

2013

ICASA

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
ON AIDS AND STI'S IN AFRICA
DURBAN SOUTH AFRICA | 7 - 11 DECEMBER



REGISTRATION
OPENS
JUNE
J2012

WWW.ICASA2013DURBAN.COM

Online Registration will be opened in **June 2012**.
For more information: www.icasa2013durban.com
and www.saafrica.org

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRS

The ICASA conference remains one of the most important events in the calendar of the year, contributing towards overcoming the HIV and TB epidemics that grip our region. Sub-Saharan Africa remains the most affected region with over 22 Million people living with HIV and AIDS and the highest Tuberculosis rates world-wide. Through scientific advancements in the diagnosis, monitoring and treatment of HIV significant progress has been made to reduce the mortality and morbidity of AIDS.

Prevention efforts have been accelerated by the progress in biomedical interventions to reduce HIV transmission. Following on the successes of the 30 years of HIV research, from the discovery of the virus to over 30 medicines registered and many prevention methods in the pipeline, public health and infectious diseases research has turned the attention to include Tuberculosis and Malaria. ICASA represents a massive

opportunity for all role players from basic science researcher, clinical researcher to the drug regulatory authorities and human ethics committees to review the current state of infectious diseases research in Africa.

No conference can be relevant or complete without the engagement of the communities we serve. Their voices need to be present and heard to ensure that scientific research is translated to the leadership in our countries by those most affected by the public health emergencies leading to widespread death and misery. The people of Africa, who's hearts beat as one to produce a penetrating pulse in the ground to send the message to world not to give up the fight against HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria just when success has become palpable. International resources assigned to the improvement of health in resource poor settings, both for social improvement

and economic growth, will continue to enhance the region's ability for economic growth, contributing to the global recovery.

With rising tensions created by the international financial crisis and political change impacting the world and Africa, an increased effort is required to maintain the international leadership for a reduction in HIV incidence targeting zero new infections, and a reduction of HIV and AIDS related mortality and morbidity. Not only do we look towards the political leadership and private sector, but also wish to build on the HIV and AIDS successes to develop a community of African scientists, capable of leading

the public health and research initiatives for the continent. We turn our attention on the Universities of Africa where future generations of African leaders are groomed.

ICASA aims to provide researchers with the opportunity of an international stage with the light focused on science and public health of Africa. The standards of research presented at this meeting will reflect the dawning of a new era, with proudly African scientists presenting rich and novel data and discoveries.



Prof. Robert Soudre
President: Society For AIDS
in Africa (SAA)
Chair: 17th ICASA Conference
2013



Ian Sanne
CEO: Right to Care
Associate Professor Internal Medicine
University of the Witwatersrand
Co-Chair: 17th ICASA Conference 2013





KWA ZULU-NATAL

Known as the Zulu Kingdom, KwaZulu-Natal is considered a place of discovery, providing visitors with lasting memories. The region offers a mosaic of vivid scenery, a blend of cultures and diverse attractions. Situated on the East Coast of South Africa, the province has a pristine 600km coastline, a towering mountain range - the uKhahlamba or Drakensberg - and boundless untamed stretches of wilderness which is home to the Big 5. The warm sub-tropical climate makes KwaZulu-Natal one of

the premier sunshine destinations of the world and a similar time zone to Europe means that the risk of jet lag is significantly reduced. With a population of some 10,2 million people, the province is representative of the cultural diversity of South Africa. Indeed, this province is home to the proud Zulu Nation, and the descendents of colonial settlers from around the world, while the Indian population is one of the world's largest outside India.

INFRASTRUCTURE

The province is blessed with first-world infrastructure including modern cities and towns. In addition, KwaZulu-Natal hosts two of Africa's premier ports, Durban - the busiest in Africa, and Richards Bay - the deepest in Africa. The region, and especially its economic engine-room, Durban, is a sporting mecca in South Africa.

THE PORT OF DURBAN: This burgeoning port city is KwaZulu-Natal's economic driver and boasts the largest container terminal in the southern hemisphere and is responsible for one of the province's primary exports - sugar. The port has its own sugar terminal and handles 65% of South Africa's sugar export.

DUBE TRADEPORT: South Africa's 'aerotropolis' is located at La Mercy, to the north of Durban. This modern and highly advanced development comprises the new King Shaka international passenger and cargo airport facility, a trade zone, a support zone, an agrizone and a cyber port.

