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Sent: Friday, 11 August 2017 11:36 AM
To: Sue
Subject: Invitation: How can research and innovation support the Sustainable Development Goals? 4-5 Sept 2017



How can research and innovation (in publicly-funded institutions) support the Sustainable Development Goals?

4-5 September 2017, Kempton Park, Gauteng

In partnership with its [Science Councils and Statutory Bodies sector](#), the [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) is hosting a national Discussion Forum on '[Research and innovation in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#)'.

Science, engineering and technology (SET) and evidence-based research are crucial to realising the goals of the [SDGs](#) and the [National Development Plan \(NDP\)](#).

Click here to [register](#)



Event objective: To facilitate solution-driven exchanges around 'Research and innovation as a driver of SDG goals in South Africa' by creating a platform for the research, development and innovation community and relevant government departments to discuss and respond to issues that influence policy-makers.

International policy background: On 25 September 2015, many countries adopted the United Nation's (UN) SDG agenda – to protect the planet, enhance the quality of lives and ensure prosperity for the human race. Research and innovation play an important role in attaining the SDGs.

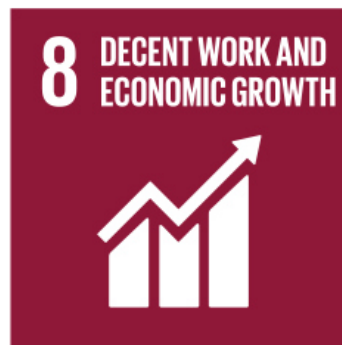
The SDGs and South Africa's policies: The NDP is a roadmap for eliminating poverty and reducing inequality in South Africa by the 2030. The NDP is aligned to the UN's SDG action plan, both encouraging active citizenry as a way to achieve the goals. Despite progress in fulfilling the aims of the NDP and SDGs, South Africa still has a long way to go.

How can you become involved? [NSTF Discussion Forums](#) gather stakeholders together, across the public and private sectors, to put forward recommendations to influence government policies. This discussion forum will consider issues such as:

- Research, development and innovation (RDI) as a key driver: enabling the research towards realising SDGs.
- How is research and development important for attaining the SDGs?
- In what way do publicly-funded institutions contribute to reaching the SDGs?
- To what extent do departmental research strategies relate to the SDGs? (Strategies of the line departments of science councils)
- What aspects of publicly-funded institutions' RDI work should be prioritised for increased funding?

Envisaged outcomes include recommendations for policy makers and research institutions.

What are the SDGs? [Click here](#) for the lists of targets under each goal.



This is a FREE event for all employees of [NSTF Member Organisations](#)

Delegate registration information

NSTF Discussion Forum: [Research and innovation in relation to the SDGs](#)

Date: 4-5 September 2017

Time: 08:30 for 09:00 to 16:30

[Programme](#)

Venue: [Emperors Palace Convention Centre](#), 64 Jones Road, Kempton Park, Gauteng (next to OR Tambo International Airport)

Registration: [RSVP your attendance online](#) by no later than Monday, 28 August 2017

*****Important: note the registration information at the bottom of this invitation*****

We invite you to join us for lunch and use the opportunity for further discussion and networking.

Registration information***

Non-Member Organisations of the NSTF: Attendance is open for anyone interested but **non-members of the NSTF are charged a R2,000.00 (excluding VAT) registration fee** which includes attendance, documentation relating to the event, conference stationery, refreshments and lunch.

****Non-members of the NSTF – Please note, your registration fee for this Discussion Forum contributes directly to the mission of the NSTF as a non-profit company, as a consultative forum and watchdog for influencing the formulation and delivery of SET and innovation public policy in South Africa. Furthermore, the NSTF:*

- [Provides information](#)
- [Promotes SET and innovation](#)
- [Hosts platforms for networking and debate on current SET issues](#)
- [Engages with government on SET-related policy](#)

Please note that if you do not RSVP, 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 National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), established in 1995, is a broadly-representative stakeholder body for all SET and innovation organisations in South Africa, which seeks to influence policy formulation and delivery.

The NSTF Awards are unique in SA, recognising the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation.

The science bursaries page <http://www.nstf.org.za/bursary/> provides information on bursaries and bursary providers for science, engineering and related studies.

For more information

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