



2026

1 – 31 JULY 2026

**Thematic Time-Blocking:
Activity Highlights and Take-Home Messages**

This document is continuously updated with new details such as venues and links. Please check back regularly

for the NATIONAL SCIENCE MONTH 2026

Highlights National Programme

29 June – 5 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
29 June (08:10)	Radio interview on VUT FM (Campus Radio)	Breakfast Show featuring Dr Kgomotso Mtshatsheni (PhD in Chemistry) from VUT Department of Chemistry	VUT	Vaal, Gauteng
30 June (14:05)	Radio interview on VUT FM (Campus Radio)	Lunchtime Show, Dr Abdul Feroz Maluleke from TUT on educational technology and AI.	VUT	Vaal, Gauteng
1 July (10:30)	Radio interview on VUT FM (Campus Radio)	Mid-morning Show Dr Mseteka from TUT on ethical use of AI in higher education.	VUT	Vaal, Gauteng
1 July (09:00 – 14:00)	Outreach Drive & Activation	Activation and popularising at Thabong Shopping Centre (Sebokeng) and Palm Springs Shopping Centre (Orange Farm) of the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Women Dialogue @ VUT Science Park • Stargazing Launch event venue at Sebokeng	Vaal University of Technology Dr Nkele Baloyi 081 402 6148 nkeleb@vut.ac.za	Sebokeng and Orange Farm, Gauteng
1 Jul 21:30	Ikwewezi FM	Deputy Minister DSTI. The importance of making science technology and innovation accessible to everyone	Veronica DSTI Coms	Gauteng, Mpumalanga, Limpop, Limpopo parts of the North West province
2 July (09:00 – 14:00)	Outreach Drive & Activation	Activation and popularising at Evaton Mall	Vaal University of Technology Dr Nkele Baloyi 081 402 6148 nkeleb@vut.ac.za	Evaton, Gauteng
2 July (14:00 – 15:00)	Webinar on Zoom and streamed live on Facebook/YouTube/X	Detecting & managing cyberbullying Dr Fani Radebe UJ Cyber bullying in South Africa: empowering Parents and Children	University of Johannesburg	National

29 June – 5 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
2 July (11:00 – 12:00)	Public Lecture	Topic: “Heavy-ion accelerator complex at FLNR, JINR – recent results. Possibilities for a collaboration for students and researchers”. Dr G. Kaminski (<i>Flerov Laboratory of Nuclear Reactions, JINR, Dubna, Russia</i>)	University of Johannesburg Prof Simon Connell si@mykonos.org.za	UJ, Gauteng
2 July (14:30 – 15:00)	Radio interview on Phalaphala FM (SABC Radio)	Stanley Liphadzi is the Research, Development & Innovation (RDI) Executive in the Water Research Commission (WRC) and the Adjunct Professor at the University of Venda. “ The role of Technology and Innovation in improving water and sanitation services”	Water Research Commission Dr. Stanley Liphadzi stanleyl@wrc.org.za	National
2 July (09:00 – 12:00)	Dialogue – roundtable discussion	Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in STEM: This engagement is a capacity-building initiative led with key partners to strengthen understanding of STEM Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), focusing on developing a vision rooted in African higher education while contributing to global academic discourse.	Water Sisulu University, University of Sussex, DHET, Nelson Mandela University	Eastern Cape
3 July (14:00 – 16:00)	Women Dialogue	Theme: Beyond Hidden Figures – To Global Impact for a Limitless Future	Vaal University of Technology Dr Kgomotso Mtshatsheni kgomotsom@vut.ac.za	VUT Sebokeng, Gauteng
3 July	Stargazing and Astronomy Lecture	Theme: Exploring the Universe: From Our Backyard to the Stars. Public Lecture followed by Outdoor Stargazing Prof Thebe Medupe, North-West University	VUT and SAASTA Dr Nkele Baloyi 081 402 6148 Vhutshilo Nekhwalivha V.Nekhwalivha@saasta.nrf.ac.za	VUT Sebokeng, Gauteng Venue: VUT Southern Gauteng Science & Technology Park, Sebokeng (confirm)
4 July (07:00 – 17:00)	National Science Month Launch event	National Launch Event at VUT Southern Gauteng Science and Technology Park, Sebokeng - (Vaal)	Department of Science, Technology and Innovation (DST&I) Dr Livhuwani Masevhe Livhuwani.Masevhe@dsti.gov.za	Gauteng and National
4 July (14:00 – 15:30)	Workshop	Intellectual Property Management Workshop, featuring NIPMO, CIPC, and VUT TTO	Vaal University of Technology Robert Malatsi robertm1@vut.ac.za	Gauteng
1 – 5 July	Multiple online platforms engagement	Public knowledge/ interest/priority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Internet and communication technologies • Advanced technologies e.g. robots 	HSRC	National

29 June – 5 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
1–30 July 2026 (HSRC, National)	HSRC-Radio interviews, Multiple social media platforms	The impact that AI has on learner performance and development?	HSRC Krish Chetty; kchetty@hsrc.ac.za Nothando Ntshayintshayi nntshayintshayi@hsrc.ac.za	National
8 July	Community Outreach Programme	Public awareness campaign aimed at promoting National Science Month, creating awareness of STEM opportunities, and encouraging community participation through interactive engagements and exhibitions	Boitj Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357 horisongresourcecentre	Fee State Heilbron Taxirank
21 July (10:00-14:00)	Symposium	Breaking down artificial intelligence using plain language and real-life examples.	NMU, UFH and SAIEB	Eastern Cape

