

# **ARID ZONE ECOLOGY FORUM 2007**

## **SECOND ANNOUNCEMENT**

10 – 13 September 2007  
NG Church Hall  
Sutherland, Northern Cape Province

### **DROUGHT AS A DRIVER: PHYSICAL, ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC EFFECTS, INTERACTIONS AND RESPONSES**

The programme for this year's meeting is filled with papers and posters focused on the theme. It promises to be an excellent meeting. Themes include 1 Climate change, 2 Hydrology, 3 Vegetation and drought, 4 Fauna and drought, 5 Humans and drought, and 6 Economics and drought

Attached, please find the provisional programme for this year's meeting.

#### **IMPORTANT DATES**

<b>Submission of paper/poster titles:</b>	<b>2 April 2007</b>	<b>Expired</b>
<b>Submission of final abstracts:</b>	<b>2 July 2007</b>	<b>Expired</b>
<b>Deadline for application for student sponsorship:</b>	<b>31 July 2007</b>	
<b>Deadline for early bird registration:</b>	<b>3 August 2007</b>	
<b>Final submission of registration forms:</b>	<b>3 September 2007</b>	

#### **PAPER & POSTER PRESENTATIONS**

The conference will consist of paper and poster presentations. The deadline for submission of titles has closed and the programme is full. If you would like to be placed on the waiting list, in case there are cancellations, please send your paper/poster **titles and abstracts** to [Kirsten Mahood](mailto:Kirsten.Mahood@azef.co.za)

Paper presentations are 20 minutes long (see programme), including question time. Note that as the programme is full, the conference organisers will be strict with time-keeping. Key note addresses are between 30 and 40 minutes. Paper presenters using Power Point must please bring copies of their presentations on CD or USB flash-drive, as only one laptop will be used for presentations.

Poster Presentations: This year poster sessions will be held in the late afternoons. Each poster presenter will stand in front of their poster and have time to say 3 sentences about their poster and have time for 3 brief questions. No power point slides will be used.

#### **FUNDING**

AZEF has received funding to support students and conservation and agriculture managers to attend AZEF this year. AZEF has enough funding to support 25 students and 10 managers. If you would like to apply for this funding please visit the AZEF website for more information ([www.azef.co.za](http://www.azef.co.za)). Please note the deadline is the 31<sup>st</sup> of July 2007.

#### **REGISTRATION FEE**

Registration forms and fees must reach Kirsten Mahood before 3 August 2007 to qualify for the early bird registration fees. Fees include lunches, dinners, tea/coffee and a programme. Proof of student registration is needed to qualify for the student discount. Post-docs do not qualify for student rates.

**Please note: A person shall be considered as registered on receipt of both a registration form and fee.**

**FULL DURATION:**

NON-STUDENT FULL RATES		STUDENT FULL RATES	
EARLY BIRD	STANDARD (After 3 August 2007)	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD (After 3 August 2007)
R955.00	R1 100.00	R830.00	R955.00

**DAILY RATES APPLY AS FOLLOWS:**

DATE	NON-STUDENT DAILY RATES		STUDENT DAILY RATES	
	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD (After 3 August 2007)	EARLY BIRD	STANDARD (After 3 August 2007)
10 September 2007	R110.00	R125.00	R95.00	R108.00
11 September 2007	R282.00	R325.00	R245.00	R282.00
12 September 2007	R282.00	R325.00	R245.00	R282.00
13 September 2007	R282.00	R325.00	R245.00	R282.00

**Banking details:**

Bank: Nedbank

Branch: Riverside Mall – Nelspruit (173952)

Account No: 1739016882

Account name: "The Arid Zone Ecology Forum"

**STUDENTS AWARDS**

Awards for the best paper and poster presentations by young scientists will be made for the tenth year.

**FIELD TRIPS AND WORKSHOPS**

This year the field trips and workshops will be hosted on Thursday, 13 September. There are a number of options on offer this year.

Doreen Atkinson will be hosting a workshop entitled: "Social and ecological dimensions of economic change: where nature meets nurture". The venue for this workshop is still to be announced.

Kirsten Fourie will be hosting a Farmer's Day. This will include a presentation summarizing the major outcomes of the AZEF meeting.

Field trips will include: 1 A visit to natural ephemeral pans (led by Richard Dean); 2 Drought mortality in relation to forage value of shrubs, position in landscape (led by Sue Milton); 3 A tour of South Africa's Largest Telescope observatory.

**SOCIAL FUNCTIONS AND MEALS**

Teas, lunches and dinners on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday as well as a cocktail party on the Monday evening are included in the registration fee. No breakfast will be provided. A cash bar is available at dinners.

**ACCOMMODATION**

Delegates are responsible for booking and paying for their own accommodation

**ENQUIRIES**

Ms Kirsten Mahood

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