

For further information see the AZEF website:  
<http://www.nrf.ac.za/azef>.

## DEADLINE DATES

Submission of paper/poster titles: **1 April 2004**

Submission of paper/poster abstracts: **30 July 2004**

Registration forms and fees: **1 July 2004**

Final submission of registration forms: **11 August 2004**

Application for student sponsorship: **1 June 2004**

## SOCIAL FUNCTIONS

There will be a get-together on Monday night and a braai on Wednesday night. The cost of these functions is included in the registration fee.

## MEALS

All lunches (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) and dinners (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) are included in the registration fee.

**Please indicate on the Registration Form if you want dinner on Thursday night.**

**Please note: No breakfasts will be provided.  
A cash bar will be available at dinners.**

## ACCOMMODATION

**Delegates are responsible for booking and paying their own accommodation.**

Please see the attached sheet for details of the accommodation in Victoria West.

## REGISTRATION FORM

Completed registration forms should be returned as soon as possible and **not later than 11 August 2004**

to: Ms Kirsten Mahood  
PO Box 12186  
NELSPRUIT  
1200  
[kirsten@enviroforest.co.za](mailto:kirsten@enviroforest.co.za)

## ASSOCIATED MEETINGS

### Springbok Workshop (25-26 August 2004)

**Attendees:** The workshop is aimed primarily at informing farmers of recent scientific discoveries about this increasingly important game ranching antelope.

### Colloquium on Adaptation in Desert Fauna & Flora (27-29 August 2004)

The Colloquium is being held under the auspices of the Royal Society of South Africa and the Biodiversity Transect Analysis in Africa (BIOTA).

**NOTE:** Both meetings will be held at the Apollo Theatre Complex, Victoria West, Karoo

**Further details:** Contact Prof. J. Skinner:  
[john.skinner@up.ac.za](mailto:john.skinner@up.ac.za)

### AZEF ENQUIRIES

*Ms Kirsten Mahood*

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*E-mail: [kirsten@enviroforest.co.za](mailto:kirsten@enviroforest.co.za)*

*<http://www.nrf.ac.za/azef>*

*Mr Mark Anderson*

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# ARID ZONE ECOLOGY FORUM



## First Announcement

*Theme:*

"Managing Variability in the Arid Zone"

**30 August – 2 September 2004**  
**Apollo Theatre Complex**  
**Victoria West, Northern Cape**  
**Province**

*Sponsored by the*  
*Conservation and Management of*  
*Ecosystems and Biodiversity Focus Area*  
*of the National Research Foundation*



## VENUE AND DATE

The conference will be held at The Apollo Theatre Complex, Victoria West, Northern Cape Province, from 30 August 2004 – 2 September 2004.

## THEME

### "Managing variability in the Arid Zone".

To include the sub-themes:

- How arid zone plants and animals cope with spatial and temporal variability in resources.
- Short-term variability: managing commercial natural resource-based enterprises under arid-zone uncertainty: strategies and tactics for coping with drought, flood, insect damage, etc.
- Long-term variability: managing arid zone conservation in the arid zone with global change: planning for changes in rainfall quantity, seasonality, invasive biota, water availability, increasing land and resource demands from a growing human population.
- Policy and monitoring relevant to changing land-use, differing biota, soils, topography and socio-economic conditions in the arid zone.

## GENERAL

Several southern African scientists will be invited to present papers relevant to Arid Zone Ecology Forum - 2004.

Please send Mark Anderson or Kirsten Mahood suggestions for evening round table discussions on topics that are relevant to the theme.

## FORMAT

### Monday, 30 August:

Afternoon: Delegates arrive at the Apollo Theatre for registration.

Briefing session (18h30).

Get-together (cocktails) at 19h00.

### Tuesday, 31 August:

Morning: Invited papers on the theme.

Afternoon: Paper presentations, Poster sessions and AGM.

Late afternoon: Introduction to field trips.

### Wednesday, 1 September:

Field trips will include visits to:

Riverine Rabbit research sites  
Springbok ranching sites.

### Thursday, 2 September:

Paper presentations and poster sessions.

## CALL FOR PAPERS / POSTERS

Contributions in the form of 20-minute platform paper (15 minutes presentation and 5 minutes question time) presentations on the theme, or any other topic relevant to the arid zone, are invited. This year there will be oral presentations of posters (5-minute presentation, no questions); provision will be made for extended poster viewing sessions, where questions can be asked. Paper/poster titles should reach Kirsten Mahood by **1 April 2004**, in order to compile a Provisional Programme for the Second Announcement. A short (not more than 350 word) abstract should reach Kirsten (preferably by e-mail) by **30 July 2004** for inclusion in the programme. E-mail: [kirsten@enviroforest.co.za](mailto:kirsten@enviroforest.co.za).

Paper presenters using PowerPoint must please bring copies of their presentations on CD, as we will only use one laptop computer for these presentations.

## AWARDS

Awards will be made for the seventh time to the best paper and poster presentations with special priority to post-graduate students. These awards are sponsored by the Institute for Soil, Climate & Water and the NRF. For further information see AZEF website: <http://www.nrf.ac.za/azef>.

## PROGRAMME

A Provisional Programme will be sent with the Second Announcement.

## REGISTRATION FEE

This year will have a late registration fee. Registration forms and registration fees must reach Kirsten Mahood before **1 July 2004** to avoid the late registration fee.

The registration fee for the full duration, paid before 1 July 2004 is R500.00. This fee includes **lunches, dinners,**

**tea/coffee** and a **programme**. Late registration fee for the full duration is R600.00. Registration fee for the full duration for **fulltime** students will be R450.00.

Proof of registration is needed to qualify for the discount. Persons only attend certain days pay the following daily fees:

30 August 2004 – R60.00 (Late reg fee: R70.00) per person per day

31 August 2004 – R147.00 (Late reg fee: R177.00) per person per day

01 September 2004 – R147.00 (Late reg fee: R177.00) per person per day

02 September 2004 – R147.00 (Late reg fee: R177.00) per person per day

Registration fees can be paid by cheque, direct deposit or by direct bank transfer into AZEF's bank account. The AZEF bank details are as follows:

Bank : Nedbank

Branch : Riverside Mall – Nelspruit (17395)

Acc. No : 1739016882

Acc. Name : "The Arid Zone Ecology Forum"

Deposit slips should be faxed or e-mailed to Kirsten Mahood.

## STUDENT SPONSORSHIP

AZEF has agreed to sponsor a reduction in registration fees (25-100%) for **FULL TIME** students presenting a poster or a paper. To be considered for sponsorship, students must submit their abstracts for the presentation before **1 June 2004**, send a letter of proof of registration from their academic institution and write a motivation (1 page) why they want to attend the AZEF. Their supervisor must endorse the letter of motivation. A maximum of three students will be sponsored for each AZEF meeting.