



CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

6TH ELA ANNUAL
STUDENT CONFERENCE
2017

**The Impacts of Contemporary Societal
and Development Trends**

- Novel Environmental Law and Governance Responses -

Large and small scale industrial developments are part and parcel of the growth trajectory in South Africa and the African continent. The social and environmental impacts of these developments are real. National policy emphasises the importance of domestic industrial capacity expansion and large industrial project developments while the mining sector continues to be a significant contributor to South Africa's economy, most notably in terms of foreign exchange earnings, employment and economic activity. The country is witnessing unprecedented urban growth with growing pressure on the resources necessary to sustain basic services and quality of (urban) life. At the same time South Africa has more reason than ever to be concerned about climate change's impacts on water and vegetation and the long-term effects on food security and human and species migration. The search for feasible and sustainable alternative sources of energy continues and investors are driving the adoption of new communication and other technologies.

For the 2017 Annual ELA Student Conference we invite under- and postgraduate research students in the fields of environment and resources law and management to present their current research reflecting on the theme of development trends and their perceived and / or real social and environmental impacts.

What are the trends we see in industrial, agricultural, technological and urban development? What are the nature of the impacts and the threats from an environmental law and management perspective? What are the roles of actors such as the judiciary, investors, the banking sector, decision-makers in the executive, city governments, civil society and NGO's?

The Environmental Law Association of South Africa (ELA) hereby invites students to submit a 150-200 word abstract for the 2017 Student Conference. Submissions pertaining to any aspect of the law and governance of the environment and natural resources will be considered, provided that the paper reflects on the topic of development trends and their social and environmental impact.

CONFERENCE DATE:

Friday, 15 & Saturday, 16 September 2017

CONFERENCE VENUE:

Faculty of Law, North-West University
(Potchefstroom Campus) in Potchefstroom, North West Province

COSTS:

No registration fee

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS TO:

ELA Secretariat – enviro.association.sa@gmail.com

QUERIES:

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ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DATE:

20 July 2017

More information on the Environmental Law Association of South Africa is available @ <http://www.elasa.co.za/>