



How do publicly funded institutions contribute to sustainable socio-economic development?

an NSTF Science Councils and Statutory Bodies sector discussion forum 17-18 October 2023

The National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) is hosting a discussion forum in collaboration with stakeholders in the [science councils and statutory bodies sector](#) of NSTF membership, on issues around the role of publicly funded research and innovation (R&I) and sustainable socio-economic development in South Africa.

Programme

Day 1: 9:00 to 16:00

Time starting	Time ending	Topic	Speaker/ Organisation
9:00	9:10	Welcome to participants and introductions; programme, outputs, and intended outcomes	Ms Jansie Niehaus , Executive Director: NSTF
Publicly funded research institutions and sustainable development			
9:10	9:35	Food security: How does the ARC drive research that promotes sustainable development in the food sector?	Prof Bongani Ndimba , Senior Manager: Research, Infruitec/Nietvoorbij campus Agricultural Research Council (ARC)
9:35	10:00	Water sector: How does the WRC facilitate research that promotes	Mr Tiyani Chauke , Manager: International Partnerships

		sustainable development in the water sector?	<u>Water Research Commission (WRC)</u> In-person
10:00	11:00	Energy sector : How do publicly funded institutions drive research that promotes sustainable development in the energy sector?	Dr Kittessa Roro , Senior Scientist <u>Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)</u>
11:00	11:30	Tea break	
11:30	12:15	Panel: Preserving the natural environment: How do publicly funded institutions drive research that promotes biodiversity and environmental conservation?	Panel members: Dr Theresa Frantz , Chief Director: Biodiversity Assessment & Knowledge, <u>South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI)</u> Dr Mary Jane Bopape , Managing Director: <u>South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON)</u> In-person
12:15	13:00	Panel discussion: The role of publicly funded institutions in research that enables sustainable development	Panel members: Dr Mary Jane Bopape , representing SAEON

			Dr Theresa Frantz, representing SANBI
13:00	13:45	LUNCH	
Sustainable socio-economic development in mining and industry			
13:45	15:15	Mining and manufacturing panel discussion: The role of publicly funded institutions in research that enables development in the mining and manufacturing sectors	Panel members:
			Mr Willem Meintjes , Acting Executive Manager: Council for Geoscience (CGS)
			Mr Johan Strydom , Acting Executive Manager for Future Production: Manufacturing, CSIR
15:15	15:50	Circular economy panel: How do publicly funded institutions promote the circular economy?	Ms Marian Manuel , Executive Manager: Mineralogy, Mintek In-person
			Prof Linda Godfrey , Principal Scientist: Manager: Circular Innovation South Africa, CSIR
15:50	16:00	Wrap-up, programme for day 2 and closure	Ms Jansie Niehaus

Day 2: 9:00 to 13:00

Time starting	Time ending	Topic	Speaker/ Organisation
09:00	9:10	Welcome to participants & introductions	Ms Jansie Niehaus , Executive Director: NSTF
Innovation and generating small business			

9:10	10:40	Innovation and small business panel: How do publicly funded institutions drive innovation and the generation of business?	Panel members: Ms Paballo Masite , Director: Funds and Incentives Management, National Intellectual Property Management Office (NIPMO) In-person
			Ms Malese Ndlhovu , Senior Business Development Account Manager Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) In-person
10:40	11:00	TEA BREAK	
The SET/society interface			
11:00	11:30	Social science: The importance of social science research in sustainable socio-economic development	Dr Zaynab Essack , Chief research specialist: Public Health, Societies and Belonging (PHSB) Research Programme Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)
11:30	12:30	Skills pipeline panel: The role of publicly funded research institutions in maintaining the skills pipeline for sustainable socio-economic development	Ms Bongiwe Moni , Head: Capacity Development and Internship (Acting); and Manager: Research Management and Coordination, HSRC Ms Pinda Sifunda , Senior Manager: Human Capital Development (HCD), CSIR
12:30	13:00	Way forward and recommendations	All
LUNCH			

Presentations, proceedings, and media release will be available on the [event page](https://nsthf.org.za/2023/04/18/pitfalls-of-artificial-intelligence-18-19-may-2023/)<https://nsthf.org.za/2023/04/18/pitfalls-of-artificial-intelligence-18-19-may-2023/>.

Video clips will be posted to this website page, as well as the [NSTF YouTube platform](#) (see details below)

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National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF)

SET for socio-economic growth

- Independent non-profit stakeholder body and network
- Voice for the science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation community
- Includes private and public sectors
- Promoting SET and innovation in South Africa since 1995