



**20**  
**ANNIVERSARY**  
**CELEBRATION**  
**2003 - 2023**

# WORKING ON FIRE

## 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Fire Symposium Programme

*In Collaboration with*

**NELSON MANDELA**  
UNIVERSITY



*Media Partner*

**FIRE AND RESCUE**  
INTERNATIONAL

### DAY ONE: 8 November 2023

SESSION 1: WORKING ON FIRE - KISHUGU JOINT VENTURE AND ITS INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT APPROACH TO FIRE MANAGEMENT

09h00 - 09h05

**Symposium Administration and Logistics.**

Linton Rensburg, Stakeholder Manager:

*Working on Fire and WOF@20 Fire Symposium Coordinator.*

09h05 - 09h10

Working on Fire, Video: **Climate Change & Wildfires in 2023.**

09h10 - 09h20

**Welcoming at Fire Symposium.**

Mr Danie Pienaar, Senior General Manager:

*Conservation and Area Integrity, Kruger National Park.*

09h20 - 09h35

**Keynote and Official Opening:**

Trevor Abrahams - Managing Director: *Working on Fire SA and Project Manager, Working on Fire - Kishugu Joint Venture.*

**Climate Change & Wildfires: The Rapidly Changing Game - Key Challenges, Policy and Operational Responses.**

09:35 - 09:50

**South Africa's Preparedness for future Wildfires.**

Dr. Elias Sithole, Head of National Disaster Management Centre.

**SESSION 2: CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE NEW "NORMAL" IN INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT (CHAIRPERSON: PROF EDITH VRIES)**

09h50 - 10h05

**(1) Comparative performance and daily behavioural characteristics of the Canadian Fire Weather Index (FWI) and Lowveld Fire Danger Index (FDI) models in a South African domain.**

Mr. Kevin Rae - Chief Forecaster: Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), SA Weather Service (South Africa) South Africa.

10h05 - 10h20

**(2) Strengthening Global Collaborations in Wildland Fire Management: Lessons from Canada's Unprecedented Fire Season.**

Kim Connors - Executive Director: Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre (CIFFC) Canada.

10h20 - 10h50

**TEA BREAK**

10h50 - 11h05

**(3) The role of climate on large fire events in the Western Cape.**

Dr. Danie Boshoff, - North-West University Senior Lecturer: Geography.

11h05 - 11h20

**(4) Climate Change and the "New Normal" for Integrated Fire Management: The potential contribution of integrated wildland fire management to Ecosystem based Adaptation to Climate Change.**

Dr. Christo Marais - Natural Resource Management Economics & Ecological Restoration Specialist.

11h20 - 12h00

**Questions & Answers – Panel Discussion.**

12h00 - 13h00

**LUNCH**

**EMPOWERING AFRICA TO BECOME INTEGRATED FIRE MANAGEMENT (IFM) COMPLIANT (DR CHRISTO MARAIS)**

13h00 - 13h15

**(5) Using remote sensing data in supporting wildfire early warning in East-Africa, experiences from the Regional Eastern Africa Fire Monitoring Resource Center (REA-FMRC).**

Haritiana Zacharie - Researcher: Land, Landscape and Development Research Lab (LLandDev), Madagascar.

13h15 - 13h30

**(6) Enabling Integrated Fire Management strategies through integrating a comprehensive smart modelling chain into Wildfire Early Warning System.**

Dr Paolo Fiorucci  
CIMA Research Foundation, Italy.

13h30 - 13h45

**(7) Taming the flames: participatory GIS as tool to support community-based fire management in land use planning in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania.**

Dr Ida Herdieckerhoff  
University of Eastern Finland.

13h45 - 14h00

**(8) Development of community level action plans for enforcement of national Integrated Fire Management (IFM) policies: Processes and Lessons from Tanzania.**

Prof. John F. Kessy  
College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism, Sokoine University of Agriculture, Tanzania.

14h00- 14h15	<b>(9) Enhancing Awareness and Capacity to develop and disseminate multi-hazard early warning information in Africa through the Network of Excellence (NoE).</b> Dr Faith Mitheu <i>CIMA Research Foundation, Italy.</i>
14h15 - 14h30	<b>TEA BREAK</b>
14h30 - 14h45	<b>(10) Implementation of Integrated Fire Management practices on the Southern Highlands of Tanzania.</b> Tiaan Pool <i>Head of Department Nelson Mandela University, George Campus, South Africa.</i>
14h45 - 15h00	<b>(11) Integrated Fire Management Plan for the Kruger National Park: Lessons from 7 decades of fire management.</b> Navashni Govender <i>Senior Manager: Conservation Management, Kruger National Park, South Africa.</i>
15h00 - 15h30	<b>Questions &amp; Answers – Panel Discussion</b>
15h30 - 15h45	<b>Summary</b>
15h45 - 16h00	<b>Programme and Logistics for Day 2</b> Linton Rensburg - <i>Symposium Coordinator.</i>

