

# AZEF 2025 Conference

21-23 October 2025

NG Kerksaal, Calitzdorp, Western Cape

Registration is now open [FILL OUT IN GOOGLE FORMS](#)



## Registration fees & deadlines

### 5 September 2025

- ▶ Early bird - R5,500
- ▶ Early student - R4,500
- ▶ Abstract submission
- ▶ Student sponsorship applications

### 24 September 2025

- ▶ Workshop - R500
- ▶ Online - R2,000
- ▶ Registration - R6,500

Email queries to [gill@azef.co.za](mailto:gill@azef.co.za)

## Student sponsorship

Applications are invited from deserving, post-graduate students for sponsored in-person attendance of AZEF 2025.

Successful students will receive sponsored conference registration fees which include lunch & dinner, accommodation will also be provided. Applicants must submit an abstract for full, speed or poster presentation.

Register indicating 'Sponsored student' to initiate the application process.

## Pre-conference workshop (20/10/25)

- ▶ Introduction to Social Research Methods

## Conference themes:

- ▶ General ecology
- ▶ Threats to the arid zone
- ▶ Social ecology
- ▶ Drought, climate change & building resilience
- ▶ Sustainable agriculture



**SAEON**  
South African Environmental  
Observation Network

**WILDERNESS**  
FOUNDATION  
AFRICA



## Pre-conference workshop:

### Introduction to Social Research Methods

A Hands-On Workshop on Interdisciplinary Approaches, Practical Insights, and Field Techniques

Convener: Dr Stephanie Borchardt  
Department of Sociology and Social Anthropology, Stellenbosch University

Social research methods is a pursuit of understanding the complexity of human experience in multi-faceted and complex contexts.

This workshop offers practical tools and frameworks where participants will learn strategies to engage communities, navigate local governance systems, and apply both qualitative and quantitative methods.

Key themes include logistical planning, ethical fieldwork, and interdisciplinary collaboration across conservation and development research.

Join us to refine your approach, strengthen your research toolkit, and exchange ideas with others working across the Karoo and beyond!

## Conference themes:

- ▶ General ecology
  - ▶ Research on arid zone flora, fauna & ecosystems
- ▶ Threats to the arid zone
  - ▶ Illegal trade in flora & fauna
  - ▶ Mining & development impacts
- ▶ Social ecology
  - ▶ Ecosystem services, tourism & arid zone livelihoods
  - ▶ Environmental governance & sustainable resource use
- ▶ Drought, climate-change & building resilience
  - ▶ Remote sensing & monitoring change
  - ▶ Climate-change impacts and predictions
  - ▶ Nature-based solutions for building resilience
- ▶ Sustainable agriculture
  - ▶ Research on arid agricultural systems
  - ▶ Rangeland management

To register visit [www.azef.co.za](http://www.azef.co.za) or [FILL OUT IN GOOGLE FORMS](#)