



Online Diplomatic Community & Stakeholder Briefing

SFSA 2025

&

WCSJ 2025

Friday 11 July 2025, 10:00

AGENDA

1. **Welcome and opening remarks**
Cecil Masoka, DSTI ICR
2. **SDCfA overview**
Ndumiso Cingo, SDCfA Steering Committee Chair
3. **SFSA 2025**
Vinny Pillay, DSTI, ICR
Bronwen Cadle de Ponte, SDCfA Steering Committee
4. **WCSJ 2025**
Mandi Smallhorne, WCSJ 2025, Conference Director
5. **Closing**
Hunadi Mokgalaka, SDCfA Steering Committee



Opening Remarks

- **Science Forum South Africa 2025**

- 10th Anniversary
- An open, free to attend, forum to ignite conversations about science
- Open to South Africans, Africans and International participants as speakers, presenters, facilitators, exhibitors and attendees
- Between 3 000 and 4 000 attendees per year

- **World Conference of Science Journalists**

- The first edition of the World Conference was organized in Tokyo in 1992; while the World Federation of Science Journalists was created ten years later in 2002 during the third WCSJ in Brazil.
- The main goals of the Federation and the Conference are to improve the quality of science reporting, promote standards, support science and technology journalists and to build a community of science journalists globally.
- For 2025 the goal of the Local Organising Committee is also to achieve these objectives for South Africa and the African continent.



Science Diplomacy Capital for Africa **THE INITIATIVE**

**PROMOTING
SCIENCE
COLLABORATION**

PURPOSE



The Science Diplomacy Capital for Africa **promotes international science collaboration**, across borders, **for Africa** by facilitating and embedding a culture of collaboration, learning and knowledge sharing.

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The City of Tshwane is the **hub of the initiative**, leveraging the co-location of the many research and academic institutions, diplomatic missions, and international agencies within this Capital City.

The initiative aims to be **inclusive and representative** of all stakeholders and role-players in the SA National System of Innovation, as well as stakeholders and role-players continent wide.

The initiative reaches out, and invites in, such stakeholders.

VISION



Science diplomacy **enabling** socio-economic development in Africa, through international collaboration in science and innovation.

MISSION



The initiative is **a platform which facilitates networking** between the international community and the NSI to address common societal challenge by overseeing the implementation of activities of promotion, networking and facilitation.

It promotes **Africa as a preferred destination for investment and collaboration in science and innovation** with international partners and is a catalyst for new partnerships which solve societal challenges

The SDCfA Hub is located at the CSIR ICC, in Tshwane, in South Africa. **A global precinct for international science and technology innovation through progressive relationships with the co-located international diplomatic community.**

We promote the **value and benefits of science diplomacy** across South Africa and throughout the African continent and abroad.

ACTIVITIES



Lectures

Workshops

Diplomatic Circles

Conferences

Forums

Training

Collaborations

Recognition Awards

**VIEW
AND
SUBSCRIBE**



www.africasciencediplomacy.org

TEN YEARS OF IGNITING CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SCIENCE

Placing Science, Technology, and Innovation
at the Centre of Government, Education,
Society, and Industry



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

Host City





Forum Details

- **Dates:** 24 & 25 November 2025 – Side events & official opening
26 – 28 November 2025 – Main Forum, exhibition & awards
- **Theme:** *Igniting Conversations about Science – Placing Science, Technology and Innovation at the Centre of Government, Education, Industry and Society*
- **Characteristics:**
 - A provocative and stimulating forum program comprising several parallel sessions, addressing a **diverse range of science and science policy orientated themes**;
 - A **rich diversity in the background of participants**, comprising scientists, students, public and private sector representatives as well as civil society constituents;
 - A forum programme not only compiled “top-down” by the organisers but also enabling public input through a **competitive call for proposals for the organisation of sessions**; and
 - A strong **international dimension** to the event, reflected by the participation of speakers and attendees from a diverse range of countries, especially from Africa.





