https://csos4tailingsjustice.org/conferences/

3rd Annual CSOs Tailings Mine Waste Conference and Workshop
Building Safety First – Together and from Below

Register online
https://bit.ly/csos4tailingsjustice_conf2026

9–11 September 2026
Mercure Hotel - Cnr Republic Road & Brightwater Commons, Randburg

Day 1 – Wednesday 9 September 2026

Why communities must gather in this new face – Safety First, Together and from Below

TIME	SESSION
09:00 – 10:30	**Arrival - Registration**
10:30 – 10:45	**Opening & Framing Session** Welcome by Convenor: Mr Hassen Lorgat Purpose of this year's gathering and why "Safety First – Together and from Below"
10:45 – 12:00	**Challenges of our times** Guest Speaker: Mark Heywood - *Structural and systematic deprivations in South Africa today. How do we get out of this mess? How deep hunger lies in a land of plenty, Xenophobia and how do we rekindle hope*.

	Guest Speaker: Adv Chrystal Pillay, Acting Chief Executive Officer (CEO), SAHRC - Human rights under attack - a call to action
12:00 - 12:15	**Tea break**
12:15 - 13:15	**Panel -** Communities Organising against Tailings Disasters ● Felix Chipoya - Project Coordinator at Kitwe District Land Alliance ● Nicole Loggenberg and Nazy Khota - Battling mine dumps and politicians in greater Joburg ● Freddie Molobi - community activist: in the shadow of the Brits Samancor Chrome Tailings Disaster Lessons from the ground, post Jagersfontein (open discussion)
13:15 – 14:15	**Lunch**
14:15 - 15:30	**Introductory inputs, Legacy Mining -** Zac Wood (Mining2030 Investor Commission) **Roundtable Discussions - The One Environmental System -** Legacy mining, inputs on Critical Minerals, and Why we need OES **Co-chairs -** Sandra Selokela Makoasha - Commissioner at SAHRC (SAHRC); Hassen Lorgat (CSOs Tailings Working Group) Core participants from government ● DFFFE: Branch: Chemicals and Waste Management: ○ Michelle Govender, Chief Director: Hazardous Waste Management and Licensing ○ Kgauta Mokoena, Chief Director: Chemicals and Waste Policy, ● Specialist Monitoring Services Branch: Regulatory Compliance and Sector Monitoring: ○ Simon Moganetsi, Directorate: Strategic Environmental Instruments and Training ○ Bradley Nethononda, Assistant Director: Environmental Management Frameworks (EMFs), Environmental Impact Management: Compliance and Support ● DMPR: ○ Adv Mmadikeledi Moloto with Ms Jacqueline Mathekga and Ms Rudzani Ramatsekisa ● DWS: ○ Absent despite being invited in good time Core participants from CSO

	● CER, Moses Cloete (Bench Marks Foundation), Nathi Mjenxane (Law and Development)
15:30 - 15:45	**Short-Break**
15:45 – 16:45	**The One Environmental System** - continued
16:45 – 17:00	**Day 1 Closing Circle & Announcements - Departure**
19:00 - 21:00	**Evening Documentary Movie:** *Humans in the Loop*, directed by Aranya Sahay It is a 2024 Independent drama. It follows Nehma, an indigenous Adivasi woman from Jharkhand, India, who works as a data labeler training AI systems while balancing her life, her roots, and her child. The movie explores hidden algorithmic biases and the unseen human labour behind artificial intelligence.