6 – 10 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE IN HUMAN HEALTH

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
6 – 10 July (07:00 – 17:00)	Conference	South African Institute of Physics (SAIP) Annual Conference <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hosted by University of the Western Cape, Bellville – Cape Town 	SAIP Ndanganeni Mahani ndanganeni.mahani@saip.org.za	Western Cape
6 July 21:30	Radio Interview Munghana Lonene FM (SABC Radio)	Julia Nkuna Occupation: Registered Clinical Dietitian Focus : Human Nutrition (pediatrics,internal medicine and surgery including community Nutrition)	Department of Health Julia Nkuna	National
6 July (09:00 – 17:00)	Road-to-60 Community science Week	Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Interactive stations featuring 3D printing demonstrations for school learners (Sebokeng Science Park)</i> The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Interactive radio talks; presented by guest lecturers.</i> Science activation at a high school	Vaal University of Technology: Led by VUT FM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: 0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za	Vaal Gauteng
7 July	Road-to-60 Community science Week	Science to the Streets	Vaal University of Technology: Led by VUT FM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: 0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za	Vaal Gauteng

8 July	Road-to-60 Community science Week	Green Vaal Community Clean Up	Vaal University of Technology: Led by VUT FM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and • The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: 0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za	Vaal Gauteng
9 July	Road-to-60 Community science Week	Science in 60 Competition	Vaal University of Technology: Led by VUT FM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and • The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: 0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za	Vaal Gauteng
10 July	Road-to-60 Community science Week	Campus outside broadcast and finale	Vaal University of Technology: Led by VUT FM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and • The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: 0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za	Vaal Gauteng
6 July (09:00 – 15:00)	Public Libraries Engagements	iThemba LABS activities at the Public Libraries (Cape Town): Nuclear Medicine Department — Bellville	iThemba LABS Hilton Tobias htobias@tlabs.ac.za A Yaga AM.Yaga@ilabs.nrf.ac.za	Western Cape
7 July		Sub-atomic Physics Department — Kuilsrivier	iThemba LABS Hilton Tobias htobias@tlabs.ac.za A Yaga AM.Yaga@ilabs.nrf.ac.za	WC
8 July		Material Science Department — Central – Cape Town	iThemba LABS Hilton Tobias htobias@tlabs.ac.za A Yaga AM.Yaga@ilabs.nrf.ac.za	WC

8 July (09:00 – 16:00)	SARAO Open Day MeerKAT SKA Site	Open Day for the MeerKAT radio telescope and SKA site visit at Sassa Hall, Carnarvon (Corner of Burger Street and Lang Street) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> aimed at allowing members of the public to visit the MeerKAT radio telescope and other instruments that are hosted on the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) site. 	NRF/SARAO: events@sarao.ac.za	Northern Cape Carnarvon
8 July (17:00)	A Public-Private Partnership Model for Science and Innovation Public Lecture	South Africa's inaugural national gathering on science, technology, and innovation policy — convening government, academia, and industry to forge a new university model for the African century. Venue: Emperors Palace Convention Centre	Mail & Guardian ST&I Public-Private Partnership	Gauteng, Kempton Park
9 July (14:30 – 15:00)	Radio interview on Phalaphala FM (SABC Radio)	Space Technology and Innovation: by the South African National Space Agency (SANSA)	SANSA Dan Matsapola dmatsapola@sansa.org.za 084 548 7176	National (Limpopo, Gauteng)
7-9 Jul	Iziko Careers Workshop	Iziko South African Museum, South African National Gallery, Social History Centre, Cape Town, Western Cape	Wardah Harris, 021 481 3823, wharris@iziko.org.za ; booking essential; max 40 learners	Western Cape
9 July (09:00 – 14:00)	Space Science Exhibition, <i>Hermanus</i>	Space Technology and Innovation: by the South African National Space Agency (SANSA)	SANSA Thandile Vuntu tvuntu@sansa.org.za 082 597 1590	Hermanus Library Overstrand
11 July (14:30 – 15:00)	Public Outreach - <i>UWC Life Science Building</i>	Science in the Home: SAIP – iThemba LABS outreach programme at the University of the Western Cape (UWC)	iThemba LABS Hilton Tobias htobias@tlabs.ac.za	Bellville, Western Cape
13–16 Jul 2026 11:00-13:00	Iziko Winter School Holiday Programme	Cape Town sites: Iziko Planetarium and Digital Dome; Iziko Groot Constantia; Iziko South African Museum; Iziko South African National Gallery	bookings@iziko.org.za ; Wardah Harris, 021 481 3823 Cape Town sites: Iziko Planetarium and Digital Dome; Iziko Groot Constantia; Iziko South African Museum; Iziko South African National Gallery	Western Cape
14 July	Public lecture	How can scientific innovations and evidence-based interventions reduce the	Department of Health Ms Mkhupha	Qhitsi Village,

