SANAP environmental authorisation processes

Carol Jacobs

Sub-Directorate: Environmental Impact Evaluation (Antarctica and Islands), Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Private Bag X447, Pretoria, 0001, South Africa

This talk concerns the way in which your work must fit into the current environmental processes applicable to the South African National Antarctic Programme (SANAP), under the auspices of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT). The following 3-point principle in terms of environmental impacts can be followed:

- 1. What do you want to do? (what, where, how, etc.)
- 2. What will the impacts on the environment be?
- 3. How do you intend to mitigate those impacts?

In following this principle, Principal Investigators are bound to the legislation applicable to SANAP's operational areas:

ANTARCTICA:

1. Protocol on Environmental Protection to the Antarctic Treaty (Annex I)

This Annex outlines that an Initial Environmental Evaluation (IEE) must be submitted for any new activity that will impact on the environment in Antarctica. If the impact is less than minor or transitory, the activity can be authorised by DEAT. If the IEE determines that the impact will be more than minor or transitory, a Comprehensive Environmental Evaluation (CEE) will be required. The IEE (and CEE, if required) must be submitted to DEAT for consideration.

MARION ISLAND:

- 1. National Environmental Management Act (NEMA), Act No. 107 of 1998
- 2. NEMA's Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations, 2006

Listing Notices 386 and 387 of the EIA Regulations provide the lists of activities for which a Basic Assessment Report (BAR) or Environmental Impact Report (EIR) respectively, are required. The BAR or EIR must be submitted to DEAT for consideration.

Forms and templates are available from DEAT.