MOSES MABHIDA STADIUM: A proud host of the semi-finals in the 2010 FIFA World Cup™, this state-of-the-art stadium is a world-class sports venue capable of accommodating 70 000 sports fans.

RICHARDS BAY: The port of Richards Bay, situated in the north of the province, is a dynamic, constantly developing, first-world logistics hub, established as a bulk-port to export coal. It handles various bulk and non-bulk cargoes, responsible for some 80 million tonnes per annum. This represents 57% of South Africa's seaborne cargo, and places it at the very forefront of this continent's ports.

RICHARDS BAY INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ZONE: The RBIDZ is a purposebuilt and secure industrial estate adjacent the Richards Bay Harbour. The zone sets out to encourage international competitiveness by way of tax and duty-free incentives, the provision of world-class infrastructure and one of the world's

PROVINCIAL ATTRACTIONS

South Africa's Zulu Kingdom boasts no fewer than eight different and unique destinations, making the region an essential 'must see' part of the country. From the ragged peaks of the Drakensberg Mountains to the warm waters of the Indian Ocean. From the grasslands teeming with wildlife to the eclectic richness of its cultures.

The awe-inspiring beauty of KwaZulu-Natal never fails to enthral visitors:

DURBAN: Where east meets west, Durban is a vibrant city that is truly in touch with its African identity. Highly sophisticated and cosmopolitan, it is an exciting city where visitors can undertake a spot of retail therapy, dance the night away, or simply relax on the warming sands of its beachfront.

NORTH COAST: The North Coast, also known as the Dolphin Coast, stretches from Zimbali in the south all the way to the Thukela River in the north. Visitors may marvel at dolphins at play as they surf the clear waves close inshore. Away from its infinite beaches, the North Coast is transformed into gentle rolling hills covered by the 'green gold' of KwaZulu- Natal – its primary agricultural crop, sugar cane. This is an idyllic environment offering luxury, beauty, sport and history.

ELEPHANT COAST: Further north, the Elephant Coast encompasses the best of both land and sea safaris, with its pristine conservation areas,

the oldest game reserve in Africa - Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park - and the iSimangaliso Greater St Lucia Wetland Park, the first World Heritage Site to be proclaimed in South Africa. The region is an ecotourism paradise reflecting the essence of untamed Africa.

ZULULAND: This is a destination steeped in Zulu history. King Shaka, Ulundi, Eshowe and Richards Bay are just some of the names synonymous with this world-renowned area. In addition, Zululand teems with private and provincial game reserves, offering unmatched game-viewing facilities, hunting and hiking, together with horse and nature trails.

BATTLEFIELDS: The Battlefields area of KwaZulu-Natal which conjure up visions of the fierce wars of yesteryear – often reenacted for the benefit of visitors – lie at peace today. This is an area which attracts historians and descendants of those who took part in the battles at Isandlwana, Rorke's Drift, Colenso, Spioenkop, Ladysmith, Dundee and Blood River. Here visitors can also learn about and absorb traditional Zulu culture and heritage.





SOUTH AFRICA

The jewel at the southern tip of Africa, South Africa is the continent's economic powerhouse and business gateway to the hinterland. It is widely regarded as one of the most beautiful holiday and investment destinations in the world, creating boundless opportunities for both business and pleasure. A country of intriguing contrasts, South Africa boasts highly developed infrastructure, coupled with a diversity of natural resources. Visitors are generally awe-struck by the stark contrasts of

the landscape which include endless beaches, vast deserts and craggy mountain peaks. Although one eighth the size of the United States and nearly five times the size of the United Kingdom, South Africa commands more than 1,2 million square kilometres of some of the most geographically diverse and stunning land in the world. With its predominantly sunny climate, South Africa offers a year-long 'tourist season', allowing visitors and locals to enjoy an idyllic lifestyle.

OVERVIEW

South Africa has invested significantly in infrastructural development over the past decade, resulting in a steady improvement at all levels.

This includes providing greater access to basic services, such as water and electricity, as well as major infrastructural development upgrades to harbours, airports, sport stadia in its quest to remain at the very forefront of business and tourism. The country maintains a world-class standard of communication services, including a direct dialling service connecting all centres and an international telephone service linking South Africa with the world. Four professional GSM cellular networks currently cater for the widespread use of cellular phones within the country. Such instruments are available for hire on arrival at South Africa's international airports.

