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S.E.T. for socio-economic growth

National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)

discussion forum

Ocean Science for Sustainable Development

15-16 November 2023

The [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](http://www.nstf.org.za) is hosting an online discussion forum on [Ocean Science for Sustainable Development](https://www.nstf.org.za/ocean-science-for-sustainable-development) on 15-16 November 2023.



Join the online conversation and make your voice heard.
Click to [register](#).

The United Nations (UN) proclaimed a Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) to support efforts to reverse the cycle of decline in ocean health and gather ocean stakeholders worldwide behind a common framework that will ensure ocean science can fully support countries in creating improved conditions for sustainable development of the ocean.

“The Decade is the chance to put in place a more complete and sustainable observing system and feed the resulting data into a science-based informed decision-making system allowing increased reliance of our civilisation on the ocean, its ecosystem services and, at the same time, preserving ocean health.”

The NSTF adopted this UN decadal theme for a focus of work for 2023. The NSTF made a Special Annual Theme Award (SATA) for work in ocean science for sustainable development, at the [NSTF-South32 Awards](#) on 13 July 2023. The winner of this award, Prof Andrew Green, is invited as the keynote speaker at this discussion forum.

The aim of this online event is to bring together various researchers and professionals to highlight South African scientific work on ocean health, as well as the extent of data gathered through observation systems in South Africa (SA). Gaps and challenges will be shared in this regard, to formulate recommendations.

Themes:

- Unlocking the blue economies and protecting our coastlines from the effects of climate change, through marine geoscience
- What Earth observation is being done and data gathered in SA about the ocean?
- What changes are taking place across the ocean that are associated with climate change?
- How can we adapt and mitigate the negative effects of human-made changes in the ocean?
- How is ocean biodiversity changing and what are the expected impacts?
- How do these changes impact the economy and livelihoods in SA, and how can the negative impacts be mitigated?
- What legislation (NEMA) is in place in SA to gather data and regulate the use of ocean resources, decanting of waste into ocean water and measures to protect the coast? Are these sufficient?

Outputs:

As is usual for [NSTF Discussion Forums](#), a media release will be issued which summarises the most important issues and conclusions. The following outputs will also be made available on the [event page](#) and through social media platforms ([Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X](#), [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#)):

- Video recordings of speakers' presentations (subject to the speakers' agreement)
- Presentation slides (if available and subject to the speakers' agreement)
- Speakers' biographies
- Useful links
- NSTF will engage the media on possible interviews and/or articles, and post on social media before, during and after the event.

Delegate registration information

Date: 15-16 November 2023

Time: 09:00-13:00 (on both days)

Continuous Professional Development (CPD) points: CPD points will be awarded to attendees who are registered with [SACNASP](#) (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions), as well as [ECSA](#) (Engineering Council of SA), in collaboration with the [Institute of Professional Engineering Technologists](#) (IPET). For other affiliations, please contact the NSTF office at enquiries@nstf.org.za.

Register (online event): The event is held online via the NSTF Zoom platform. You will receive an email to confirm your subscription, whereafter you will be diverted to a web page with the Zoom link. Click here to [register](#).

Attendance and participation in this NSTF Discussion Forum is FREE to all those interested.

Please note that if you do not register, the NSTF cannot be held responsible for any unforeseen changes or cancellations of programmes. Communications are sent only via e-mail or through notifications on the NSTF website.

About the NSTF: The NSTF is a non-profit [stakeholder forum](#) representing the science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation community in South Africa. The [membership](#) consists of more than 130 organisations, and ranges from research institutions, universities and state entities to business, [professional societies \(proSET\)](#) and civil society. The NSTF promotes collaboration and critical thinking among a broad range of stakeholders. [NSTF Discussion Forums](#) gather stakeholders together, across the public and private sectors, to exchange knowledge and ideas, and give feedback to government and relevant authorities.

About the NSTF

The National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), established in 1995:

- is a broadly-representative stakeholder body for all science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation organisations in South Africa
- gathers stakeholders around burning issues of national and global interest, across the public and private sectors, including matters of public policy
- includes a network of professional societies in SET and STEM education (STEM = science, technology, engineering and mathematics) - the NSTF proSET membership sector.
- recognises, awards and profiles the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation through the prestigious NSTF Awards
- runs and supports collaborative projects and youth outreach, including recognition of top performance in mathematics and science, role modelling, bursary and STEM career information
- runs and supports the STEMulator.org which attracts youth and educators to Explore>Discover>Learn the world of STEM including careers. (Established by NSTF proSET)

For more information

www.nstf.org.za

E-mail: enquiries@nstf.org.za

Disclaimer

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