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# NSTF-South32 Awards

*Today's research ... tomorrow's innovation*

## Call for nominations: 2020/2021 NSTF-South32 Awards

Register nominations online by 14 December 2020!  
#NSTFawards2021

The [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) calls for [nominations](#) for the 23rd [NSTF-South32 Awards](#). These prestigious awards focus on science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa. South32 is the co-branding sponsor for the past five years. As such the name of the awards is the NSTF-South32 Awards.

**Special Annual Theme Award:** The NSTF's theme for 2021 is “**Creative Economy for Sustainable Development**”, aligned with the ‘[International Year of Creative Economy for Sustainable Development](#)’, as declared by the United Nations (UN). Aligned with this, the Special Annual Theme Award for 2020/2021 will be made for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation towards the creative economy for sustainable development in South Africa. The concept of **creative economy** is the income-earning potential of **creative** activities and ideas. The **creative economy** encompasses photography, graphic design, fashion design, filmmaking, architecture, publishing, video games and more.



**Register nominations for individuals, teams and organisations for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation in South Africa.** The contributions recognised are in the following broad areas:

- Scientific research
- Management of SET and innovation
- Capacity building in engineering research
- Water management solutions
- Data for research
- Innovations and their research and/or development
- Communication and creating awareness of SET and innovation
- Non-governmental organisation (NGO) activities which could include technology transfer activities, and education and training
- The Creative Economy for Sustainable Development through the 2020/2021 Special Annual Theme Award

## What's new this year?

There are no changes to the criteria of categories, apart from the following:

1. **Special Annual Theme Award:** The NSTF is making a [special award](#) this year for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation towards the “Creative Economy for Sustainable Development”. This Special Award is intended to focus on research, development and innovation in the area of the creative economy in support of sustainable socio-economic growth in South Africa.
2. **Data for Research Award:** The NSTF under the guidance of a team of experts through the Data Intensive Research Initiative of South Africa (DIRISA) and the Network of Data and Information Curation Communities (NeDICC) has re-modelled this category. The NSTF continues this category introduced in 2017, which is meant to acknowledge the work of an individual or a team (including for example researchers/scientists; data scientists; data stewards; innovators; and repository and data centre managers) to be rewarded for the generation, preservation, sharing and/or re-use of a valuable scientific output – the [research data set](#). Data products, data repositories and data centres are also eligible for team recognition. The intention is to recognise the value of a data set that is of national interest or for the public good, and that is openly available to be re-used and / or re-packaged in products that are of public good and interest, or that could be integrated into products that contribute to the development of South Africa.
3. **The NSTF-Lewis Foundation Green Economy Research and Innovation Award** was introduced in 2015 under the sponsorship of GreenMatter. In 2018 the sponsorship was taken over by The Lewis Foundation. This year The Lewis Foundation, whilst still associated with the NSTF, has moved its funding to the NSTF [Brilliants Programme](#) (for the top science and mathematics matriculants). The NSTF has decided to discontinue the [NSTF Green Economy Award](#) until a new sponsor comes forward which we hope will be soon.

**And we remind you of previous changes that we continue with:**

4. **Communication Award:** Please take note that for this category, there is a special call to [professional science communicators](#) to apply.
5. **Innovation Awards:** We introduced a major change to the [Innovation category](#) in 2017 and continue to give greater emphasis on ‘innovation’. These awards are now called the ‘Awards for Innovations and their research and/or development’ over the last 5 to

10 years through either an small, medium or micro enterprise (SMME) or a corporate organisation.

6. **Research categories:** The time periods for each category as was the case last year, are now clearly anchored to the commencement of the research career. There is no requirement for a PhD. All research categories are now open to anyone currently involved in research. We have continued with the strengthened focus on the further development of outputs towards innovations.

## The NSTF's vision

A transformed country where SET and innovation contribute to a high quality of life for all who live in South Africa, where the profile of SET professionals is representative of the population's profile and where the education system is effective, particularly in terms of performance in SET subjects and promoting innovation.

The [NSTF Awards](#) are one of the ways in which the NSTF strives to realise its vision.