Calls

1. Thematic Sessions
2. Side Events
3. Exhibitions
4. Science Diplomacy Awards

OPEN CALLS

- ➔ SESSION PROPOSALS
Submit an open thematic session proposal by 31 July 2025.
- ➔ SIDE EVENT PROPOSALS
Submit side event proposals by 31 July 2025.
- ➔ EXHIBITION APPLICATIONS
Submit applications by 31 July 2025.
- ➔ SCIENCE DIPLOMACY AWARDS
Submit nominations by 31 July 2025.



Thematic Sessions

Sub-themes

- Financing for Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)
- Science and Society Nexus (Agriculture, Health, Climate Change, Just Energy Transition)
- The Role of Science Diplomacy
- Emerging Industry – The role of Disruptive Technologies
- Science Journalism and Science Communication
- Entrepreneurship and Innovation
- Building research capabilities for Africa (STISA 2034)





Side Events

Criteria

- Form: Workshops, seminars, lectures etc.
- 2 – 4 Hours long
- Showcase the value and impact of science in the different thematic areas
- Diverse and inclusive selection of speakers / contributors / panellists considering youth and women
- Must encourage dialogue and exchange
- Must promote collaboration with other like-minded organisations, partners, and stakeholders





Exhibitions

Opportunity to:

- Engage directly with a diverse audience of academics, industry leaders, policymakers, and civil society.
- Showcase ground-breaking research, innovations, and products within a high-visibility forum.
- Forge new partnerships and gain valuable exposure within the National System of Innovation and beyond.





Science Diplomacy Awards

Categories:

- Science advice that has transcended national and international spheres
- International STI partnerships
- International STI partnership contribution to advancing African regional cooperation, integration and development
- Recognition of individual effort over a career to put science at service of society and fostering international friendships
- International STI partnership which has achieved excellence in global science
- Young Science Diplomat Award





Further Information

www.sfsa.co.za

info@sfsa.co.za



13TH WORLD CONFERENCE OF SCIENCE JOURNALISTS

1 – 5 DECEMBER 2025, CSIR ICC, PRETORIA, TSHWANE, SOUTH AFRICA

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[Registration](#)



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About WCSJ 2025

Owner: World Federation of Science Journalists headquartered in Canada
<https://wfsj.org/>

Host Local Association: South African Science Journalists Association (SASJA), a special interest group of SAFREA.
<https://www.facebook.com/SASJA.Science/>

Co-host: Science Diplomacy Capital for Africa (SDCfA)
<https://www.africasciencediplomacy.org/>

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WCSJ Core Objectives

- To serve the professional development needs of science journalists
- To deliver an international conference for science journalists in such a way that they come together over several days to meet each other, learn more about their profession and share their own knowledge and ideas with others
- To create an environment and program that will encourage networking and community building amongst international attendees
- To create a program that reflects international science journalism's current issues
- To raise the profile of science and science journalism in the host country
- To assist international journalists to attend through an open scholarship application process that supports those most deserving by covering their delegate fee, travel and accommodation.
- To offer some peripheral sessions of scientific content for journalists to report on current scientific issues during the WCSJ, through activities such as pre-conference workshops, post-conference field trips or lunches, breakfasts and/or press briefings, etc.
- To put the spotlight on the WFSJ's mission, projects and programs designed to empower science journalists globally.



Who Attends WCSJ



CONNECT WITH
1000+
SCIENCE JOURNALISTS



PARTICIPANTS FROM
6 CONTINENTS &
50+ COUNTRIES

Previous conferences:
<https://www.wcsj2025.org/about/previous-conferences/>



REACH
15 000
GLOBAL MEMBERS
including science journalists,
broadcasters, writers, editors,
and communicators working
across all media platforms