(10:00 – 15:00)		burden of non-communicable diseases in South Africa		Eastern Cape
21 July 14:30 – 15:30	Webinar: Indigenous foods and their health benefits by Professor Prof Hema Kesa	Background: Hema Kesa is an Associate Professor and Director of the Food Evolution Research Centre (FERC) at the University of Johannesburg. Her work focuses on food and nutrition security, with particular emphasis on the nutrition transition, sustainable food systems, the promotion of South African indigenous crops, and food waste management across schools and the hospitality sector. Her research is strongly aligned with addressing non-communicable diseases and advancing sustainable, culturally relevant dietary practices. Under her leadership, the Food Evolution Research Centre is evolving into a multidisciplinary hub that integrates indigenous knowledge systems with innovative technologies, including Extended Reality (XR) and digital platforms, to enhance research, education, and community engagement.	Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/93991853339?pwd=uh68HC0ysO9fJrk96gXktDZca3sran.1	National

11 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
11 July (Time TBC)	Social Media Campaign	Environmental awareness (marine, research NMU Summerstrand South Campus (Gqeberha) Campaign / social media: https://www.saasta.ac.za/national-science-month/	Nelson Mandela University Prof Adams, Janine Janine.Adams@mandela.ac.za	Eastern Cape (National)
11 July (Time TBC)	Webinar / online seminar <i>Habitat Improvement Seminar:</i>	Insights from Colombia: Collaborative research seminar focusing on habitat improvement, urban resilience, and coastal settlement development.	Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC)	National
12 July	Hydro-Climatic Workshops	The e-Participation and Policy Modelling Platform for South Africa (ePPMOSA) Municipalities Workshop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provincial workshops Addressing the Siloed Approach in the Hydro-Climatic Spectrum 	Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) eparticipation@hsrc.ac.za	
13 July 09:30 – 10:30	Presentation: Communicating for Marine Conservation – Lessons from South Africa by Dr Judy Mann-Lang	Background: Drawing on over 30 years of experience in marine education, science communication and behaviour change research, Dr Mann-Lang will share some of the lessons learnt about effective communication to inspire ocean care in an African context. With audiences ranging from learners and teachers to resource users in rural communities, fishers and coastal communities to conservation managers and scientists, this talk will take us on a journey of discovery as we uncover unexpected challenges and wonderful opportunities while empowering very diverse audiences to take positive ocean action.	Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/97948592231?pwd=BsMZ1SztLMp8Vi9PVbX5tR7qZgWjBa.1	National

14 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Dr Pondo-Cotiyane "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Limpopo — Vusumzi Landu Hall
15 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Dr Pondo-Cotiyane "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Mpumalanga — Hankey
16 July	Guided Coastal Walk & rocky shore/ Sandy beaches experience	Guided coastal walk exploring rocky-shore and sandy-beach ecosystems.	SAEON · Godfrey Padare "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	KwaZulu-Natal — Patensie
14 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity. "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	SAEON	KwaZulu-Natal — Dan Sandi Hall
30 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · SAEON research team "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Mpumalanga — Ritchie Community Hall
23 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Dr A Swemmer "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Gauteng
15 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Dr L Swemmer "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape
20 July 12:00 – 13:00	Presentation: Ghost fishing and avian entanglements as a result of snagged and discarded terminal tackle from recreational	Background: Mark, a qualified marine biologist, has worked in environmental positions globally as a CCAMLR Scientific Observer in the Ross Sea, Antarctica. He founded the Strandloper Project, a citizen science volunteer non-profit organization which researches ghost fishing, ocean plastic waste and marine fauna in the Garden Route. Each year he leads a coastal research expedition, hiking along the shoreline to	Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/93854024936?pwd=i3cMvcljQ6TlbuQaU8xEhdXilb1DiG.1	National

	fishers. by Mr Mark Dixon	document ocean plastic pollution, washed out fishing debris and marine wildlife. To date they have hiked over 1200km between Pringle Bay and Cape Recife.		
21 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Dr A Swemmer "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Wits Rural Facility
16 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Mkholo Maseko "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Mpumalanga — Sisizakele Special School
8 & 9 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Siphiwe Mfeka "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Gauteng — Witbank High School
10, 11 & 12 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Mkholo Maseko "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Morgenzon Landbou Akademie
July (date TBC)	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Mkholo Maseko "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Plettenberg Bay
15 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Siphiwe Mfeka "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Plettenberg Bay
16 July	Community Engagement	SAEON community engagement on long-term environmental observation and biodiversity.	SAEON · Aaniyah Martin, Prof Craig Sheridan, Caitlin Ransom, Mamere Molepo, Toka Moskidi, Dr Ramontsheng Rapolaki, Mr Odwa Mtati, Fhumulani Ramukhwatho, Kogie Govender	Western Cape — Iziko Museum
7 July onwards	Sci-Enza Coding & Robotics Winter	A hands-on, two-day winter camp split by age group (Grade R–3 and Grade 4–6). Children will learn basic	https://www.quicket.co.za/events/380752-coding-robotics-winter-holidays-2026/#/	Gauteng

09:00-13:00	Holiday Program	programming concepts, build functional digital games, and construct and wire interactive physical robots.		
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12 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE IN SERVICE DELIVERY

