SANEDI Collaboration with SAASTA and Relevant Role-players – May 2019

Feedback

Introduction & Perspective

SANEDI has forged synergistic working relationship with the National and local Education Districts, Science & Education Centres, Environmental Non-Profit Organisations (ENPOs) and the media platforms to raise awareness on Science Engineering and Technology (SET) and climate change mitigation methods such as clean energy technologies, renewable energy and energy.

SANEDI Stakeholder Engagement reached out with an intent to partner with the South African Agency for Science and Technology (SAASTA) in its endeavours to raise awareness and build capacity / demystify myths upheld about Science, Technology, Engineering, Maths & Innovation (STEMI) in the poor school communities.

SAASTA is a business unit of the National Research Foundation (NRF) with the mandate to advance public awareness, appreciation and engagement of science, engineering, innovation and technology in South Africa. The NRF is an agency of the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

The emphasis of the SE strategy is on improving the quality and frequency of interactions with stakeholders in order to create a supportive and collaborative environment within which SANEDI can fulfil its mandate and achieve its strategic priorities.

The boundaries of SE are defined by the scope and context of the SANEDI Strategic Plan and its mandate, as defined by legislation and the remit provided by the Department of Energy. N

Consensus was reached that the two entities (SANEDI and SAASTA) should enter into an agreement in order to maximize reach in line with their respective mandates.

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. All science promotion or awareness programmes within the NRF reside under the three key focus areas below:

- Through EDUCATION SAASTA aims to build up the supply of tomorrow’s scientists and innovators.
- Through COMMUNICATION SAASTA celebrates the South African achievements in science and technology and build the public’s appreciation of the benefits of science.
- By growing the AWARENESS of science through exploration, exhibitions and actual experience, SAASTA instils in people an enthusiasm about the wonder and application of the subjects, while encouraging greater public engagement in Science Engineering and Technology (SET) issues.

By taking overall ownership of science engagement initiatives within the NRF and on a countrywide scale, SAASTA is responding to an organisational as well as national imperative as underpinned by the SE strategy that emanate from the broader four strategic goals of the DST.

Both Parties to this Agreement share a commitment to environmental, climate change as well as Energy education and enabling public participation to enhance the awareness of Science Engineering and
Technology (SET) and climate change mitigation methods such as clean energy technologies, renewable energy and energy efficiency in ways that benefit the whole community and future generations.

**Operationalisation of the Memorandum of Understanding**

SANEDI’s Group Stakeholder Engagement Lead, Chaired a meeting attended by SANEDI officials responsible for the respective programmes Stakeholder Engagement activities on 28 January 2018 to:

- Workshop the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and operationalisation thereof regarding the collaboration between SANEDI and SAASTA that was circulated to all SANEDI divisions late in 2017;
- Forge working relations with other organisations in order to have tangible impact regarding service delivery.

The intention is not to re-invent the wheel but to integrate the work that is being done by the State-Owned Entities (SOEs).

The meeting was attended by the following:

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<tr>
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Mr Teslim Yusuf joined meeting later

The following items were added to the agenda

- SANEDI’s Corporate & Communications Strategy
  Mr David Mahuma (DM) confirmed that there is a five year SANEDI Strategy that guides SANEDI’s existence. Mr Mahuma was requested to double check with the Interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and circulate the document if it is still relevant
- It was agreed that Ms Polly Modiko (PM) Group Stakeholder Engagement Lead will check with the General Manager: Communications/Energy Efficiency about the Communications Strategy for circulation to the members.
- The members will be taken through the Communications Strategy if it is still relevant.
- PM provided clarity that the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy is available and was approved by the SANEDI Board. This strategy is different from the Communications Strategy.

Management Buy-in

- A consensus was reached that there is buy-in from Management but there are limited resources.
- DM was requested to raise the issue of SANEDI’s participation at events with ExCo - a need has arisen to have more representation at events and not just the same people/usual suspects all the time.

Memorandum of Understanding

- It was agreed that SANEDI and SAASTA will have equal status to avert overshadowing of one entity over the other.
- A concern was raised that SANEDI has budgetary constraints and may be limited to participate in all the activities undertaken by SAASTA.
- After lengthy discussions, it was agreed that each division will contribute towards the agreement. On the whole, minimal contribution will be needed from each SANEDI division.

INGWAVUMA MINISTERIAL IMBIZO – 13th April 2019

SAASTA on behalf of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) invited SANEDI as its collaborative partner to exhibit at the Ministerial Imbizo in KwaZulu Natal which was hosted by the Minister of Science and Technology Ms Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane, and Minister of DHET, Labour and Small Business Development, Ms Lindiwe Zulu.

Participating Organisations/institutes included the following:
South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI)
SANBI
Agricultural Research council
UniZulu SC
CSIR (Council For Science and Industrial Research)
Arcellor Mital SC
TIA
Bassah Empire SC
BSG community development
SAASTA (South African Agency For Science and Technology Advancement)
DST (Department of Science and Technology)
Anglo American
Christoph Meyer
Isibusiso Esihle SC
Mr Bongani Xakaza from SANEDI during presentation to the learners and community members attending Imbizo.
Bongani Xakaza handed out SANEDI Newsletters discriminately to the participants who attended the Imbizo.

SPACE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OUTREACH AND AWARENESS

On 3rd May 2019, SANEDI participated at the Space Science and Technology Outreach initiative co-hosted by SAASTA & the Department of Science and Technology (DST). The event was held at Delareyville hall where 1500 learners and community members attended / participated.
The aim of the event was to encourage and motivate learners from Grades 8-12 to engage/enrol in the Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics & Innovative (STEMI) subjects and be made aware of space technologies and opportunities.

Mr Bongani Xakaza from SANEDI sharing information on how the biogas works using the booklet for reference
Mr Bongani Xakaza, SANEDI representative sharing invaluable information with the learners pursuing STEMI qualifications.

The following Organisations and Academia participated in Space Science and Technology Outreach and Awareness:

- South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI)
- South African Agency of Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA)
- South African National Space Agency (SANSA)
- UNISA
- CSIR
- SAPS
- University of Witwatersrand (Wits)
- NECSA
- North West University (NWU)
- South African Radio Astronomy Observatory (SARAO)
- National Zoo Gardens (NZG)
- National Nuclear Regulator (NNR)

ZULULAND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FESTIVAL – 13th -18th May 2019
The ZulFest is a program led by the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA) which is mandated to spearhead science awareness in the country. SANEDI has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with University of Zululand (UniZulu) and Witwatersrand University (Wits) on science awareness initiatives amongst others.

Amongst SAASTA’s programmes is the Zululand Science and Technology festival. This program was held at the Unizulu Science Centre in Richards Bay from the 13th - 18th May 2019. In this programme pupils from surrounding schools at primary and high schools visited the science centre and the stalls where they got an opportunity to explore the science centre. This initiative intends to create interest in the science discipline to the pupils and promote science in the country at large.

SANEDI was amongst the stakeholders invited to showcase its offerings at a ZulFest stall.

SANEDI’s Bongani Xakaza and Kubenokuthula Khumalo conducted presentations to the pupils and teachers about SANEDI’s programmes. A great emphasis was placed on the Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) project under Cleaner Fossil Fuels, because the CCS pilot project is envisaged to be deployed in the KZN province. Learners generally showed keen interest as this project will be run in the Zululand Basin in UMkhanyakude District Municipality.

This event created an opportunity to educate the learners about global warming and the mitigation strategies. The programme as a whole was a good platform to educate learners about the role of science in the country and create an interest to the learners as they prepare to pick specific streams.

**The following organisations/institutes participated in the Zululand Science and Technology Festival**

- South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI)
- South African Agency of Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA)
- University of Zululand (UZ)
- SANSA
- Based on Science Guidance Community Development (BSGCD)
- UNIZULU Science Centre
SANEDI representative Kubenokuthula Khumalo discussing renewable energy with the learners
SANEDI representative Kubenokuthula Khumalo having a discussion with the learners about Renewable Energy
SANEDI representatives Bongani Xakaza and Kubenokuthula Khumalo during the question and answer session with the learners

AFRICAN UNITY FOR RENAISSANCE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND AFRICA DAY EXPO

South African National Development Institute (SANEDI) has entered into a memorandum of agreement with SAASTA, stating a collaboration of the two organisations in any public awareness and engagement of STEMI events. In such events SANEDI anticipates to achieve its mandate, promote the acceptance of green energy and energy efficiency by the public at large in the country.

On 24th May 2019 SAASTA, its collaborative partners and Department of Science and Technology (DST), hosted African Unity for Renaissance International Conference and Africa Day Expo. The event was held at Freedom Park, Salvokop, in Pretoria, Gauteng. Learners and the public from the Gauteng province attended the event and were exposed to the activities and offerings of the participating allies.

Below are Organisations that participated at the African Unity for Renaissance International Conference and Africa Day

- SANEDI (South African National Energy Development Institute)
- SAASTA (South African Agency for Science & Technology)
- SANBI (South African National Biodiversity Institute)
- ASSAF (Academy of Science of South Africa)
• ISC (International Science Council)
• SANBio (Southern Africa Network for Biosciences)
• DST (Department of Science & Technology)
• TUT (Tshwane University of Technology)
• Thabo Mbeki Foundation
• Water Research Compression

SANEDI's Welcome Nukeri disseminating invaluable Communication materials