



PURPOSE-DRIVEN MONITORING  
AND EVALUATION  
23-27 OCTOBER 2017, SANDTON, JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA



planning, monitoring  
& evaluation

Department:  
Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

## Abstract Submission Is Now Open



The South African Monitoring & Evaluation Association (SAMEA) takes pleasure in inviting you to take part in its 6<sup>th</sup> Biennial SAMEA Conference to be held at the Hilton Hotel in Sandton, Johannesburg, South Africa from 23-27 October 2017.

The theme for this year's conference is: **'Purpose-driven Monitoring and Evaluation'**

This Conference is a key pillar of the SAMEA strategy to broaden the evaluation community and to increase commitment amongst evaluation users and decision-makers to use quality evidence for informed decision making. The Conference outcomes and strands are as follows:

*Outcome 1: Monitoring and Evaluation stakeholders from across sectors have an improved understanding of purposive performance monitoring systems, data management and data visualization for informed decision making.*

### **Conference Strand 1: Strengthening Performance Monitoring Systems**

### **Conference Strand 2: Enhancing Data Management and Visualisation**

*Outcome 2: Evaluation users, decision-makers and evaluation managers, commissioners, development partners will have a better understanding of how fit for purpose monitoring and evaluation can be used for policy-making, oversight, accountability, and changes to interventions that ultimately lead to efficient and effective development.*

### **Conference Strand 3: Using Evidence for Decision Making**

*Outcome 3: Evaluators of all levels will have deepened their knowledge and skills to apply purposive evaluation approaches, designs and methods for better quality evaluations.*

#### **Conference Strand 4: Lessons learnt from evaluation case studies**

*Outcome 4: The evaluation field in South Africa is strengthened through the development of purposive M&E frameworks, ethics, standards and competencies.*

#### **Conference Strand 5: Strengthening the Monitoring and Evaluation Profession**

Through this theme of the conference there will be discussions and debates on the use of evaluation as it pertains to measurable improvements in the human condition.

The Conference will bring together commissioners, practitioners and researchers as part of SAMEA's mandate to grow a community of SA evaluators and to strengthen the evaluation community. The M&E community will be provided an opportunity to take stock of what others are doing in the field and engage with the state of development of M&E in South Africa with international comparisons; stimulate debate and research around M&E practice, promote the integration of theory and practice in M&E, and its role in society, given the specific development and service delivery challenges South Africa faces. The Conference also provides a platform for SAMEA as a VOPE to promote its national and international profile.

SAMEA hereby invite all stakeholders - M&E practitioners from the public, private and development spheres to submit paper, panel, or infographic abstracts presenting M&E systems, processes and practices within the broad theme of the conference; to submit a proposal for the pre-conference workshops on contemporary M&E paradigms, methods and tools, or scarce skills; or to register for the conference to learn from international and local experts.

The conference will also provide an opportunity for Emerging Evaluators to receive support to participate in the conference. The conference also provides selected sponsorship and corresponding marketing opportunities to interested organisations.

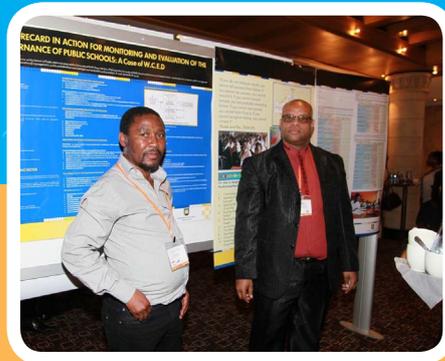
Please find herewith further details on the various conference submissions. We look forward to your participation.



Sincerely

**Dugan Fraser**

SAMEA Chair



## ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

The conference is structured in a manner that encourages a diverse representation of stakeholders and participants from South Africa and around the world. A variety of platforms will be utilised at the conference, such as capacity-building workshops, paper presentations, panel discussions, networking sessions and exhibitions by monitoring and evaluation students, researchers, practitioners and professionals.

The 5 day event comprises 2 days of pre-conference professional development workshops, and will include international experts who will share their time and experience with participants over a range of practical, learning sessions. In the past many of these have been oversubscribed, and we expect to offer between 8-10 workshops again this year. The actual conference comprises 2 days, and includes international and local key note speakers who inform the M&E profession, paper sessions on successful and innovative practices, roundtable discussions on emerging practices, panel debates by selected experts and a host of exhibits, networking and social opportunities.





## ABSTRACTS

SAMEA invites you to contribute to the programme by submitting an Abstract for an Oral, Round Table or infographic presentation.