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
12 July	Hydro-Climatic Workshops – <i>for Municipalities officials</i>	Municipal service delivery innovation: The e-Participation and Policy Modelling Platform for South Africa (ePPMOSA) Municipalities Workshop. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial workshops Addressing the Siloed Approach in the Hydro-Climatic Spectrum 	Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) eparticipation@hsrc.ac.za	National
12 July	Science Communication Workshop	SKA SARAO Science communication Workshop: Featuring: SKA, SARAO, CSIRO Australia	SKA / SARAO "Milisa Kentane" <mkentane@sarao.ac.za>	
17 July	Beach and river cleanup	River and beach cleanup at Bizana raising awareness about section 24 Rights and the responsibility that comes with it.	Pondoland Pride, Department of water and sanitation	Eastern Cape
08 August 09:30 -14:00	Disaster Risk Science As a career option	Learner Career Guidance on Disaster Risk Science <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction to Disaster Risk Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Background on disaster risk science • Practical activity: mapping the risk profile of the community 2. Career Guidance in Disaster Risk Science <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link up with institutions on disaster risk science • Pamphlets on disaster risk science and application processes 	Dr Phindile Sabela-Rikhotso phindile.sabela-rikhotso@uct.ac.za	Limpopo (Tzaneen Country Lodge)

13 – 17 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
13 – 16 July (Time TBC)	Webinar (Educational)	Webinar covering Astronomy Education and Awareness	SKA / SARAO Milisa Kentane mkentane@sarao.ac.za 064 756 0260 Dr Adrian Tiplady atiplady@sarao.ac.za	National
13 – 16 July (Time TBC)	Dialogue – roundtable discussion	Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) in STEM: This engagement is a capacity-building initiative led with key partners to strengthen understanding of STEM Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL), focusing on developing a vision rooted in African higher education while contributing to global academic discourse.	Water Sisulu University, University of Sussex, DHET, Nelson Mandela University	Eastern Cape
13 – 17 July (Time TBC)	VUT Winter School This will happen at VUT main campus	Road To 60 Future Scientists Winter School <u>Five-day learner journey:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Day 1: Dream • Day 2: Discover • Day 3: Create • Day 4: Solve • Day 5: Become The above programme will run parallel the revision classes (selected schools) on Gr 12 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maths and Science to be run by the Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences. • Additionally, the Faculty of Engineering and Technology will host an online exhibition of the Faculty equipment. 	Vaal University of Technology: Led by VUT FM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and • The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: 0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za	Gauteng, Vaal
13 and 14 July 10:00	BRC Sasolburg Community Outreach Programme	District outreach initiative aimed at expanding access to STEM education through interactive science demonstrations, exhibitions, and career guidance sessions.	Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357 Thabo Mofutsanyana District	Thabo Mofutsanyana District
14 July (18:00)	Public Dialogue	Public Dialogue on Climate Change	iThemba LABS (AMS Facility) & African Climate Alliance Hilton Tobias htobias@tlabs.ac.za	Western Cape

15 or 20 July	Dialogue: Climate change – <i>Weather Interpretation for Agricultural production and pesticides</i>	Dialogue between farmers and scientists on climate change impacts, focusing on weather interpretation, water management, and pesticide use, to promote informed decisions and adoption of climate-smart, sustainable farming practices that enhance productivity and resilience. In person – venue TBC	ASSAf & SAWS – Michael Mengistu michael.mengistu@weathersa.co.za & Katlego Ncongwane Katlego.Ncongwane@weathersa.co.za Phillip Modiba	TBC
16 July (18:00)	NSTF Awards 2026	Science Oscars of South Africa – NSTF-South32 Awards The NSTF Awards 2026 recognise and celebrate outstanding contributions to science, engineering, technology, and innovation in South Africa, highlighting excellence across research, innovation, science communication, and capacity development.	National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF) Mankwe Mojapelo mmojapelo@nstf.org.za	Gauteng Western Cape
16-17 July	BRC inhouse science expo and self-empowerment workshops	Community-based STEM awareness programme offering career guidance, science demonstrations, coding and robotics activities, and innovation exhibitions.	Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357	FreeState
13 – 17 July	SAIP Public Outreach – Science in the home	Girls in STEM Community Engagement -Public Dialogue & Career Exhibition — iThemba LABS & AOC Group — St Cyprians Interaction with Matrics — CURRO -DELFT — (Hybrid) Local Primary Schools	iThemba LABS Hilton Tobias htobias@tlabs.ac.za	Western Cape
17 July (Time TBC)	Nutrition and Health Education (Mandela Day) Wisane Old Age Home and Hospice	To raise awareness about healthy eating habits, disease prevention, and lifestyle choices that support physical and mental health, while fostering community engagement, dignity, and care for older persons. Featuring: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr Yvonne Maphosa, University of Johannesburg • Dr Maurine Musie, SAYAS and University of Pretoria 	Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)	Gauteng, (In-person engagement)
17 July (Time TBC)	Community Engagement -Public Dialogue & Career Exhibition	Primary Schools Engagement (Pi & Periodic Table of Elements Competition)	Simanyene High School, Strand 021 845 4280 petergagu@telkomsa.net	Western Cape