67 SCIENCE WRITING
REGIONAL
ASSOCIATIONS

2025 Expected attendance:
700+ including speakers and
exhibitors



2017 SAN FRANCISCO
TOTAL REGISTRATIONS
1365
COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
74



2019 LAUSANNE
TOTAL REGISTRATIONS
1309
COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
83



2023 MEDELLÍN
TOTAL REGISTRATIONS
± 700
COUNTRIES REPRESENTED
62



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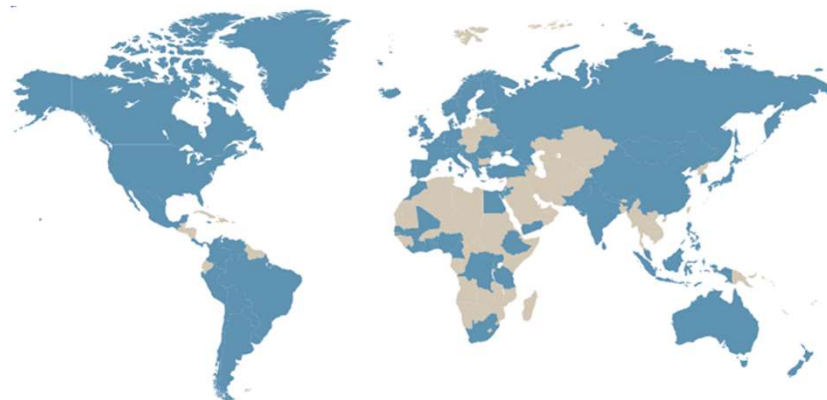
Countries Represented



74

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED AT WCSJ2017

| | | | | |
|------------|----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| Argentina | Cuba | Italy | Norway | Sweden |
| Australia | Cyprus | Jamaica | Pakistan | Switzerland |
| Austria | Democratic Republic of the Congo | Japan | Panama | Taiwan |
| Bahamas | Denmark | Jordan | Peru | Tanzania |
| Belgium | Kenya | Philippines | Portugal | Turkey |
| Bolivia | Ecuador | Liberia | Qatar | Uganda |
| Brazil | Egypt | Malawi | Romania | United Kingdom |
| Cambodia | Finland | Malaysia | Russia | Uruguay |
| Cameroon | France | Mexico | Rwanda | Zimbabwe |
| Canada | Germany | Mongolia | Sierra Leone | |
| Chile | Ghana | Montenegro | Singapore | |
| China | India | Nepal | South Africa | |
| Colombia | Indonesia | Netherlands | Spain | |
| Costa Rica | Iran | New Zealand | | |
| Croatia | Israel | Nigeria | | |



COUNTRIES REGISTERING ATTENDEES FOR WCSJ2019

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Albania | Costa Rica | Israel | Nepal | Slovenia |
| Argentina | Ivory Coast | Italy | Netherlands | South Africa |
| Armenia | Croatia | Jamaica | New Zealand | Spain |
| Australia | Denmark | Japan | Nigeria | Sri Lanka |
| Austria | Egypt | Jordan | Norway | Sweden |
| Belgium | Estonia | Kenya | Pakistan | Switzerland |
| Benin | Ethiopia | Korea (Republic of) | Panama | Tanzania |
| Bolivia | Finland | Kosovo | Paraguay | Togo |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | France | Liberia | Peru | Turkey |
| Brazil | Georgia | Macedonia | Philippines | Uganda |
| Cameroon | Germany | Malaysia | Portugal | Ukraine |
| Canada | Ghana | Mali | Romania | United Kingdom |
| Chile | Greece | Mexico | Russian federation | United states |
| China | Iceland | Moldova | Rwanda | Uruguay |
| Colombia | India | Mongolia | Senegal | Venezuela |
| Congo (Dem. Rep. of) | Indonesia | Montenegro | Serbia | Yemen |
| | Ireland | Morocco | Singapore | |

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Program Outline

| | Pre-Conference | Monday 1 December 2025 | Tuesday 2 December 2025 | Wednesday 3 December 2025 | Thursday 4 December 2025 | Friday 5 December 2025 | Post Conference |
|--------------|------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---------------------|
| Early Risers | | Premium Hosted Breakfasts | Premium Hosted Breakfasts | Premium Hosted Breakfasts | Premium Hosted Breakfasts | Premium Hosted Breakfasts | |
| Day | Scientific Tours | Scientific Tours and Hosted Workshops | Opening Plenary and Main Conference | Main Conference | Main Conference and Closing Plenary | Scientific Tours and Hosted Workshops | Scientific Tours |
| Evening | Premium Hosted Dinners | Premium Hosted Dinners | Welcome Reception and Premium Hosted Dinners | Local Music, Market and Food Experience - Premium Hosted Dinners | Closing Social Event and Premium Hosted Dinners | Evening at Leisure | |

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Exhibition Opportunities

EXHIBITION OPPORTUNITIES

Unlocking wonders, inspiring minds, sparking discovery!

