

# Special Issue SACPLAN and *Town and Regional Planning Journal*

## Call for papers

### The Land Question in Southern Africa: Planning and Built Environment Perspectives

The land issue is still making waves across Southern Africa with South Africa being the latest focus of dispute. A storm of emotional arguments was fuelled by the recent announcement by the South African government to investigate the amendment of Section 25 of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa to allow for expropriation of land without compensation. President Cyril Ramaphosa in his 2019 State of the Nation Address said that “*We will support the work of the Constitutional Review Committee tasked with the review of Section 25 of the Constitution to unambiguously set out provisions for expropriation of land without compensation.*” The issue has divided South Africans and politicians with some fearing South Africa will be the next Zimbabwe and others hoping for a long-awaited new dawn. Regardless of one’s position on the expropriation of land without compensation, it is certain that the proposed changes will have far reaching implication for planning and the built environment. Already, this policy uncertainty has curtailed investment in agricultural land, yet promises to release well located land for affordable housing.

The *Town and Regional Planning Journal* together with SACPLAN, are dedicating a special issue of the journal in 2019 to explore this topic. This call for submissions invites academics, researchers and practitioners with keen interest on land questions in South Africa and on the African Continent to submit papers. This special issue is to cover issues such as:

1. The role of urban, rural and regional planning in respect of land reform.
2. Land reform policies: what can we learn from international experience?
3. Land reform implications for the built environment.
4. Land reform, housing and sustainable settlements.
5. Land, livelihoods and food security.
6. Compensation, confiscation: land, the rule of law and the economy.
7. Land reform and spatial equity: youth, equity, youth, women and indigenous people.
8. Implication of Land Reform on natural resources and biodiversity.
9. Land reform readiness and sustainability: capacity, technology and innovation.
10. Societal politics of land reform: traditional land governance, collective tenure and informal settlement.
11. Any other issues that has relevance on land questions in South Africa.

Provisional timelines for writing:

Submission deadline: Draft papers: 28 June 2019

Papers under review: July-August

Comments send to authors: August – September

Author revisions of peer-reviewed papers: October 2019 (two weeks)

Special issue published: December 2019

More information on the journal and guidelines on the formatting of papers can be found on the journal [https://ezproxy.ufs.ac.za:8578/content/journal/sm\\_town](https://ezproxy.ufs.ac.za:8578/content/journal/sm_town) or <http://journals.ufs.ac.za/index.php/trp/index>