knowledge and interest in social learning & systemic approaches will be advantageous,
- Experiences and skills in community engagement processes will be advantageous.

General:

- Interpersonal skills: teamwork and collaborations,
- Fluency in English (read, write, understand),
- Preference will be given to local candidates, and fluency in Northern Sotho will be advantageous,
- Computer literacy and knowledge of Microsoft office software packages,
- Adaptability to new environments and wiliness to travel and working irregular hours,
- Valid driver's license (code B) is a requirement (applications without driver's licenses will not be considered),
- More than 2 years driving experience will be advantageous,
- South African citizenship.

Remuneration package:

- The incumbent will receive a stipend of R7500/monthly, with a subsidised accommodation & medical aid.

Length of contract and location of work:

- 1 year, fixed-schedule contract (with an option to renew),
- The incumbent will be based at AWARD's offices in Hoedspruit, Limpopo.

Closing date: **24 November 2019**

Candidates who meet the above requirements should submit their motivational letter and resume (including at least three contactable references) at the following link: <https://forms.gle/HFDiy7znUJf5Qra76>. Postal applications are to be addressed to the Office Manager, Association for Water and Rural Development, P.O Box 1919, Hoedspruit, 1380. For hand deliveries, please visit our website www.award.org.za for physical address.

Note: please include the following for your referees: a reachable mobile or telephone number and a working or valid email address.

For any enquiries please contact [Silindile Mtshali](#)

International

Stipendium Hungaricum

Bachelor's, Master's and PhD scholarships in Hungary.

A range of fields available including Agriculture, Engineering, Computer Science and Mathematics.

Deadline for scholarship application: 15 January 2020

[Read more](#)

Chinese Government Scholarship

Non-degree Chinese language studies, Bachelor's, Master's and PhD scholarships in China.

[Read more](#)

Swiss Government Excellence Scholarships

PhD, postdoctoral and research scholarships at Swiss higher education institutions.

Deadline for scholarship application: 15 December 2019

[Read more](#)

Swedish Institute Scholarships for South Africa

Master's scholarships in Sweden in Computer Science and IT, Design, Engineering, Environmental Technology, Sustainable Development, Gender Studies, Nanotechnology and Public Health.

1. Apply for Swedish University by 15 January 2020
2. Apply for the scholarship between: 10 and 20 February 2020

[Read more](#)

Australia Awards

Master's scholarship in one of the following priority sectors: Agriculture, Environment, Extractives, Gender Studies, Health, Human Rights, Public Policy and Security Studies.

Deadline for scholarship application: 06 December 2019

[Read more](#)

Australia Awards

Short Course opportunities in Trade and Policy negotiations, Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Trainer Development and Public Private Infrastructure Partnerships in Australia and/or African country of fields.

Deadline for scholarship application: 17 January 2020

[Read more](#)

UNESCO/KEIZO Obuchi Research Fellowship

Fellowship for candidates who have completed their Master's and intend to do research in Japan in one of the following fields: Environment with particular focus on Disaster Risk Reduction; Intercultural Dialogue; Information and Communication Technologies; and Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Deadline for scholarship applications: **24 November 2019**

[Read more](#)

Warsaw University of Life Sciences Scholarship

Master's scholarships in General Horticulture at the Warsaw University of Life Sciences.

Deadline for scholarship applications: 30 November 2019

[Read more](#)

Masters In Research and Innovation in Higher Education

Master's scholarships in Austria in a wide range of fields.

Deadline for scholarship applications: 03 December 2019.

[Read more](#)

Youth of Excellence Scheme of China (Yes China)

One year Master's scholarships in Tsinghua University, China in Public Health.

Deadline for scholarship applications: end of February 2020

[Read more](#)

Members of the Environmental Law Association may subscribe to

[*Legalbrief Environmental*](#)

and the

[*South African Journal of Environmental Law and Policy*](#).

Discount available for ELA members.