28 July 18:00	Living Maths Space Tour 2026: Former NASA Astronaut Visit	Former NASA astronaut, educator, and geologist Dorothy “Dottie” Metcalf-Lindenburger is touring South Africa to bring direct STEM and spaceflight inspiration to communities, educators, and young scientists.	Assumption Convent School, Mullins Road, Malvern East, Germiston, 1401. https://www.quicket.co.za/events/374811-astronaut-dorothy-metcalf-lindenburger-at-assumption-convent-28-july-2026/#/	Gauteng
20 – 24 July	SAIP Public Outreach – Science in the home	Combined School Exhibition — iThemba LABS 4 x Radio Interviews on Radio Eersterivier-Themes to be Covered: Langa High School	iThemba LABS Hilton Tobias htobias@tlabs.ac.za	Western Cape
22 July	BRC- Flagship Innovation Challenge	A platform for learners/community in general to showcase innovative STEM solutions that address real-world challenges while fostering creativity, problem-solving, and entrepreneurship.	Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357 Sasolburg	FreeState
24 July	Coding and Robotics Senior Phase Teachers Training	Professional development workshop designed to strengthen educators’ knowledge and practical skills in coding and robotics to support effective classroom implementation	Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357 Sasolburg	FreeState
27–28 July	Educator Workshop	SAEON educator capacity-building workshop on environmental science.	SAEON · Mkholo Maseko "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	KwaZulu-Natal — Mabasa
27 July 08:00	BRC- Flagship Debate Competition	A provincial debate competition that develops learners’ critical thinking, scientific reasoning, research, and communication skills through discussions on contemporary STEM-related topics.	Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357 Sasolburg	FreeState Sasolburg
27–28 July	Educator Workshop	SAEON educator capacity-building workshop on environmental science.	SAEON · Siphiwe Mfeka "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Mpumalanga — Mseleni Primary & Mzila Primary

29 July	BRC- Coding and Robotics Cluster Competition	Learner competition designed to assess coding and robotics competencies while encouraging teamwork, creativity, and computational thinking	Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357 Parys	Freestate Parys
20-24 July	Educator workshop	SAIP: Science Educators workshop	ECDOE	Eastern Cape (ANSSC)
July	CSIR Career Days – SABC 1 4IR Show	The CSIR has established a partnership with SABC 1 4IR show producers. The show forms part of SABC Education and it accommodate science awareness and education among young people in South Africa. The platform offers the CSIR an opportunity to showcase a variety of projects to achieve its Strategic Communication objectives. The 4IR show will be in attendance at the CSIR Career Day in Pretoria Campus and will feature the technologies that will be exhibited during Career Day as well as Human Capital Development initiatives.	SABC 1 4IR Show AWilliams@csir.co.za	National
1-31 July Weekdays 09:00– 16:30; Sat/public holidays 09:00– 16:30; Sun 09:30- 15:00	Sci-Bono Discovery Centre exhibits, school tours	Sci-Bono Discovery Centre exhibits, school tours, planetarium, July holiday registration. July holiday registration available for youth digital programmes Weekdays 09:00–16:30; Sat/public holidays 09:00–16:30; Sun 09:00–15:30	General: 011 639 8400; info@sci-bono.co.za ; various WhatsApp booking numbers on	Gauteng
Jul	Ditsong Natural History tours and educational programmes	Ditsong National Museum of Natural History: Schools, students, tourists. Booking Essential	bongi@ditsong.org.za ; Ditsong central tel. +2 central tel. +27 12 492 5744	Pretoria, Gauteng
31 July 09:00	BRC Community Outreach Programme	Public awareness campaign aimed at promoting National Science Month, creating awareness of STEM opportunities, and	Face to Face – Tshepiso 063 839 7357 Welkom/Virginia	Freestate

		encouraging community participation through interactive engagements and exhibitions		
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18 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
18 July	Honey Adulteration Webinar	Food safety & rights	ASSAf Food Safety Forum	National

19 – 24 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: CLIMATE CHANGE


Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
15 or 20 July 2026	Dialogue	Farmer – Scientist Dialogue: Climate change – Weather Interpretation for Agricultural production and pesticides	ASSAf SAWS	
	Radio call in discussion	What exactly is climate change?	SA Weather Services Segale Motseto Segale.Motseto@weathersa.co.za	Gauteng
	Workshop, dialogue, webinar	Factoring climate change in the planning processes - Looking at the extent to which it is currently taking place	NWU Dr. Niké Wesch 018 299 4879 Nike.Wesch@nwu.ac.za	North West
	New article	Some of the most eye-opening research findings on climate change in South Africa	CSIR Dr Brian Mantlana bmantlana@csir.co.za	National
	Multiple online platforms	Public knowledge, concerns and interests regarding climate change, floods, droughts and water shortages	HSRC Fhulufhelo Tshililo ftshililo@hsrc.ac.za	National
20 – 22 July	Road to 60 Legacy week	<p>Theme: Celebrating 60 Years of Innovation.</p> <p>Building Momentum Towards the Future. The Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences will run Career Guidance workshops with school learners on “What science does” awareness talks.</p>	<p>Vaal University of Technology:</p> <p>Led by VUT FM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and • The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: <p>0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za</p>	Gauteng
23 July	VUT 60 Jubilee Celebration	<p>VUT60 Jubilee: Ongoing Commemorations</p> <p>Theme: Celebrating Our Legacy. Shaping Our Future.</p> <p>Morning: • SABC Morning Live • Science laboratory unveiling • Leadership interviews • Research showcases — Midday: • Campus celebration • Student performances • Innovation displays • Alumni homecoming — Evening: Jubilee Gala Dinner</p>	<p>Vaal University of Technology:</p> <p>Led by VUT FM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences: and • The Faculty of Engineering and Technology: <p>0169506791 info@vutfm.co.za</p>	Gauteng

