

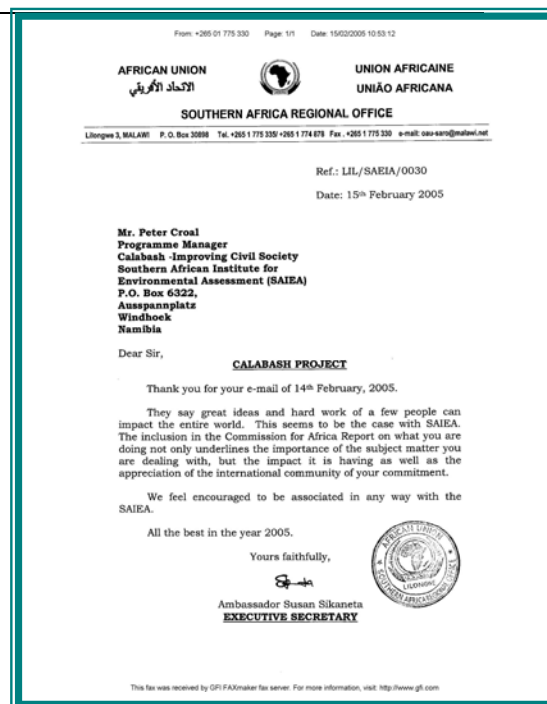
Work on the One Stop Participation Guide has been completed. The **Handbook** is based on the findings of the case study work and is available now.



**G**older Associates who are responsible of delivering the two day pilot training course have confirmed that nominations from the region exceed expectations. The course will be held in Windhoek on May 24/25, 2005. The selected participants will be informed as soon as possible.

**C**alabash is also drawing from the case study work to develop a set of template **Terms of Reference for Public Participation Programmes** that can be used for a point environmental assessment, linear environmental assessment and a strategic environmental assessment. These should be ready for the next newsletter.

**N**ew staff member at SAIEA head quarters! With a Bachelor of Science in Zoology & Psychology from UNAM and a Master of Science in International Fisheries Management graduated with a "Cum Laude" at the University of Oslo, Nico Willemsse brings a different expertise to the Institute. He will support the Executive Director in various projects.



**B**asin Management Project. SAIEA /Calabash was invited by USAID to attend a 2 day meeting in Johannesburg. The workshop involved over 50 experts and stakeholders who are currently part of the Integrated Okavango River Basin Management Project. Calabash has been requested by the project team to provide materials that could be used during the civil-society engagement aspect of the programme.

**New registrations on our expert data base:**

- David Chung - **Engineering**
- Willem Burger - **Public Participation**
- Rian Du Toit. - **EIA, Public Participation**
- Tumai Murombo - **Environmental Law**
- Makame Haji - **Environmental Economics**
- Dave Blair - **EIA, Protected Areas**
- Elias Mkhwanazi - **Environmental Law**
- Annerine Wenhold - **E. Management Plans**
- Oben George Oben - **Biodiversity**

**Welcome!**

**I**n February SAIEA/Calabash participated in a 2- day meeting in Geneva hosted by UNEP to discuss UNEP's activities at developing an Integrated Assessment and Planning Methodology for developing countries. SAIEA was invited because of our work on civil society engagement and decision making. The proceedings of the meeting will be published by UNEP next month.

**S**AIEA was requested by the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) to present a one-day course on Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) to the Environmental Sub-committee at the SAPP bi-annual meeting at Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe on 8<sup>th</sup> February. The course was attended by 13 people, representing 11 of the region's electricity supply utilities. The course was presented by Bryony Walmsley of SAIEA and covered the following topics: the context for SEA in Africa, what is SEA, why is it so important for sound planning, the difference between SEA and EIA, applications and challenges to the implementation of SEA, the purpose and principles of SEA, and the SEA process. Local examples from the SADC region and case studies relevant to the power industry were presented to illustrate the benefits of SEA. The participants were then asked to workshop hypothetical power sector SEAs. The day finished with a most enjoyable sunset cruise and bush braai organised by SAPP.



**S**AIEA won a tender issued by the National Environmental Secretariat of Lesotho (NES) to assist them in reviewing an EIS for a proposed diamond mine. Because of the limited experience in mining in Lesotho, we offered NES a one-day course on environmental management in mining, prior to conducting the review. The course was attended by all 17 people on the Review Panel assembled by NES, representing 10 different government departments and NGOs. This was true co-operative governance!

The course covered the following topics: sustainable development in mining from a global and SADC perspective, the Lesotho mining and environmental context, the life cycle of a mining project, the typical activities, impacts and mitigation associated with each project phase, environmental management plans, monitoring and auditing.

The course was followed the next day by a trip to the proposed mine site which reinforced many of the learning points from Day 1. The next two days were spent in a combination of training, workshops and plenary sessions, using the standard SAIEA EA and EMP review forms to evaluate the EIS and EMP documents for the mine. At the end of the week, the review had been completed and the key issues for inclusion in the Letter of Decision had been captured.

**SAIEA will be hosting two panel sessions at the IAIA 2005 in Boston.**

*All the above activities are underway and SAIEA welcomes your feedback!*



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