



## Invitation

The Centre for Environmental Rights cordially invites you to a two-day workshop focused on South Africa's Strategic Water Source Areas. Since 2015, supported by the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS), the Centre for Environmental Rights (CER) has been hosting seminars and workshops where experts share their knowledge and experience on environmental governance and environmental rights with Members of Parliament and other influential decision-makers. This workshop will focus on South Africa's Strategic Water Source Areas.

### Workshop Topic:

## Securing our Strategic Water Source Areas

5 & 6 September 2018, 08h30 for 09h00-16h30

Townhouse Hotel, 60 Corporation Street, Cape Town City Centre

A light lunch will be served at 13h00

**RSVP: [nqoko@cer.org.za](mailto:nqoko@cer.org.za) or 021 4471647 by Friday, 24 August 2018  
(seats are limited)**

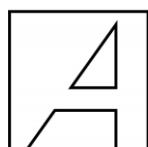
South Africa faces a deep water crisis. In confronting the water crisis, it is imperative that we secure, protect and effectively manage the source of our water. South Africa has 22 Strategic Water Source Areas which, together, take up only 8% of our land, yet provide 50% of our surface run-off. These areas support the water needs of approximately 60% of our population and 67% of our national economic activity. Despite their critical value, however, our water source areas are faced with multiple threats, including drought, land degradation stemming from cultivation, plantations and over-grazing as well as mining, urban development, alien invasive vegetation, climate change and fires. Currently, less than 16% of our Strategic Water Source Areas are under some level of formal protection in terms of the Protected Areas Act.

The focus of this workshop is two-fold:

- **Day 1 (5 September)** will provide a general introduction to our Strategic Water Source Areas and will cover the following: What are Strategic Water Source Areas? How are they currently protected and managed? What is their socio-economic importance? What are current threats to our Strategic Water Source Areas? What mechanisms are available to protect and manage our Strategic Water Source Areas? Day 1 is for Members of Parliament, government officials, other influential decision-makers and stakeholders in NGOs, CBOs, academia and industry that would like to know more about our Strategic Water Source Areas.
- **Day 2 (6 September)** will be a more focused workshop for stakeholders already undertaking work related to Strategic Water Source Areas. The objective of Day 2 is to explore strategies, steps and actions needed to facilitate legal protection and appropriate management of our Strategic Water Sources Areas.

**Presenters:** The workshop will include presentations by experts from the Centre for Environmental Rights (CER), WWF-South Africa, South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) (provisionally), CapeNature and Institute of Marine & Environmental Law (IMEL).

The Centre for Environmental Rights is a non-profit organisation and law clinic of environmental rights lawyers that helps communities defend their right to a healthy environment. We do this by advocating and litigating for environmental justice.



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