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Agriculture  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



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# CALL FOR PAPERS AND PRESENTATIONS

## 9th Biennial National LandCare Conference (2026)

Eastern Cape Province, South Africa

### 1. CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

The National Department of Agriculture, in partnership with the Eastern Cape Department of Agriculture, invites submissions for papers, presentations, and case studies for the **9th Biennial National LandCare Conference (2026)**.

The LandCare Programme is a flagship initiative promoting sustainable land management, climate resilience, and community-based natural resource management across South Africa. The 2026 Conference will provide a platform for knowledge exchange, innovation, and collaboration among stakeholders from South Africa, the African continent, and the global community.

### 2. CONFERENCE THEME

*“Strengthening Community Stewardship for Sustainable Land Restoration and Climate Resilience”*

### 3. PURPOSE OF THE CALL

This call aims to solicit high-quality contributions that:

- Share research findings, innovations, and best practices
- Showcase successful LandCare and Natural Resource Management initiatives
- Contribute to policy dialogue and programme improvement
- Support the development of the National LandCare Roadmap (2027–2032)



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## **4. THEMATIC AREAS**

Submissions are invited under (but not limited to) the following thematic areas:

### **4.1 Sustainable Land Management and Restoration**

- Soil conservation and soil health
- Rangeland and pasture management
- Land rehabilitation and restoration techniques
- Agroforestry and conservation agriculture

### **4.2 Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience**

- Climate-smart agriculture
- Drought and flood mitigation strategies
- Carbon sequestration and ecosystem services
- Community-based climate adaptation

### **4.3 Water Resource Management (WaterCare)**

- Catchment management
- Water conservation and harvesting
- Wetland restoration
- Integrated water resource management

### **4.4 Biodiversity and Ecosystem Management**

- Invasive alien species management
- Ecological infrastructure
- Biodiversity conservation in agricultural landscapes

### **4.5 Community-Based Approaches and Indigenous Knowledge**

- Indigenous knowledge systems in land management
- Role of traditional leadership
- Participatory approaches to LandCare

### **4.6 Policy, Governance and Institutional Coordination**

- LandCare governance models
- Intergovernmental coordination
- Policy alignment and implementation challenges



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#### **4.7 Socio-Economic Development and Livelihoods**

- Job creation and the Expanded Public Works Programme
- Rural development and poverty reduction
- SMMEs, cooperatives, and agribusiness development

#### **4.8 Youth and Women in LandCare**

- Youth empowerment and skills development
- Women in agriculture and natural resource management
- Junior LandCare initiatives

#### **4.9 Innovation, Technology and Data Systems**

- GIS, remote sensing, and digital tools
- Monitoring and evaluation systems
- Data-driven decision-making

#### **4.10 Financing and Partnerships**

- Public-private partnerships
- Blended finance models
- Climate finance and donor funding

### **5. TYPES OF SUBMISSIONS**

Contributors are invited to submit:

- **Oral Presentations (Full Papers)**
- **Poster Presentations**
- **Case Studies / Best Practice Reports**
- **Policy Briefs**
- **Technical Demonstrations / Innovations**

### **6. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

#### **Abstract Submission**

- **Maximum 300–500 words**
- **Clearly indicate:**
  - Title of the paper/presentation
  - Author(s) and affiliation(s)



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- Thematic area
- Key findings or contributions

## Language

- Submissions must be in **English**

Email your submissions to: [ECLandcare.Conference@ecagriculture.gov.za](mailto:ECLandcare.Conference@ecagriculture.gov.za)

Closing date 30 June 2026