## Awards nomination process

This is a two-stage [nomination process](#):

### Stage 1 – Register a nominee by Monday 14 December 2020

1. Please note that registering a [nominee](#) is only the *beginning* of the two-stage nomination process. When you register a nominee, the NSTF Office will respond with the official category nomination form, to be completed by 1 March 2021 (Stage 2).
2. Notify the nominee that you intend to nominate him/her/them (team/organisation). *Ensure that you receive their agreement to participate.*
3. **Complete and submit the [online registration](#).** Both the nominee and nominator will receive an email notification with the full nomination form/s as an attachment to complete. *Please alert the NSTF Office at [awards@nstf.org.za](mailto:awards@nstf.org.za) should you (the nominee and nominator) not receive this notification and the relevant forms.*

### Stage 2 – Submit completed nomination documents by Monday 01 March 2021

1. Ensure that the fully-completed [nomination form/s](#) are emailed to the NSTF before the final deadline and that you receive a confirmation from the NSTF Office.
2. Please note that planning and time are required to complete the nomination document. Hence there is an 11-week period (December to March) provided for this preparation.

# Awards categories

**Full title of categories:** All the awards are ‘for an outstanding contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa...’ (*The complete title of each award starts with this wording in place of “contribution”.*)

<p>1. <b><u>Individual Awards</u></b></p>	<p>a. <b>Lifetime Award</b> – contribution over 15 years or more  b. <b>TW Kambule-NSTF Award: Researcher</b> – contribution through research and its outputs over a period from 6 years up to 15 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in South Africa  c. <b>TW Kambule-NSTF Awards: Emerging Researcher</b> – contribution through research and its outputs over a period of up to 6 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in South Africa  d. <b>Management Award</b> – contribution through management of SET and innovation and related activities over the last 5 to 10 years in South Africa</p>
<p>2. <b><u>Engineering Research Capacity Development Awards</u></b> – contribution by an individual over the last 5 to 10 years (Sponsor: Eskom since 2003)</p>	
<p>3. <b><u>NSTF-Water Research Commission (WRC) Award</u></b> – contribution by an individual or an organisation to SET in South Africa towards sustainable water management, knowledge generation and solutions over the last 5 to 10 years (Sponsor: WRC since 2017)</p>	
<p>4. <b><u>Data for Research Award</u></b> – contribution by an individual or a team for advancing the availability, management and re-use of research data.</p>	
<p>5. <b><u>Innovation Awards</u></b></p>	<p>a. <b>Award for Innovations and their research and/or development</b> – contribution by an individual or a team <b>through a corporate organisation</b> over the last 5 to 10 years  b. <b>Award for Innovations and their research and/or development</b> – contribution by an individual or a team <b>through a SMME</b> over the last 5 to 10 years (Sponsor: National Intellectual Property Management Office – NIPMO since 2019)</p>
<p>6. <b><u>Communication Award</u></b> – contribution for outreach and creating awareness of SET and innovation by a team or individual over the last 5 years</p>	
<p>7. <b><u>Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) Award</u></b> – contribution including technology transfer, and education and training activities over the last 5 to 10 years</p>	
<p>8. <b><u>Special Annual Theme Award 2020/2021</u></b>: Creative Economy for Sustainable Development (awarded according to criteria in any of the categories). This Award is made for an outstanding contribution to SET or innovation towards the Creative Economy for Sustainable Development in SA. The concept of <b>creative economy</b> is the income-earning potential of <b>creative</b> activities and ideas. The <b>creative economy</b> encompasses photography, graphic design, fashion design, filmmaking, architecture, publishing, video games and more.</p>	

## Partnerships and sponsorships

Organisations are invited to join hands with the NSTF to widen the reach and impact of the NSTF-South32 Awards and youth programmes. Partnerships are available on new and existing [award categories](#) and the [youth outreach programmes](#). Contact Ms Wilna Eksteen at [awards@nstf.org.za](mailto:awards@nstf.org.za).

*Please forward this email to your colleagues, business contacts and all interested persons. Help to find and acknowledge the who's who in SET and innovation in South Africa!*

### About the NSTF

The [National Science and Technology Forum](#) (NSTF), established in 1995, is a broadly-representative stakeholder body for all science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation organisations in South Africa, which seeks to influence policy formulation and delivery.

The [NSTF Awards](#) are unique in SA, recognising the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation.

The science [bursaries](#) page provides information on bursaries and bursary providers for science, engineering and related studies.

### 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.

### For more information

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Non Profit Company Registration Number: 2007/029165/08

NPO Registration Number: 92042