Through the theme of the conference: **'Purpose-driven Monitoring and Evaluation'** there will be discussions and debates on the use of evaluation as it pertains to measurable improvements in the human condition.

The conference will focus on the following strands:

**Conference Strand 1: Strengthening Performance Monitoring Systems**

**Conference Strand 2: Enhancing Data Management and Visualisation**

**Conference Strand 3: Using Evidence for Decision Making**

**Conference Strand 4: Lessons learnt from evaluation case studies**

**Conference Strand 5: Strengthening the Monitoring and Evaluation Profession**

Abstracts submission need to focus on any one of the conference strand above, and need to be contextually located within one of the sectors described below.

<b>Social Development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Education</li> <li>• Health</li> <li>• Food security</li> <li>• Social protection</li> </ul>
<b>Inclusive Growth and Employment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment/work</li> <li>• Economic infrastructure</li> <li>• Regional integration</li> </ul>
<b>Governance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responsive accountable, effective and efficient local government system,</li> <li>• Efficient, effective and development oriented public service</li> </ul>
<b>Environmental Sustainability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable human settlements and improved quality of household life and well protected environmental assets</li> <li>• Sustainable use of natural resources</li> </ul>



SAMEA is also accepting proposals for Pre-Conference Training Workshops.

Pre-conference workshops are designed to expose participants to specific evaluation skills, innovative methods or develop capacity in the utilisation of specific tools. Papers, roundtables and infographic should also respond to the thematic areas represented by each strand.

### **Paper – Oral Presentations**

Written papers that are orally presented at the Conference usually engage in a critical debate in the thematic areas represented in each conference strand. The paper could define the problem the conference strand seeks to address; and/or provide case studies that uses variety of quality evidence to provide innovative solutions.

Abstracts for paper are due by **15 June 2017**.

### **Round Table Sessions**

Round Tables usually entail work-in-progress on an evaluation. In these, authors make available a manuscript for debate to clarify, strengthen argumentation, consider next steps, and the like, and aim to assist the author complete the manuscript with the view to publication. An abstract on the written manuscript of the paper in progress with issues for discussion in the Round Table is required by **15 June 2017**.

### **Infographic presentations (Posters)**

Infographic presentations entail a poster size presentation with visual representation (graphs, diagrams, photos) as well as text. Infographics could depict an evaluation study including: questions asked in the study through methodology, data, findings and conclusion; and may include specific case-study/studies. Infographics will be displayed, and presenters need to be available to respond to questions asked about the infographic when on display.

**The closing date for submissions is 15 June 2017.**

**All abstracts will be reviewed and scored. Authors will be informed of the outcome of their submission(s) by 18 July 2017.**

Abstracts must be submitted Online. Please visit the conference website at [www.sameaconference.co.za](http://www.sameaconference.co.za) for further details and criteria **or to submit an abstract.**



## Pre Conference Training Workshops

SAMEA invites local and international M&E experts, individual consultants, universities, South African government organisations, private sector training providers, and NGOs, to submit proposals to facilitate a professional development workshop prior to their conference in October 2017. It is envisioned that approximately 15 workshops, ranging in length from ½-day to 2-days, will be offered in parallel sessions at competitive rates to encourage maximum participation from both existing SAMEA members as well as the wider conference target audience.

Workshop proposals are to be submitted to SAMEA via e-mail. Please e-mail your proposal to [info@samea.org.za](mailto:info@samea.org.za)

## Abstracts Review

All abstracts will be peer reviewed. Abstracts will be accepted or rejected based on their final score and at the discretion of the Programme Committee. The closing date for submissions is 15 June 2017. If your abstract is accepted for an oral, roundtable or infographic presentation you will be notified by 18 July 2017. All accepted speakers to confirm acceptance by 26 July 2017. A full paper will be required by 01 September 2017

## IMPORTANT DATES

Abstract Submissions Close	– 15 June 2017
Confirmation of Accepted Papers	– 18 July 2017
Speakers Confirm Acceptance	– 26 July 2017
Final Programme	– 18 August 2017
Early Bird Registration Cut-off date	– 18 September 2017

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

This conference offers various types of sponsorship and exhibition opportunities. To come on board as a sponsor, please contact the contact secretariat for more info. Do not miss this valuable branding opportunity for your organisation.



## CONFERENCE VENUE

The Hilton Hotel Sandton  
138 Rivonia Road, Sandton, 2196  
Johannesburg  
[www.hiltonworldwide.com](http://www.hiltonworldwide.com)



## CONTACT

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