| | | |
|----------------------|-----|--------|
| Outdoor Arrival Area | USD | 20.000 |
| Large Indoor Space | USD | 10.000 |
| Medium Indoor Space | USD | 7.500 |
| Small Indoor Space | USD | 5.000 |

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Other Opportunities

SINGLE ELEMENT SPONSORSHIP

Foundational knowledge and progress for a thriving future

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| Diamond Sponsor | USD 150.000 |
|-----------------|-------------|

PRECIOUS METAL SPONSORSHIP

Timeless value, endless possibilities

| | |
|------------------|-------------|
| Platinum Sponsor | USD 100.000 |
| Gold Sponsor | USD 75.000 |
| Silver Sponsor | USD 50.000 |

RARE EARTH SPONSORSHIP

Empowering curiosity, driving discovery

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Tea & Coffee Break Sponsors | USD 40.000 |
| Lunch Sponsors | USD 60.000 |
| Social Function Sponsor | USD 60.000 |
| Premium Private Breakfast Sponsor | USD 20.000 |
| Premium Private Dinner Sponsor | USD 20.000 |
| Pre / Post Conference Workshop Sponsor | FROM USD 7.500 |
| Website & E-mail Sponsor | USD 30.000 |
| App Sponsor | USD 10.000 |
| Packed Lunch Sponsors | USD 20.000 |
| Simultaneous Translation Partner | USD 30.000 |
| Video Recording Partner | USD 40.000 |
| Social Media Sponsors | USD 40.000 |
| Voucher Sponsor | USD 500 |

SCIENTIFIC FIELD TRIP SPONSORSHIP

Explore, discover, learn, bring curiosity to life!

| | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Field Trip Partners | Total cost of trip |
|---------------------|--------------------|

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION SPONSORSHIP

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Journalism Travel Grant Partner | FROM USD 3.000 |
| Speaker Grant Partner | FROM USD 4.000 |

- Prospectus online
- Suggested that Diplomatic Missions encourage their countries to send at least 2 science journalists on grants
- Contact to discuss rates

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Pre & Post Scientific Tours

- Local, regional and national tours
- Delegates must apply and be selected
- Envisaged:
 - CSIR Innovations
 - UP Innovations
 - Cradle of Humankind
 - Dinokeng Game Reserve Conservation
 - Drakensberg Montane Research
 - Square Kilometer Array Project
 - MDNA Vaccine Facility
 - Etc.

SCIENTIFIC FIELD TRIP SPONSORSHIP

Explore, discover, learn, bring curiosity to life!

Field Trip Partners

Total cost of trip

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Official Hosted Breakfasts & Dinners

- By invitation only events
- Host to select attendees from conference registration lists
- Ideal opportunity to engage a select group on a specific topic

PREMIUM PRIVATE BREAKFAST SPONSOR

USD 20,000

5 OPPORTUNITIES - 1 SPONSOR PER BREAKFAST X 5 BREAKFASTS

- Exclusive breakfast for up to 50 delegates on either 31 November 2025 or 1, 2, 3 or 4 December 2025.
- Advance marketing and registration for your sponsored event via conference communications.
- Sponsor can tailor the invitation to specific audience of attendees of your choice, attendance by invitation only via the LOC.
- Present and/or discuss the content of your choice.
- Sponsorship cost includes a plated breakfast, podium and basic audio-visual equipment.
- Sponsor may provide and place venue branding.

PREMIUM PRIVATE DINNER SPONSOR

USD 20,000

5 OPPORTUNITIES - 1 SPONSOR PER DINNER X 5 DINNERS

- Exclusive dinner for up to 50 delegates on either 31 November 2025 or 1, 2, 3 or 4 December 2025.
- Advance marketing and registration for your sponsored event via conference communications.
- Sponsor can tailor the invitation to specific audience of attendees of your choice, attendance by invitation only via the LOC.
- Present and/or discuss the content of your choice.
- Sponsorship cost includes a plated dinner, podium and basic audio-visual equipment.
- Sponsor may provide and place venue branding.
- Sponsor must provide dinner, beverages and transport for delegates back to hotels.