23 – 24 July (09:00 – 22:00)	Science Communication and Tourism Training	Astro-Tourism Training Programme at Kwalata Game Lodge Workshop / masterclass	SARAO, Rhodes University RATT Milisa Kentane mkentane@sarao.ac.za 064 756 0260	Gauteng
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26 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: DECOLONISING KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
23 July	Radio Interview: Decolonising Knowledge Systems with Ms Tsakani E. Nyoni	Background: The topic will focus on the decolonisation of knowledge systems especially in higher education institutions. Ms Nyoni is a lecturer in the Department of Indigenous Knowledge Systems and Heritage Studies at the University of Venda. She holds a Bachelor of Indigenous Knowledge Systems (Cum Laude) and Master of Arts in African Studies from the University of Venda. Beyond her passion for indigenous knowledge, Ms Nyoni has always been passionate about achieving social impact through entrepreneurship.	Phalaphala FM	Limpopo, Gauteng, North-West, Mpumalanga
23 July	Book Talk: Decolonizing Science: The search for Thales and Euclid by Professor David Jacobs	Background: Science denial is rising, partly because science, falsely portrayed as a European invention, alienates most of the world. This book traces how colonial agendas shaped science's history, embedding racial and gendered prejudices into its concepts and divorcing it from reality (https://www.cambridgescholars.com/product/978-1-0364-4202-6). Prof David S. Jacobs is a recently retired evolutionary biologist and currently an Emeritus Associate Professor at the University of Cape Town. Whilst at UCT he held the research chair for Animal Evolution & Systematics for 10 years and taught evolutionary biology and the history and philosophy of science. He has published three books, several book chapters and more than 80 refereed scientific articles.	Zoom Link: https://zoom.us/j/97850634528?pwd=wb083l2yfilBJE20AXIQixKDDbvjsc.1	National

25 July	Dipaleseng Circuit Invasion STEM exhibition	<p>Decolonising knowledge systems</p> <p>science, innovation, and indigenous knowledge through exciting STEM exhibitions, career guidance, interactive demonstrations, learner competitions</p> 	<p>Apha & Alphasines Foundation</p> <p>info.aaf@octoberoctopus.co.za</p>	Mpumalanga
26 July	Multiple online platforms	Public attitudes towards traditional knowledge	<p>Multiple online platforms</p> <p>Institution: TBC</p>	National

25 - 31 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SPACE SCIENCE AND ASTRONOMY

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
25 July	Workshop	Astro-tourism science communication	SARAO, Rhodes University – RATT	Western Cape
	Open day	MeerKAT and SKA	SARAO "Milisa Kentane" <mkentane@sarao.ac.za>	Northern Cape
	Online campaign	Public awareness of SKA/MeerKAT – featuring engineers and engineering capacity	SARAO "Milisa Kentane" <mkentane@sarao.ac.za>	National
	School outreach	Holiday Dome Programme	Wits University	Gauteng
	Launch event	SANSA Decision Support Tools launch	SANSA Dan Matsapola dmatsapola@sansa.org.za 084 548 7176	Gauteng
27 - 31 July	Space Science Outreach	<p>Space The Moon, Planets and Our Solar System Week in different provinces @ 27 – 31 July per site:</p> <p>Limpopo Space Week — Capricorn — Limpopo</p> <p>Mahikeng Space Week — Ngaka Modiri Molema — North West</p> <p>KwaZulu Natal Space Week — eThekweni Metro — KwaZulu Natal</p> <p>Gauteng Space Week — Joburg Metro — Gauteng</p> <p>Fezile Dabi Space Week — Fezile Dabi — Free State</p> <p>Pixley ka Seme Space Week — Pixley ka Seme — Northern Cape</p> <p>Sarah Baartman Space Week — Sarah Baartman — Eastern Cape</p> <p>Cape Town Metro Space Week — Cape Town Metro — Western Cape</p>	SANSA Dan Matsapola dmatsapola@sansa.org.za 084 548 7176	National
TBC	Star Gazing	The Moon, Planets and Our Solar System	North west university ,Pro Thebe Medupe	Eastern Cape ANSSC
7,14,16,21,23 July	SAAO Night Tours	Private Night tour & Star gazing	SAAO, Observatory Rd, Observatory, Cape Town, 7925 cptbookings@sao.ac.za	Western Cape

27,28,29,30 and 31 July	SAAO Day tours	Observatory tours	SAAO, Observatory Rd, Observatory, Cape Town, 7925 cptbookings@sao.ac.za	Western Cape
11 and 25 July 20h00 - 22h00	SAAO Open Night	Presentation on astronomy or a related field of science, followed by a guided tour of the Observatory's rich history	SAAO, Observatory Rd, Observatory, Cape Town, 7925 cptbookings@sao.ac.za	Western Cape
15-16 July	CSIR Robotics Camp and Science Projects Day	Nelson Mandela University will host interactive robotics and science camps that provide a hands-on learning environment, enabling learners to explore technology and applied scientific concepts.	Nelson Mandela University AWilliams@csir.co.za	Eastern Cape
2-24 July	Soweto Career Expo	Careers Inc., a not-for-profit organisation committed to redressing historical imbalances, will host its annual career expo targeting learners, students, and unemployed youth.	Orlando Community Hall, Soweto AWilliams@csir.co.za	Gauteng
24 July	Annual Blouberg Mayoral Careers Expo	Annual Blouberg Mayoral Careers Expo, hosted by the KOSTA Foundation in partnership with government stakeholders, the expo offers an interactive careers experience aimed at inspiring learners and educators.	Senwabarwana Sports Complex, Limpopo, Bochum AWilliams@csir.co.za	Lmpopo
27 July	CSIR Mandela Day events	Through its annual Nelson Mandela Day initiative, the CSIR delivers science engagement activities under its CSI Programme to inspire learners toward STEMI subjects and careers while addressing the needs of its adopted schools.	AWilliams@csir.co.za	TBC
27-31 July 11h00-13h00	SAAO Day Tours	Guided day tours	SAAO, Observatory Rd, Observatory, Cape Town, 7925 cptbookings@sao.ac.za	Western Cape
30 July	CSIR Tshimologo Wolmaransstad Career Day	Tshimologo Outreach Expo is a career expo for high school learners in townships and rural areas across the country for learners to access information and gain insight on different career opportunities from various stakeholders. The expo aims to equip leaners with knowledge, skills and tools that will propel them for success	AWilliams@csir.co.za	North West Wolmarandstad