## **DAY TWO: 9 November 2023**

09h00 - 09h15	<b>Business Continuity Plans and Processes.</b> Nicolene Bruwer , AON Representative.
09h15 - 09h30	<b>Presentation by Dräger, Solutions for Wildland FireFighting</b> Wimpie van Onselen, <i>Emergency &amp; Rescue Services, Dräger South Africa (Pty)Ltd.</i>
09h30 - 09h45	<b>Wildfire training for management and firefighters and what the future holds in context of climate change and global warming</b> Tony Mancos, <i>CEO, Kishugu Training Academy</i>
09h45 - 10h00	<b>Fleet management as a key component of integrated fire management and application of advanced technology in vehicle and drivers.</b> Coenie Lamprecht, <i>CEO, Kishugu Fleet</i>
10h00 - 10h15	<b>Aerial firefighting as a critical component of early initial attack and global best practices</b> Emile Grobbelaar, <i>CEO, Kishugu Aviation</i>
10h15 - 11h00	<b>SANParks Rangers and Working on Fire OHS</b> Delegates Prepared for Game Drive & Fire Demo: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Lunch Packs</i></li> <li>• <i>Health and Safety Talk</i></li> </ul>
11h00 - 17h00	<b>Game Drive and Fire Demonstration: Aerial and ground firefighting resources (Interated fire management as a key tool in managing biodiversity and wildfire risks)</b>
17h00 – 20h30	<b>Evening Boma Braai (South African Barbeque)</b>

## DAY THREE: 10 November 2023

### SESSION 4: PREVENTION THE KEY TO MITIGATING THE INCREASED INCIDENCE OF WILDLAND FIRES (ROLAND HENDRICKS, DIRECTOR FIRE SERVICES, NATIONAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT CENTRE, SOUTH AFRICA)

- 08h30 - 08h45 **(12) Using Fire To Manage Grasslands In Ethekwini Municipality.**  
Nokuphila Buthelezi  
*Ethekwini Municipality, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa*
- 08h45 - 09h00 **(13) How changes in the ecology of fires as a result of climate change will affect management decision making.**  
Dave Dobson, *South Africa.*
- 09h00 - 09h15 **(14) Harnessing the Power of Wildfire Data to Enable Integrated Fire Management for Safer Landscapes.**  
Dr Pieter Olivier  
*M.A.P Scientific Services Director, South Africa*
- 09h15 - 09h30 **(15) Analysing interactions between landscape structure and fire-resilience at watershed level, experiences from Ankarafantsika National Park, Madagascar.**  
Gaston Hedwigino Tahintsoa  
*Researcher REAFMRC Madagascar.*
- 09h30 - 09h45 **(16) 7th International Wildland Fire Conference, Porto. May 2023: A benchmark exercise with some new perspectives and take-home messages.**  
Louise Wessels  
*Manager Greater Overberg Fire Protection Association (FPA), South Africa.*
- 09h45 - 10h00 **(17) The effect of time of day on factors that affect fire intensity in Southern African savanna.**  
Nothando Ngobeni  
*Fire Researcher, Working on Fire, South Africa.*
- 10h00-10h15 **(18) Prophylactic land-use for wildfire risk reduction at South Africa's wildland-Urban interface.**  
Angel A. Goldsmith,  
*Kings College London, Geography Department and Faculty of Social Science and Public Policy, United Kingdom.*
- 10h15 - 10h45 **Questions & Answers – Panel Discussion**

### SESSION 5: BETTER COLLABORATION OF GLOBAL, CONTINENTAL AND LOCAL LEVEL (CHAIRPERSON, TREVOR ABRAHAM)

- 10h45 - 11h00 **TEA**
- 11h00 - 11h15 **(19) Implementing the Incident Command Systems (ICS) as a critical component of responding and managing emergencies (wildfires).**  
Butler Markes Wayne  
*Head Free State Disaster Management Centre & Johann "Savage" Breytenbach, Free State Umbrella Fire Protection, General Manager.*
- 11h15 – 11h30 **(20) Community-Based Fire Management in East and Southern African Savanna-Protected Areas: A Review of the Published Evidence.**  
Dr Abigail R. Croker  
*Centre for Environmental Policy, Imperial College London, United Kingdom.*
- 11h30 – 11h55 **Questions and Answers - Panel Discussion**
- 11h55 – 12h30 **Closure** - Trevor Abrahams - Managing Director: *Working on Fire SA and Project Manager, Working on Fire - Kishugu Joint Venture.*
- 12h30 **LUNCH**