Day 2 – Thursday 10 September 2026

Safety First in Practice: Building Power from Below – Law, Standards, Community Work & Solidarity

TIME	SESSION
08:30 – 09:00	**Arrival - Registration**
09:00 - 11:00	**MPRDA amendments and other matters of law:** ● Henk Smith - Law and Development ● Shane Choshane - Program Officer & Critical Minerals Lead, CNV Internationaal ● Masibulele Naki - National Union of Mine Workers (NUM) ● Thabo Moramotse and Nkosi Hlabeni - Far West Rand Artisanal and Small Scale Mining Association
11:00 - 11:15	**Tea Break**
11:15 - 13:00	**Reporting on our work:** Dr Eileen Carter, National Co-ordinator, Human Rights and Developing Tech (SAHRC, Provincial Manager, Eastern Cape). Online *Why must environmental and mining impacted communities take AI and its data centres seriously?*

	Reflection of the submissions to the SAHRC - community activist input: ● Terrance Ngobeni and Athabile Ang Ngcebetsha (CSOs Tailings Working Group) - Responses from Data Centres Working Group members ● Nicholas H Tucker and Shamima Vawda - Responses from Data Centres Working Group members Reflecting on some of the CSOs Tailings Working Group work: ● Launch of : ○ Safety first poster ○ Tailings comic book ○ Report launch: Please sir, may we have some…critique of the dams register hosted by dept of water and sanitation ○ Report Launch:The Human Rights Crisis of Brute-Force AI, Submission to the South African Human Rights Commission by Data-Centres, Surveillance, Control Working Group – Johannesburg, 30 July 2026 ● The Tool Library ● Sibanye Community Tailings Council ● Working with complaints / Jagersfontein ● Tentative reflections on post disaster trauma,
13:00 – 14:00	**Lunch**
14:00 – 15:30	**<u>Building an accountable Democracy</u>** **<u>Panel Discussion</u>** - Standards & Accountability *Are these voluntary standards working for the communities of workers and the poor? What is the mandate of our delegates on IRMA and GTMI?* Explaining the Standards: How they work. Are they binding or can they recommend: ● GTMI - Mutuso Dhliwayo - Executive Director of Zimbabwe Environmental Law Organisation (ZELO), online ● Edson Krenak - Indigenous Scholar and Advocate, Brazil, online ● Moses Cloete - Executive Director, Bench Marks Foundation
15:30 – 16:45	**<u>Building an Accountable Democracy. Roundtable Discussions</u>** Brief inputs from key partners: ● Earthworks Paulina Personius (Tailings a Global Review of CSOs in Struggle) online

	● National Union of Metalworkers ● Bench Marks Foundation
16:45 – 17:00	**Day 2 Closing Circle & Announcements - Departure**
18:00 - 22:00	**Stories, Song, Poetry, and Braai Night** A mini workshop on creative writing for liberation

Day 3 – Friday 11 September 2026

Remember, Honour, Continue

TIME	SESSION
08:30 – 09:00	**Arrival - Registration**
09:00 – 10.00	Commemoration of the Jagersfontein Disaster (11 September 2022) Traditional Nama leaders bless our homeland and the continent Report from Anga (on healing)
10:00 - 11:15	**<u>Movement Building - Learning from others</u>** What they do and what we can learn: ● Lawyers for Human Rights (Phyllia Ngoatje) ● Bench Marks Foundation Monitoring School (Ole Motene) ● YAMUA (Katlego Kgasi) ● WoMin African Alliance (TBC) ● Owe2 Green Economy (Nkosi Hlabeni)
11:15 – 11:30	**Tea Break**
11:30 – 13:00	Mining Unions talking to each other about tailings Indonesia and South Africa
13:00 - 14:00	**Lunch**
14:00 - 15:30	**<u>Cross Over: Africans Talking To Africans</u> -** *South Africa and Sierra Leone talking Tailings and Mine Waste* **<u>Conversation</u>**: ● Jan Morrill - Earthworks / facilitator) ● Community delegates, Ole, Thoko, Nkosi, and others from our team
15:30 - 16:30	Zhang Jingjing, Director of the Center for Transnational Environmental Accountability (CTEA) - holding Chinese **Chinese investors and host-**

	country governments accountable in the light of Sino-Metals tailings dam collapse.
16:30	**<u>Closing Circle & Way Forward</u> -** Programme of action for the coming years ● Messages of solidarity and hope ● Vote of thanks **Departure**