31 July	CSIR Tshimologo Potchefstroom Career Day	Tshimologo Outreach Expo is a career expo for high school learners in townships and rural areas across the country for learners to access information and gain insight on different career opportunities from various stakeholders. The expo aims to equip learners with knowledge, skills and tools that will propel them for success	AWilliams@csir.co.za	North Ikageng, Potchefstroom West
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27 - 31 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE AND YOUTH

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
28 – 30 July	School / community outreach	The activation aims to make science engaging, practical, and accessible by using everyday materials to demonstrate STEM concepts. It emphasises that science can be explored beyond laboratories through curiosity and experimentation. The initiative also supports SACNASP's National Science Month goals by raising science awareness, encouraging interest in science subjects, and exposing learners to hands-on scientific thinking.	SACNASP Lientjie Mogano Lientjie.Mogano@sacnasp.org.za 012 748 6512 Siyafunda Education Foundation Northern Cape Department of Education	Northern Cape Okiep, Concordia, Nababeep, Springbok and Komaggas
15 July	Learner engagement	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Taryn Joshua-Kuntz / Nozi "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Limpopo — Dan Sandi Hall
29 July	Learner Workshop	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Helga Knoetze, Corrina Abraham, Wynand Calitz "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	KwaZulu-Natal — Patensie
30 July	Learner Workshop	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Helga Knoetze, Corrina Abraham, Wynand Calitz	Mpumalanga — NMU, Ocean Sciences Campus/Schoenies

27 - 31 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE AND YOUTH

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
28 – 30 July	School / community outreach	The activation aims to make science engaging, practical, and accessible by using everyday materials to demonstrate STEM concepts. It emphasises that science can be explored beyond laboratories through curiosity and experimentation. The initiative also supports SACNASP's National Science Month goals by raising science awareness, encouraging interest in science subjects, and exposing learners to hands-on scientific thinking.	SACNASP Lientjie Mogano Lientjie.Mogano@sacnasp.org.za 012 748 6512 Siyafunda Education Foundation Northern Cape Department of Education	Northern Cape Okiep, Concordia, NababEEP, Springbok and Komaggas
22 July	Learner Workshop	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Dr L Swemmer "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Weverdiend Village
23 July	Learner Workshop	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Dr Maphumulo "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Phaluabeni Village
8 & 9 July	Learner Workshops	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Siphiwe Mfeka "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — NIROX Sculpture Park
17 July	Learner engagements	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Caitlin & Dipuo "Kogie Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — (Beacon Island)
22 July all day	Ditsong Public Lectures	Public, museum and natural-history audiences	Ditsong: +27 12 492 5744, info@ditsong.org.za	National
23-27 July	Young scientists' mentorship and curriculum support Cyberbullying in schools	To enhance learners' understanding of cyberbullying and food safety through a school outreach programme by raising awareness of cyberbullying's impact on mental health, encouraging responsible online behaviour, and equipping learners with practical food safety knowledge to promote healthy lifestyles and prevent foodborne illnesses. Schools Outreach in Gauteng, Mpumalanga, North West, and Free State 23 July — Zitikeni Secondary School (Tembisa, Gauteng)	ASSAF SAYAS Alpha and Alphas Foundation Dr Mmahiine C. Mosana mc.aaf@octoberoctopus.co.za kholani@assaf.org.za 012 349 6638	Gauteng, Mpumalanga, North West, and Free State

27 - 31 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE AND YOUTH

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
28 – 30 July	School / community outreach	The activation aims to make science engaging, practical, and accessible by using everyday materials to demonstrate STEM concepts. It emphasises that science can be explored beyond laboratories through curiosity and experimentation. The initiative also supports SACNASP's National Science Month goals by raising science awareness, encouraging interest in science subjects, and exposing learners to hands-on scientific thinking.	SACNASP Lientjie Mogano Lientjie.Mogano@sacnasp.org.za 012 748 6512 Siyafunda Education Foundation Northern Cape Department of Education	Northern Cape Okiep, Concordia, Nababeep, Springbok and Komaggas
		24 July — Kreft Primary School (Kempton Park, Gauteng) 25 July — IM Manchu High School, (Balfour, Mpumalanga) 27 July — Makapanstad, North West		
23 July	Learner Engagement	SAEON learner workshop on environmental science and ecological observation.	SAEON · Caitlin & Dipuo "Kogje Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Plettenberg Bay
24–26 July	Science Camp	SAEON environmental science camp for learners.	SAEON · Caitlin & Dipuo "Kogje Govender" <k.govender@saeon.nrf.ac.za>	Western Cape — Cape Town
31 July	Job Shadowing	UCT Job Shadowing	SACNASP & UCT	Western Cape
	Multiple online platforms	Youth engagement with science indicators	HSRC	National
	School community outreach Robotics Camp and Science Projects Day	Hands-on STEM activation: making science visible, practical and exciting for learners by using everyday materials to demonstrate key STEM principles	SACNASP, Siyafunda Education Foundation, Northern Cape Department of Education	Northern Cape