TRANSPORT: South Africa boasts excellent

road, rail, air and sea transport networks. The country's transport sector is considered to be a key competitive advantage in today's challenging global markets, crucial for its continued economic growth and social development. The extensive road network is the largest in Africa, while rail links are the 10th longest in the world. There are three international airports, strategically located in the country's major cities: Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town.

DRIVING: South Africans drive on the left side of the road and wear seatbelts by law. If you are not a resident of South Africa, but hold a valid driving licence from your own country, you may drive in South Africa. The licence must be in English and have the holder's picture and signature. Visitors with international driving permits may also drive in South Africa.

ECONOMIC STATUS: After more than a decade of economic stability, South Africa's economic climate continues to improve. Economic growth has pivoted on greater diversity, so propelling investor confidence and improving the country's engagement with the global economy.

POLITICAL STABILITY: South Africa is a multi-party parliamentary democracy in which constitutional power is shared between the President and Parliament. With the advent in 1994 of democratic rule, the country has grown to become widely regarded as being politically stable.

TRAVEL AND ACCESS: Visitors to South Africa may require visas to enter the country. Visitors wishing to enter the country should consult the following website to ascertain whether a visa is required and the correct procedures: www.home-affairs.pwv.gov.za/visas.asp

CURRENCY: The South African unit of currency is known as the Rand, which utilises the decimal system. One Rand is equal to 100 cents. Rand notes are available in the following denominations: R200, R100, R50, R20 and R10. Coins are available in the following denominations: R5, R2, R1, 50c, 20c, 10c, 5c, 2c and 1c.

CREDIT CARDS: All major credit cards and travellers cheques are widely accepted in South Africa. Most businesses, tour operators, airlines

and hotels accept Visa, MasterCard, American Express and Diners Club. Travellers cheques, in all the major currencies, may be exchanged at any bank. In addition, many hotels, department stores, restaurants and the like will also accept travellers cheques.

VALUE ADDED TAX: VAT is included in the marked/quoted price of goods and services provided in South Africa. International visitors may claim refunds of VAT paid on any goods which they intend taking out of South Africa. Information leaflets regarding VAT and such refund procedures are available from the VAT Refund Administration Offices at the OR Tambo International Airport, Johannesburg, King Shaka International Airport and Cape Town International Airport.

CURRENCY CONTROL: South African bank notes totalling more than R500 will not be permitted through customs, unless one is in possession of the necessary permit. Information and advice may be obtained from the Department of Customs and Excise.

CUSTOMS AND EXCISE: Entry into South Africa is subject to customs clearance. Information regarding the temporary importation of goods, such as exhibition materials is available through the Department of Customs and Excise. Customs duties are levied against any and all items which exceed identified limits. Payment of such duties is generally required prior to departure from the customs area.





DRINKING WATER: South Africa has high-quality drinking water, in accordance with the standards of the World Health Organisation - the same standards which apply to European and other developed countries. South Africa's water quality system, implemented countrywide, makes the tap water completely safe to drink.

HEALTHCARE: Although South Africa does not operate a national health scheme, the country's health industry measures favourably with the best in the world. The country provides for both state and private healthcare. It is recommended that visitors to the country arrange travel insurance to cover accidents, illness or the need for hospitalisation during their stay.

EVENT HOSTING: South Africa boasts a wealth of conference and exhibition facilities, inclusive of custom-built centres designed and operated to exacting international standards. The ICC Durban is the flagship among these and has helped capacitate Africa through a range of initiatives. As one of the top meetings destinations in Africa, South Africa accounts for over 60% of all conferencing activities on the continent.

SCENIC BEAUTY: South Africa is a country of breathtaking beauty. It is an exotic though comfortably affordable destination, well-known for its natural heritage, mountains, oceans, indigenous forests, deserts and untamed wilds.

Examples of the many popular attractions include:

- The uKhahlamba-Drakensberg Park - a World Heritage Site - in KwaZulu-Natal with its towering mountain peaks and San rock painting treasures.
- The World Heritage Site of iSimangaliso Wetlands Park on the KwaZulu-Natal north coast.
- The Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park, the oldest game reserve in Africa.
- The Kruger National Park in Mpumalanga, home to a wide variety of wildlife.
- Table Mountain and Robben Island in Cape Town.
- The Cradle of Humankind on the outskirts of Johannesburg - another World Heritage Site - which includes the famous Sterkfontein Caves where the skull of a 3 million year old hominid was found in 1936.