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Pre & Post Conference Workshops

- By invitation only events
- Host to select attendees from conference registration lists
- Call still to go out

PRE & POST CONFERENCE WORKSHOP SPONSOR

12 OPPORTUNITIES

FROM **USD 7,500**
FOR 15 PARTICIPANTS
UPWARD, PLUS ONE
TRAVEL GRANT @ USD
3,000 PER 5 ATTENDEES

- Opportunity to host a workshop for between 10 to 400 participants at the CSIR ICC.
- Six slots available on Monday, 1 December 2025 and six slots on Friday, 5 December 2025.
- Advance marketing and registration for your sponsored event via conference communications.
- Submit a detailed proposal to the LOC on the topic, presenter/s, panels, required infrastructure, the target number of participants, and how they will be attracted to attend your session.
- Selection of submissions is by the WCSJ 2025 programme committee and is final.
- Sponsorship includes an appropriate venue at the CSIR ICC, basic audio-visual equipment, refreshments and lunch for attendees.
- Sponsor is required to cover travel and accommodation costs for speakers.

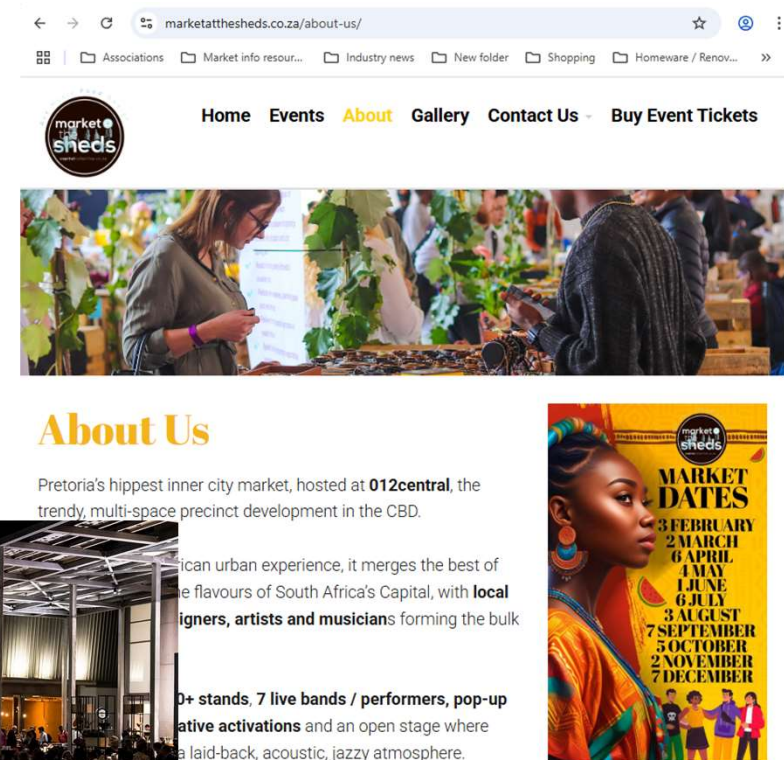
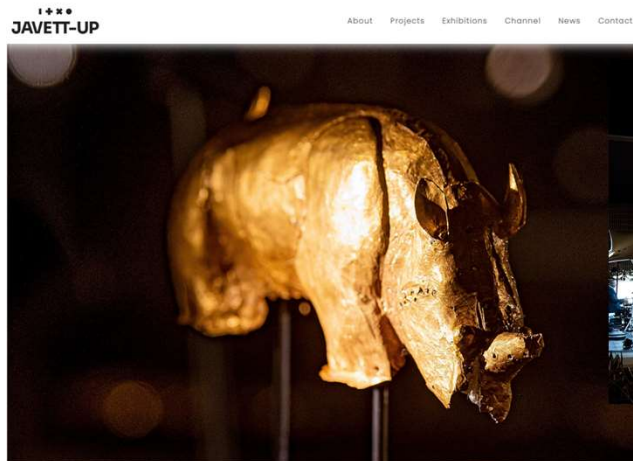
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Evening Social Events

Current proposals:

1. “Market at the Sheds” local food, beverage and entertainment experience
2. Javett Art Museum cocktail with Mapungubwe Gold Collection



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Thank you

Questions & Answers

