National Research Foundation
SAASTA
South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement

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Media Alert
To all Media
20 October 2017

Nanotechnology and Energy Symposium

Energy shortage threatens South Africa's productivity and economic performance in the 21st century. The development of new and improved types of energy technologies is of the highest priority for the country. Could nanotechnology be a solution?

The Nanotechnology Public Engagement Programme (NPEP) and the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement, in-collaboration with NABIO Consulting (Pty) Ltd, invites the media to the 1st Nanotechnology and Energy Symposium in South Africa on 26 October 2017.

Nanotechnology researchers and industry will present ground-breaking academic and industrial research and promote development in the areas of energy and nanotechnology. Nanotechnology promises to revolutionise the energy industry and has the potential to alleviate energy problems in areas such as energy production, delivery, storage and usage.

The symposium will enable established researchers and experts an opportunity to deliberate on the role of nanotechnology in the energy industry.

The topics of discussions include:

- Nanotechnology development in South Africa
- South African energy research and innovation
- Cutting-edge nanotechnology research in energy
- Nanotechnology risk and environmental issues
- Ethical aspects of nanotechnology in energy and the environment

The Nanotechnology Public Engagement Programme is an initiative funded by the Department of Science and Technology and implemented by the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA), a business unit of the National Research Foundation.

NPEP provides information to enhance the public's knowledge and understanding of nanotechnology. NPEP strives to enable informed decision making on nanotechnology innovations to improve the quality of life.

NPEP also assists in the translation of academic research in nanotechnology for the consumption of the public, industry and the policy makers.

Date: 26 October 2017

Venue: Auditorium, SAASA, 211 Nana Sita Street, Pretoria

Time: 08h30-17h30

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About the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA)

SAASTA is a business unit of the National Research Foundation (NRF) with the mandate to advance public awareness, appreciation and engagement of science, engineering and technology in South Africa.

SAASTA's contribution to the NRF's vision is to grow the pool of quality learners today who will become the scientists and innovators of tomorrow.

It aims to be the leading science advancement agency in the country by promoting and communicating the value and impact of science, technology and innovation in a dynamic knowledge economy. It also intends to contribute significantly towards building a science, engineering and technology (SET) human resource base. For more information on the operations and programs within the NRF please visit www.saasta.ac.za

About the NRF: The National Research Foundation (NRF) was established on 1 April 1999 as an independent statutory body in accordance with the National Research Foundation Act. The NRF is a key public entity responsible for supporting the development of human resources for research and innovation in all fields of science and technology. The organisation is one of the major players in educating and training a new generation of scientists able to deal with South African and African needs. The organisation encourages public awareness and appreciation of science, engineering and technology, and facilitates dialogue between science and society. Its vision is to contribute to a prosperous South Africa

based on a knowledge economy. For more information on the operations and programs within the NRF please visit www.nrf.ac.za