



Science Forum SOUTH AFRICA

SFSA2018, Pretoria, 12-14 December 2018

Call for E-POSTERS

1. Background to SFSA2018

The South African **Department of Science and Technology** is proud to host the fourth **Science Forum South Africa** on **12-14 December 2018** in Pretoria. New to **SFSA2018** is that the plenary will take place on **12 December 2018, at the LC de Villiers Sport Complex of the University of Pretoria**. The programme on 13-14 December 2018 will, like previous years, be at the CSIR International Convention Centre.

SFSA2018 will, like previous editions, serve as a large, open public platform for debating the science and society interface. It will again provide the opportunity for all interested parties to "**Ignite Conversations about Science**". The organising committee is excited to deepen the partnership with the **African Academy of Sciences (AAS)** to further expand and enhance the focus on the **Science, Technology, and Innovation on the African Continent** and increase the **Pan-African scientific participation**.

2. Strategic Objectives of SFSA

The strategic objectives of **SFSA** are:

1. To stimulate a vibrant debate on the role of science, technology and innovation in society;
2. To promote international science, technology and innovation partnerships; and
3. To create a network platform for key science, technology and innovation actors, including senior government leaders, academics, scientists, industry, civil society, and students.

To achieve these objectives **SFSA2018** will focus on:

1. A provocative and stimulating programme including several parallel sessions and talks, with the primary aim to **"Ignite Conversations about Science"**;
2. A *rich diversity of participants*, comprising scientists, students, public and private sector representatives as well as civil society members;
3. Strong *international participation*, especially from Africa.

3. Focus and Themes for SFSA2017

SFSA2018 will, as indicated above, emphasise **Pan-African Science, Technology and Innovation**, as well as **Innovation for Inclusive Development**. The following themes will provide the framework for session allocation:

1. **"Shaping Humanity"** – the focus in this track will be on how social sciences shape our human experiences and behaviours to improve the quality for all human beings, and the world we live in, including a better understanding of what is required to uplift people in a sustainable manner.
2. **"Preparing people for the knowledge economy"** – the focus in this track will be on the attitudes, education, experience, and abilities required individually and collectively to succeed in the knowledge economy, with a specific focus on achieving gender and racial balance in an optimal functioning system of innovation.
3. **"Open science and open innovation for Africa's development"** – the focus in this track will be on what the impact will be on Africa's development if there was a concerted drive to intensity collaboration among all stakeholders in the scientific and innovation enterprise, including through the enhanced dissemination and sharing of research results to maximise impact.
4. **"Science transforming society"** – the focus in this track will be on how science, technology and innovation is changing society, how is it contributing to the improvement of the quality of living of all citizens and how we ensure ethical considerations are addressed and science-driven development is equitable and sustainable.
5. **"A Better World"** – the focus in this track will be on the sustainable solutions science, technology and innovation can provide to global challenges like poverty, inequality, inclusive development and a secure society, with an emphasis on the value of enhanced international collaboration in addressing these shared global challenges.
6. **"Innovation shaping the industry of tomorrow"** – the focus in this track will be on how the exponential pace of progress in science, technology and innovation is disrupting every industry in every country and how the so-called "fourth industrial revolution" will fundamentally alter the way we live, work, and relate to one another.

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4. E-Poster Concept

1. [SFSA2018](#) presents for the first time an e-poster exhibition opportunity.
2. The e-poster opportunity consists of a one-page electronic poster.
3. The e-poster should focus on a current / future science, technology or innovation project.
4. The e-poster will be displayed on a LCD screen in the exhibition area.
5. Each e-poster will display for 20 seconds, every 5 minutes, as part of a rotational loop.
6. It is envisioned that the e-poster will "**Ignite Conversations about Science**" about the specific project, but also in a broader context.
7. The e-poster opportunity will increase the exposure of the youth in STI at [SFSA2018](#).
8. The e-poster opportunity will support the carbon neutral objective of [SFSA2018](#).

5. Who Can Enter

1. Entries will only be accepted from Africans, including South Africa.
2. The e-poster opportunity is limited to under 35-year-old individuals.
3. Entrants must be actively involved in the project featured on the e-poster.
4. Entrants can be:
 - a. Undergraduate students
 - b. Graduate Students
 - c. Postdocs
 - d. Professionals
5. **PLEASE NOTE:** [SFSA](#) does not have supporting funds available to facilitate forum attendance. The participation in [SFSA2018](#) (which is a requirement for an e-poster to be selected) must therefore be completely self-financed; including travel, accommodation and any organisational expenses. However, no registration fees, will be charged to participants.

6. Guidelines

Please read the following guidelines for e-poster submissions.
The purpose of all e-posters is to "**Ignite Conversations about Science**".
Deadline for submission of e-poster proposals: **3 September 2018**.

All submitted e-posters will be reviewed and assessed by the [SFSA2018](#) Programme Committee. Please note that the Programme Committee reserves the right to request modifications to proposals prior to final acceptance of the e-posters.

All e-posters must adhere to the following requirements to be accepted into the selection process:

1. Only one e-poster per entrant.
2. **Poster entrants must attend SFSA2018**. Registration is free, and will open on **23 July 2018**. The SFSA Secretariat does not offer financial assistance or support for any entrant, including the winner.
3. Only static text and images can be included in the e-poster.
4. The e-poster must be submitted as a PDF document.

The following criteria will guide the SFSA2018 Programme Committee in the selection process:

1. Alignment to the SFSA2018 objectives (point "2" above).
2. Contributing to "**Igniting Conversations about Science**".
3. The themes SFSA2018 (point "3" above).
4. The **quality** and **clarity** of the information presented.

The Programme Committee will, in addition to selecting the list of e-posters that will be exhibited, also select a winner and two runners up. These three individuals will receive certificates of recognition.

Owners of selected e-posters are encouraged to market their e-posters. SFSA cannot guarantee an audience for an e-poster. The open forum nature of SFSA events attracts many participants, but they are encouraged to interact where their interests are.

7. Selection Process

1. The call for e-poster submissions for SFSA2018 opens on **12 March 2018**.
2. The call for e-poster submissions for SFSA2018 closes on **3 September 2018**.
3. Submissions will be evaluated by the SFSA2018 Programme Committee.
4. The Programme Committee may request revisions to some submissions.
5. The successful e-posters will be announced to the entrants on **1 October 2018**.

8. E-Poster Submission

Submission of e-posters can be done online, on the SFSA website (www.sfsa.co.za) at: LINK