



## CRITERIA AND PROCEDURE FOR MAKING AWARDS

### 2017 WESSA AWARDS

Presented since 1974, the WESSA Awards enable us to recognise and honour individuals and groups making a significant contribution to the environmental conservation or environmental education sector in South Africa.

The goals of the WESSA Awards are as follows:

1. To give appropriate, high level recognition to people, groups or institutions for advancing the cause of environmental conservation and/or education in South Africa ***in an exceptional and sustained manner.***
2. To provide an opportunity for WESSA to increase public awareness of local or national achievements in environmental conservation and/or education.

In general, the main criterion for all the WESSA Awards is as follows:

***“Any individual, corporate/organisation, community group, educational group, conservation or environmental group who have done outstanding and sustained work for the benefit of environmental conservation and/or education in South Africa.”***

**Note:**

1. The above contribution can be made at a local level, but it should be deemed to be of national significance or be able to be replicated at a national level.
2. In exceptional cases, the Awards Committee may consider submissions where the activity has not been on a sustained basis.
3. WESSA staff are not eligible for the awards.

## Who can make nominations?

Anyone can nominate a candidate for these awards. Nominations are directed to the WESSA Awards Committee at [awards@wessa.co.za](mailto:awards@wessa.co.za).

## Nominations time schedule:

By Wednesday the 1<sup>st</sup> August 2017, written nominations, signed by the proposer, must be sent to the Awards Committee at [awards@wessa.co.za](mailto:awards@wessa.co.za). The Awards Committee will make decisions about the award nominees.

By Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> August 2017 the successful nominee/s will be notified that they are to receive an award.

The awards will be presented to the successful recipients at WESSA's AGM to be held in Durban on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2017.

Please note that the Awards Committee's final decision will be based entirely on the contents of the submission. They will not, as a rule, undertake further research into the achievements of the nominees or the veracity of the claims made. Nominations must therefore be both substantial and substantiated.

## Announcement of the awards:

The first public announcement of the awards will be made by the Chairman of the Board and the CEO at an appropriate time. No public announcement may be made prior to this date.

## Recommended format for WESSA Awards nominations:

Nominations must be in writing and should include:

1. Full name of person nominated (nominee).
2. Full name and signature of person proposing the nominee (proposer).
3. Present address and contact telephone number and e-mail address of the nominee.
4. Full motivation for the nomination in which the candidate's exceptional and (where appropriate) sustained contribution(s) to environmental conservation and/or education are described, with a specific focus on outcomes and achievements.
5. An abbreviated Curriculum Vitae of the nominee.

A list of the past recipients of WESSA Awards is available [on the website](#). Only in exceptional cases may previous award recipients be nominated again.

## What awards can be made?

### WESSA AWARD FOR INDIVIDUALS

This is WESSA's premier award to *an individual*. The person nominated must be considered to have made an outstanding contribution to environmental conservation and/or education in South Africa

over a sustained period of time and at a national level. “Outstanding contribution” in this context is understood to be a contribution over and above what would normally be expected from their work.

#### **WESSA AWARD FOR YOUTH**

Youth are increasingly taking on environmental issues and making them their life’s work. In 2017 WESSA would like to acknowledge a young person, under the age of 35 years, who has committed him or herself to environmental conservation and/or education. This individual should be making an “outstanding contribution” that is having positive outcomes at a national level.

#### **WESSA AWARD FOR CORPORATES**

This award is made to *corporations* or *institutions* for outstanding contributions to environmental conservation and/or education in South Africa over a sustained period of time and at a national level.

#### **WESSA AWARD FOR GROUPS**

This award is made to *any group* of volunteers (e.g. community, educational, environmental) who have done outstanding work for the benefit of environmental conservation and/or education over a sustained period of time. Such contribution could be in their local area, but should be of a national significance or be able to be replicated nationally.

**The intention is that a single award be made in each category each year. However, there is no restriction on the Awards Committee to limit awards made in one year. Furthermore, should no suitable candidate/s be nominated, the Awards Committee reserves the right to make no awards or call for more nominations.**

Any questions or clarification about the **2017 WESSA Awards** should be addressed to Dr. Jim Taylor on 082 458 0976 or email [jt@wessa.co.za](mailto:jt@wessa.co.za).