

Each participant who undertakes the full workshop will receive a Certificate of Completion from the Australian National University (ANU). This full participation at the workshop will also provide advanced university credit for those candidates who are going on to complete Phase 2 at ANU.

Phase 2 training will take place in Australia, where participants will be expected to complete the Graduate Certificate on the Theory and Practices of Science Centres from the Australian National University. During Phase 2, a limited number of participants (estimated between 5–7) from South African and Lesotho will travel to Australia for three months training in 2009. Participants from Phase 2 will be selected from people who completed all the modules from the Phase 1 workshops. In Australia the participants will work under the direction of CPAS with experiential training provided by Questacon, the National Science and Technology Centre.

- *The minimum requirement for admission to candidature for the Certificate is normally a bachelor's degree in science or scientific communication from a recognised tertiary institution. Special admission may be available on the basis of professional experience (within a science centre) or a demonstrated contribution to scholarship in a relevant field of study.*
- *All phase one modules should have been completed.*
- *Course assessment during the workshop will also serve as a guide to selection.*

Who can apply?

The following will be considered:

- Current science centre employees with relevant experience;
- Middle managers with some science centre experience;
- Science education outreach professionals with a passion for science centre type environment;
- Volunteers and Interns involved in science centre work and displaying definite aptitude and interest in developing a career within the science centre environment.

Costs

Travel costs to and from the workshop as well as accommodation for selected participants who live outside of Gauteng will be covered by the Department of Science and Technology for the duration of the workshop.

Application process

All interested participants should complete an application form accompanied by a two page motivation on why they should be selected for this project. Please visit www.saasta.ac.za for more information on the project and application process.

Closing date

The closing date for all applications is close of business on 5 December 2008. Successful participants will be notified as soon as possible but not later than 15 December 2008.



Australian Government
AusAID



Science Centre Capacity Building

Call for Participation



science & technology
Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Introduction

The Department of Science and Technology (DST) has partnered with the Australian National University and more specifically the Centre for the Public Awareness of Science, in capacitating the science centre network in South Africa by providing training to potential science centre managers. This is done with the aim of expanding the pool of future science centre managers.

This project will be jointly funded by the Department of Science and Technology and AusAid and implemented by the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA).

Description of the project

The objective of this project is to develop science centre management skills in six priority areas. These priority areas will be addressed through training, which will be conducted by two Australian facilitators. This project will be delivered in two phases.

Phase 1, will involve workshops that will be delivered over two weeks in Gauteng, South Africa, and will involve 20–25 trainees. The workshops will be held from **26th January to 6 February 2009** and will be implemented by Associate Professor Sue Stockmayer and Mike Gore of the Australian National University.

Enquiries

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Workshops and training

The phase 1 workshops will cover the following focus areas:

- Starting a science centre: Issues on conceptualisation, planning and implementation of science centres;
- Running a science centre – the whole process;
- Implementing a science centre outreach programme – with a specific focus on targeting audiences in underserved and rural areas;
- Assessing the impact of a science centre - Focus on the development of performance indicators and data needed for impact assessments;
- Strengthening networks (locally and internationally) - Building relationships with Australian science centres and networks;
- Exhibition development – focusing on locally conceptualising, designing and building interactive exhibits, how the development of exhibits could be made easier and the communication of exhibits to an audience.
- How to propose and prepare conference paper/ sponsorship proposal. This will include:
 - a. How to write proposals to prospective sponsors;
 - b. How to prepare a World Congress Paper;
 - c. How to prepare abstracts and papers for a conference.