27 - 31 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE DIPLOMACY

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
27 – 31 July	The 9th SADC Industrialisation Week (SIW 2026)	the flagship regional event promoting technology, investment, and cross-border value chains—takes place in Durban ICC, South Africa,	DSTI ICR	KwaZulu Natal Durban
	Laboratory tours and demonstrations, Science exhibitions	<p>BEYOND 60: Facilitated by the Faculty of Applied and Computer Sciences, groups of school learners and university students will be exposed to laboratory tours and demonstrations, Science exhibitions and showcases at VUT main campus. This will include guided visits to laboratories, exposing learners to real-world scientific environments and tools also to expose them to hands on experiments.</p> <p>All the engineering departments will be showcasing their equipment live and students will be invited to view their equipment. This will be viewed as a closing event for the faculty. Target: 6 researchers (one – two per dept: Ochieng, Osifo, Otunniyi, Wallace): 4 Postdoc, 4 PhD, 4 Masters. FSASEC, electrical, mechanical, chemical, etc.</p>	VUT	Gauteng

28 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SCIENCE FOR DECISION-MAKERS

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
24 July	Deputy Minister's Umhlabuyalingana Career Expo	Inspiring young people to pursue careers in scientific research and innovation	DSTI, NRF-SAASTA	KZN
28 July	Science for decision makers	<p>Multiple online platforms</p> <p>Public views on whether: Science organisations produce relevant knowledge about daily life in South Africa, and whether science organisations listen to the people before deciding what research they should do</p>	HSRC	National

29 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: SOUTH AFRICANS' RELATIONSHIP WITH SCIENCE

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
29 July	Multiple online platforms	SAPRS snapshot across all indicators – links to a panel discussion?	HSRC	National

30 July 2026

BLOCK THEME: PUBLIC AWARENESS OF RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

Date and time of activity	Planned Activity	Focus/Topic	Institution	Coverage
30 July	Open day	South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity opened for public tour	NRF-SAIAB	Eastern Cape
	Open day	SARAO Tour of Hartbeeshoek research site	SARAO "Milisa Kentane" <mkentane@sarao.ac.za>	Gauteng
	Multiple online platforms	Public trust in S&T information from universities and research organisations	HSRC	National
8 July	Open day	SARAO SKA MeerKAT openday https://www.sarao.ac.za/visit-meerkat-site/	SARAO "Milisa Kentane" <mkentane@sarao.ac.za>	Northern Cape
June- July	Profiling CSIR's RD&I on various SABC regional radio stations	<p>The CSIR has established partnerships with SABC Radio platforms. These platforms offer the CSIR an opportunity for an in-depth profile of leading experts at the CSIR and engage in discussions on the significance of their work in advancing science and technology, highlighting notable achievements and contributions to their respective fields. Ukhozi FM – isiZulu</p> <p>Umhlobo Wenene FM – isiXhosa</p> <p>Munghana Lonene FM – Xitsonga</p> <p>Thobela FM – Sepedi</p> <p>Ikwekwezi FM – isiNdebele</p> <p>Ligwalagwala FM – isiSwati</p> <p>Phalaphala FM - Tshivenda</p>	AWilliams@csir.co.za	National

July	National Science Month - Digital Media Engagement	<p>The CSIR will run a social media campaign pre, during and post the event. This will cover the following activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Promote CSIR's participation during the National Science Month launch; •Showcase CSIR Career Days activities; •Webinars; and •Promote interviews of CSIR experts will conduct. <p>Through the use of the CSIR's website, a page will be created to host all CSIR National Science Month content, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Special careers feature; •Exhibitions to feature during the National Science Month launch and CSIR Career Days; •The media advisories and press release. Social media posts will direct traffic to the website page. 	<p>CSIR Website</p> <p>X</p> <p>Instagram</p> <p>Facebook</p> <p>LinkedIn</p> <p>AWilliams@csir.co.za</p>	
19 July	Kloof en DAI: Nature Works Interconnected Ecosystem Walk	A 2-hour outdoor educational walk focusing on biodiversity and how environmental systems operate. Ideal for families, it covers soil formation, habitat systems, weather patterns, and the human relationship with the natural world.	https://www.quicket.co.za/events/375327-nature-works-walk/#/ Kloofendal Nature Reserve, Veronica Street, Kloofendal, Roodepoort, 1709.	Gauteng West rand
25 July 09:00	Kloof en Dal: Biomimicry & Environmental Innovation Walk	Inspired by the text <i>One World</i> , this outdoor walk paired with a brief interactive workshop demonstrates how modern technology and human design mimic structures found in nature to resolve engineering challenges.	https://www.quicket.co.za/events/375328-biomimicry-walk/#/ Kloofendal Nature Reserve, Veronica Street, Kloofendal, Roodepoort, 1709	Gauteng West rand