

International Workshop on Science for Development in Cape Town

An international, interdisciplinary workshop on "Science for Development" will be held on January 30-31, 2020 at the South African Astronomical Observatory in Cape Town, South Africa. The aim of the workshop is to create a space for interaction between natural scientists, technology experts, social scientists and development practitioners in order to encourage and develop interdisciplinary initiatives with tangible benefits to society and contribute to the achievement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

Around 100 participants from across Africa and even further afield will engage across disciplinary, geographical and sectoral boundaries. Participants come from a diverse range of fields, from biology, astronomy, agriculture, energy, environment, computer science, geology, education, engineering, management, public health, economics, neuroscience, psychology and more. Over two days, they will engage in discussions on a variety of topics such as the role of data science in policy making, climate change resilience in agriculture, satellite technologies for forecasting, artificial intelligence in healthcare systems, technology for education, etc. It is expected that the workshop will stimulate collaborations and lead to the development of science-for-development projects, which will apply the tools and methods of science and technology to solve local, regional, and global challenges.

The workshop is jointly hosted by the International Science Council's (ISC) Regional Office for Africa (ROA), which is based at the Academy of Science of South Africa, and the International Astronomical Union's (IAU) Office of Astronomy for Development (OAD), which is based at the South African Astronomical Observatory (a facility of the National Research Foundation) - both the ISC ROA and IAU OAD are supported by the Department of Science and Innovation. The workshop is further supported by several partners: [South African Institute of Physics](#), [Inter-university Institute for Data Intensive Astronomy](#), [DataFirst](#), [Human Sciences Research Council](#), [Academy of Science of South Africa](#), [South African Radio Astronomy Observatory](#), [Cosmopolitan Karoo](#), [Stellenbosch University](#), [Research on Socio-Economic Policy](#), [University of Cape Town](#), [University of the Western Cape](#), [African Astronomical Society](#), [UCT School of IT](#), [Centre for High Performance Computing](#), [South African National Space Agency](#), [Development in Africa with Radio Astronomy Big Data Project](#).

Science for Development Workshop

30-31 January 2020

South African Astronomical Observatory, Cape Town, South Africa

<http://science4dev.astro4dev.org/>

The sessions in the main hall will be streamed live. Interested persons can join the workshop online by registering (free) at: https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_RUHelijiQl6c1LRrIUw7xA

YouTube: <https://youtu.be/jvCQQch8NyM>

More information:

ISC ROA

The International Science Council is a non-governmental organization with a unique global membership that brings together 40 international scientific Unions and Associations and over 140 national and regional scientific organizations. It is the only international non-governmental organization bringing together the

natural and social sciences and the largest global science organization of its type. As such, it provides the perfect platform to explore and realise the impact of science on development. The ISC has three Regional Offices – Africa, Asia and the Pacific, and Latin America and the Caribbean. The Regional Office for Africa (ROA) is hosted by the Academy of Science of South Africa in Pretoria.

<https://council.science/regions/roa/>

OAD:

The International Astronomical Union, a member of ISC, together with the South African National Research Foundation, established an Office of Astronomy for Development (OAD) in 2011 in Cape Town, South Africa. This office aims to use astronomy in all its aspects to impact positively on the SDGs. Since its establishment the OAD has negotiated the establishment of 10 regional offices around the world (based in Armenia, China, Colombia, Ethiopia, Jordan, Netherlands, Nigeria, Portugal, Thailand and Zambia) and funded more than 150 grassroots initiatives that use astronomy to promote development.

<http://www.astro4dev.org/>

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