

18/03/2020

COVID-19 Stakeholder Information

The South African State President Cyril Ramaphosa, on Sunday the 15th March 2020, declared that the prevalence of COVID -19 (novel coronavirus) is a national state of disaster. The South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) has taken the following measures to minimise the risks of spreading the highly infectious respiratory disease COVID-19 as of the 18th March 2020:

1.) International Programmes and Projects

- All international business air travel for staff is suspended until further notice.
- International visitors to SAEON offices will have to contact us first to discuss the purpose of their visit. If approved, they will have to undergo compulsory testing for COVID-19 and only if the result is negative, will they be permitted to work at SAEON offices.

2.) Conferences and Meetings

- Domestic travel including field trips will only be allowed for essential work and only after due assessment of the associated risks.
- SAEON employees will not participate in physical gatherings of more than 20 people
- Video conferencing will be the preferred mode of meetings.
- Before entering our offices, all visitors will be required to sanitise their hands

At SAEON offices, employees are required and assisted to:



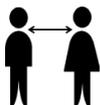
Notify the manager immediately if they had contact with an international traveller or any person who is suspected or infected with COVID-19 (this includes those who have come into close contact with others who have been in close contact with known cases)



Wash their hands regularly with soap and water and/or use hand sanitiser.



Cough or sneeze into a tissue that they should dispose of immediately.



Maintain 1m social distancing at all times



Call NICD helpline on 0800 029 999 if they have symptoms and would like to find out more information on testing facilities.

Call a medical doctor for an assessment and to take sick leave when prescribed. Obtain the manager's approval for self-isolation, to re-schedule and to work remotely when required and realistic.