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- to download your entry form
- for the entry criteria
- other important information.

Deadline for entries: 14 August 2009

Imvelo 2009 awards ceremony to be held in Johannesburg in November.

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DESIGN >  **hospitality**

Imvelo 2009

Responsible Tourism awards for the African hospitality and tourism industries



Imvelo Awards for responsible tourism



environment & tourism



Department of Arts & Tourism
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



FEDHASA
Federated Hospitality Association
of Southern Africa



TOURISM EMPOWERMENT
COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA



Industrial Development Corporation
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What is Imvelo?

Imvelo means 'nature' in South Africa's Nguni languages.

The Imvelo Responsible Tourism awards were initiated to coincide with the World Summit on Sustainable Development that was held in South Africa in 2002.

They recognise tourism and hospitality businesses that make a real, measurable and sustained contribution to responsible tourism.

To be made for the eighth time this year, the Imvelo awards have had a huge impact on tourism in South Africa, creating significant awareness of environmental management issues in the industry.

The awards are in line with the Responsible Tourism Guidelines for the South African hospitality industry and the UN World Tourism Organisation's code of ethics.

Imvelo is supported by the Heritage Environmental Rating Programme.

The Federated Hospitality Association of Southern Africa is the custodian of Imvelo.

The main Imvelo partners for 2009 are the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Absa, the Tourism Empowerment Council of South Africa and the Industrial Development Corporation.



Imvelo award categories

Hospitality and tourism establishments or businesses, irrespective of size, can enter any of the following Imvelo award categories:

Best social involvement programme

The judges will be looking for examples of corporate and social responsibility that could include community investment initiatives, local outsourcing, community health, welfare and education activities, promotion of local SME/enterprises as well as local HIV/Aids and other social initiatives.

Best practice – economic impact

The economic impacts of tourism on local communities will be recognised, including local purchasing and economic practices, employment equity, Black Economic Empowerment, employee training and development of and adherence to general and industry-specific legislation.

Best overall environmental management system

This category is judged on the application and success of an existing overall environmental management system. Entries should illustrate compliance across performance areas such as resource management, procurement, waste management, human resource development and the overall environmental management plan.

Best single resource management programme

Three awards will be made in this category to recognise operational efforts that are being made to reduce and manage water, energy or waste. Businesses may submit entries in one or more of these sub-categories.

Most empowered tourism business

The winner in this category will best represent the process of transformation in order to create a more competitive industry through embracing previously marginalised participants. The judges will be looking for a demonstration of the extent to which the entrant has addressed the issues of empowerment and has contributed to a globally competitive, demographically representative tourism industry.

Investor in people award

The need for well trained, educated and developed individuals in the tourism industry is the focus of this award. The judges will consider the extent to which the entrant has taken practical steps to develop the human resource component of their business, focusing on the efforts that have been made in excess of any national minimum standards or guidelines.

Chairman's Award

The FEDHASA Chairman may, at his discretion, make a special award to any Imvelo entrant or any other organisation in the tourism industry that has made a significant contribution to the development and implementation of responsible tourism practice over the past year.

Hospitality and tourism establishments, business and associations may enter in more than one category but entries must stipulate the category/categories that apply.

An overall Imvelo winner will be selected from the various categories – this may or may not be the winner of the Chairman's award or of an individual category.

