

36TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY FOR ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCES (SASAS)

First call for abstracts

31 October – 1 November 2022

Global Change Institute, University of the Witwatersrand

Dear SASAS Community,

We are delighted to announce the first call for abstracts and invitation to register to attend the 36th annual conference of the South African Society for Atmospheric Sciences (SASAS). The conference will be held at the University of the Witwatersrand in Braamfontein, Gauteng, South Africa, on 31 October and 1 November 2022. This year's conference will be hosted by the Global Change Institute of the University of the Witwatersrand and with the theme

'Climate change tipping points in southern Africa'.

The SASAS conference is back!

SASAS has been collaborating with weather/climate/environmental organizations to host an annual conference for the past 40 years. These SASAS conferences include oral and poster presentations as well as exhibitions aimed at promoting and developing the atmospheric and oceanic sciences in the broader southern African context. Increasingly, the conference is also a platform to advance the science of climate services, and the uptake of climate science in society.

The SASAS conference is typically attended by academics and students working in the fields of atmospheric science, air quality, oceanography, climate change, agrometeorology, weather forecasting, atmospheric and oceanic observations and climate change and environmental policy. During the Covid-19 pandemic, in 2020 and 2021, the SASAS conference assumed the form of an online symposium. However, all indications are that an in-person conference will be possible in 2022. We are therefore most happy to announce that the SASAS in-person conference is back! The organisation team from the Wits GCI are looking forward to welcoming attendees to the Wits campus for the conference. The conference will be hosted in a venue that offers excellent hybrid conference capabilities, and the SASAS talks will also be broadcast online. However, all presentations are currently expected to be given in person.



THEME: CLIMATE CHANGE TIPPING POINTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

The devastating floods of 11 and 12 April 2022 in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa, serve as a stark reminder of how vulnerable the southern African region is to the occurrence of extreme weather events. Although the floods were likely made more intense by climate change, it is not an example of a climate change tipping point: very similar events have occurred in the province in the past. Examples include the 'great flood' of 1856, the 'Durban floods' of 1987 and the April 2019 floods. We'd like to invite attendees of the 2022 SASAS conference to reflect on the possibility of unprecedented high-impact weather/air quality/climate events occurring in southern Africa in the future, in the context of a warming climate. For example – can a climate regime shift occur, in which intense tropical cyclones regularly make landfall as far south as north-eastern South Africa? Or, is it possible that a 'day zero' drought can occur in South Africa's Gauteng province? How resilient are southern Africa's crops and cattle in a warmer world – do thresholds of regional warming exist, at which certain sectors in agriculture will collapse? Increasingly, the SASAS community will have to produce science that can help to harness society to the increasing impacts of climate change in southern Africa. We thus also invite a focus at this year's conference on early warning across time-scales, climate dynamics and variability, improved observational networks, air quality monitoring and prediction, climate services, climate change adaptation and the uptake of science in society and governance structures. Societal tipping points, both in terms of vulnerability to climate change and climate change action, will also be of prominent focus at the 2022 conference.



ABSTRACTS

Authors are invited to submit their abstracts for oral or poster presentations. The conference offers two options for abstract submission: Short abstract (non-peer reviewed) and Extended abstract (peer reviewed). Note that oral talks will be selected from both extended and short abstracts. Similarly, authors interested to make poster presentations may choose to submit either short or extended abstracts. Authors interested in submitting an extended abstract are to follow the attached guidelines. Abstracts are to be emailed to: gci.hello@gmail.com



REGISTRATION DETAILS

Conference participants are expected to register by submitting a form using the following link: <https://forms.gle/9dvxTLjk25fj98ab7>

NB: Become a SASAS member and save on your registration fee! Fill out the form on the website: <https://www.sasas.org/membership>

Early registration fees

Members: R 2600
Non-members: R 2800
Students: R 2400

Late registration fees

Members: R 2900
Non-Members: R 3100
Students: R 2700



SASAS BANKING DETAILS

Bank: NEDBANK

Account Name: SASAS

Account Number: 1605046892

Branch: 160-545

Reference: Please use invoice number and surname

NB: To finalise registration, send proof of payment to: gci.hello@gmail.com



IMPORTANT DATES

Deadline for submission of short and extended abstracts: 22 August 2022
Feedback from reviewers (extended abstracts only): By 12 September 2022
Final submission of corrected extended abstracts: 10 October 2022
Early bird registration deadline: 22 August 2022
(after this date, the late registration fee applies)
Final deadline to register (for catering purposes): 17 October 2022

More details about the venue and accommodation options will follow soon!

We look forward to hosting you in 2022!



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