

Discussion Forum Invitation

S.E.T. for socio-economic growth

National Science and Technology Forum

Sustainable development and the chemical elements

Chemical elements from the perspective of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

16 May 2019, Midrand, Gauteng #IYPT2019

The [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) is hosting a national NSTF Discussion Forum on '[Sustainable development and the chemical elements](#)'. This is aligned to the United Nations (UN) 2019 'International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements 2019' (IYPT2019).

This event is part of a series on IYPT2019. Two NSTF Discussion Forums held on 18-19 March 2019 on '[Chemical elements for South Africa's future](#)' that focused on 'Rare elements for new technologies' and 'Managing elements for nutrition and safety'.

This event is held in partnership with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Dow Southern Africa (Pty) Ltd (material science company).

NEW Continuous Professional Development (CPD) points: CPD points will be awarded to attendees who are members of [SACNASP](#) (South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions). One point for attending the whole day on 16 May. For other affiliations, please notify the NSTF office of the professional body/society where you are registered so that NSTF can approach them for CPD points. Email enquiries@nstf.org.za.

Sustainable development and the chemical elements

International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements

NSTF Discussion Forum speakers will relate the elements to an SDG:

- Goal 1: No poverty
- Goal 2: Zero hunger
- Goal 3: Good health & well-being
- Goal 4: Quality education
- Goal 6: Clean water & sanitation
- Goal 7: Affordable & clean energy
- Goal 8: Decent work & economic growth
- Goal 9: Industry, innovation & infrastructure

Calling all stakeholders:
Policy makers & government officials
Researchers & academics
Civil society

Be part of the conversation.
[Click here to register.](#)

The United Nations (UN) proclaimed 2019 the [International Year of the Periodic Table of Chemical Elements](#). The UN recognises the importance of raising global awareness around chemistry. This includes chemistry's role in solving global challenges within the energy, agriculture, health and other critical sectors.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are of critical importance to developing countries, to Africa as a whole, and to Southern Africa. Statistics SA monitors our progress in terms of the SDGs as a country, and the Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation DPME reports on such progress, and ensures that planning is done to meet the SDGs.

Event objective: The [NSTF Discussion Forums](#) will focus on specific topics related to chemistry and the periodic table. This event will view chemical elements from the perspective of the UN [Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#).

The aim is to discuss the following questions:

- What are the issues related to minerals in energy, water, food, education and economic sustainability?
- What does this tell us about minerals that have to be mined or imported?
- What does it tell us about nutrition and public awareness around healthy eating?
- How can science teachers relate the elements in the periodic table to their applications and importance?
- What opportunities are there for growing particular industries?

Envisaged outcomes: To collate feedback from all three [NSTF Discussion Forums](#), and send recommendations to the relevant government departments, policy makers and research institutions.

Outputs: As is usual for [NSTF Discussion Forums](#), the following outputs will be produced and made available on the [NSTF website](#): proceedings; summary and recommendations; media release; speakers' PowerPoint presentations; [video clips](#) of presentations; photos; concept document, and reading list.

Business Report supplement: A supplement on the three NSTF discussion forums is planned for inclusion in the Business Report (inserted in The Star, Cape Times, Pretoria News and The Mercury newspapers). There are excellent opportunities for communicating information and branding. Contact the NSTF Office at enquiries@nstf.co.za for contact details of the Business Report representatives. Note that the NSTF does not receive money for this supplement. The intention is to increase awareness of the issues in the science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation community in South Africa.

About the NSTF: The NSTF is the [stakeholder forum](#) representing the SET and innovation community in South Africa. The [membership](#) ranges from research institutions, universities and state entities to business, as well as [professional societies \(pro-SET\)](#) and civil society. The NSTF engages with [policy issues](#) across various government departments and promotes collaboration and critical thinking among the broad range of stakeholders. [NSTF Discussion Forums](#) gather stakeholders together, across the public and private sectors, to put forward recommendations to influence government policies.

Delegate registration information

Date: 16 May 2019

Venue: Maxwell Office Park, [Business Centre](#), Magwa Crescent, Waterfall City, Midrand, Gauteng

Parking: inside the basement of the Dow building situated in Maxwell Office Park

Registration: [RSVP your attendance online](#) by no later than 13 May 2019. Limited seats available. RSVP as soon as possible to secure your seat.

Programme: [Click here](#) for the updated programme with seven expert speakers confirmed

Time: 08:30 for 09:00 to 16:30

This is a **FREE** event for all employees of
NSTF Member Organisations
(sponsored by the Department of Science and Technology)

Please join us for lunch and use the opportunity for further discussion and networking.

Registration information***

Non-Member Organisations of the NSTF: Attendance is open for anyone interested which includes attendance, documentation relating to the event, conference stationery, refreshments and lunch.

Please note that if you do not RSVP, the NSTF cannot be held responsible for any unforeseen changes or cancellations of programmes. Communications are sent only via e-mail or through notifications on the [NSTF website](#).

Please forward this e-mail to your colleagues, business contacts and all interested persons!

Disclaimer

The NSTF has taken all practical measures to ensure that the material contained in this newsletter is correct. The NSTF reserves the right to make changes as it deems necessary.

Privacy

Registration details submitted to the NSTF will be treated confidentially and will only be used by NSTF to communicate with its members and subscribers.

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www.nstf.org.za
E-mail: enquiries@nstf.co.za
Tel: +27 12 841 3987
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