



The Sixth African Higher Education Week and RUFORUM Biennial Conference,

Date: 23rd October, 2018.

Showcasing opportunities for scientists to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals

Background

Side Event Summary

The side event will be hosted by The World Academy of Sciences Regional Office for sub-Saharan Africa (TWAS-ROSSA) and The Organisation for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) South African National Chapter. The aim is to creating awareness of the existing opportunities, at TWAS and OWSD so that scientists can contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) particularly: no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, decent work and economic growth, reduced inequalities and climate action. The side event is aimed at policy makers, young and senior scientists, particularly from Science and Technology Lagging Countries (STLCs) in sub-Saharan Africa, research institutions, science councils, RUFORUM members, members of academies of science and other organisations in the national system of innovation.

The World Academy of Sciences Regional Office for sub-Saharan Africa is one of the five regional offices of TWAS. TWAS-ROSSA has been hosted by the Academy of Science of South Africa since 2015 and was previously based at the African Academy of Sciences in Nairobi, Kenya. ASSAf is responsible for coordinating efforts to promote TWAS activities and its affiliated organisations in sub-Saharan Africa, including training fellowships, grants and awards, as recommended in TWAS' strategic plans. TWAS-ROSSA works closely with regional science organisations, notably senior & young academies of science, TWAS Young Affiliates Network, research institutions, science granting councils and other organisations in the National System of Innovation (NSI). At ASSAf, TWAS-ROSSA is aligned with the African Collaborations sub-programme which develops partnerships for ASSAf in the continent.

CO-ORGANISERS:





The Organisation for Women in Science for the Developing World South African National Chapter is also hosted by ASSAf. The National Chapter was inaugurated in 2009 and is constituted by a group of OWSD members who aim to increase and promote female participation in science and technology (S&T) professions, in scientific leadership, and in the decision-making process at the national level.

Gender in Science, Innovation, Technology and Engineering (GenderInSITE) is an international initiative to promote the role of gender in science, innovation, technology and engineering, and to demonstrate how applying a gender lens to SITE can provide deeper insights, more effective programmes and more sustainable outcomes in the context of development. Focus areas include: agriculture and food security, education and the workforce, water and sanitation, health, energy, climate change, infrastructure, biodiversity, environmental management, urbanisation, and ICT. GenderInSITE has two regional focal points, Latin America & the Caribbean and sub-Saharan Africa. OWSD co-ordinates gender related activities in the southern Africa region. These activities are focused on policy development, human capital development, promotion and raising awareness in science, innovation, engineering, and technology for all, and engagement with key stakeholders.

Purpose of the Side Event

The proposed event is aimed at creating awareness of the existing opportunities, reinforcing the importance of being affiliated to international, regional and national science organisations, promoting women scientists’ participation and highlighting the importance of information sharing culture because access to information is still a major issue in the African continent.

Objectives of the side Event

The event aims to:

- showcase the available opportunities (fellowships, prizes, scholarships, exchange programmes, affiliation and research grants) offered by TWAS and OWSD
- highlight the importance and benefits of being affiliated to these organisations
- highlight the importance of sharing information
- address gender related societal issues hindering women’s participation in science
- address the critical need for African countries to establish OWSD national chapters so as to facilitate and promote women’s participation in science and country development.

CO-ORGANISERS:





Website: www.assaf.org.za
www.genderinsite.net

www.wdsa.org.za

Mr Kholani Mbhiza
 Liaison Officer-African Collaborations
 TWAS-ROSSA Secretariat
 Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)
 Switchboard: +27 12 349 6600
 Tel: +27 12 349 6638
 Cell: +27 78 171 6175
 Email: kholani@assaf.org.za
 Website: www.assaf.org.za
www.twas-rossa.org.za

1st Floor Block A, The Woods, 41 De Havilland Crescent, Persekor
 Park Meiring Naudé Road, Lynnwood 0020, Pretoria, South Africa.
 PO Box 72135, Lynnwood Ridge 0040, Pretoria, South Africa

Event requirements

Capacity (maximum no. of participants)	50-100 dependent on the venue allocated
Is the Side Event an <u>Open</u> or <u>By Invitation Only</u> event?	Open
Room configuration / set-up (i.e. theatre, classroom, roundtable or u-shape)	Theatre/classroom
Start Time of Side Event:	10h00
End Time of Side Event:	12h00
Technical needs required (please tick):	
• Projector ✓	Quantity required: 1
• Projection screen ✓	Quantity required: 1
• Laptop ✓	Quantity required: 1
• Microphone & PA System ✓	Quantity required: 3
• Laser pointer ✓	Quantity required: 1
• Flip chart (with paper & markers)	Quantity required: 0
• Note pads & pens	Quantity required: 100
• Telephone line	Quantity required: 0
• Refreshments /meals (expected number of participants, please specify) ✓	Quantity required: 100
Any other special requests:	

CO-ORGANISERS:





SESSION PROGRAM

Moderator: Ms Phyllis Kalele (Senior Liaison Officer, African Collaborations, ASSAf)

Time	Activity
10h00 -10h10	Setting the scene: Introduction of the topic and speakers
10h10 -10h25	1 st Speaker- TBC
10h25 -10h40	2 nd Speaker- TBC
10h40 -10h55	3 rd Speaker- TBC
10h55 -11h10	4 th Speaker- TBC
11h10 -11h45	Questions, Answers and interactive discussion
11h45 -12h00	Concluding remarks and recommendations
12h00	Refreshments

CO-ORGANISERS:

