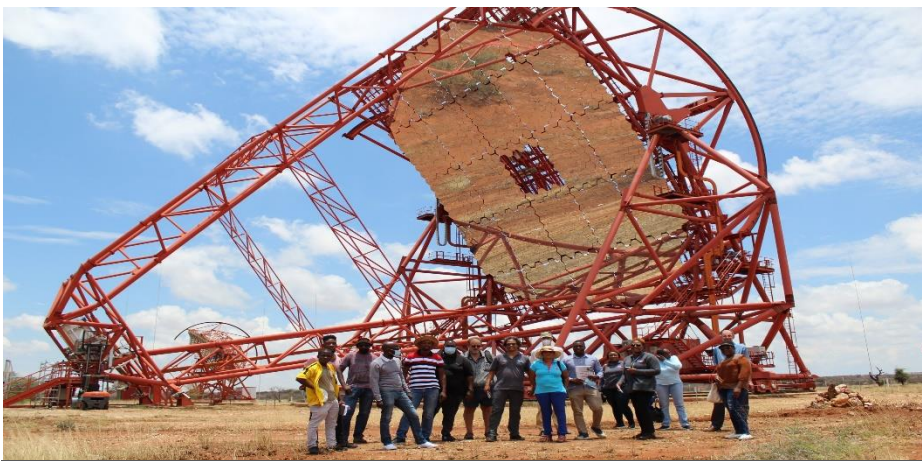


THE NCRST BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS VISIT THE HIGH ENERGY STEREOSCOPIC SYSTEM (H.E.S.S.)



The NCRST Commissioners visit to H.E.S.S

The High Energy Stereoscopic System (H.E.S.S.) is one of the internationally recognised scientific experiments in Namibia. The H.E.S.S. experiment aims at exploring the highest energies in the electromagnetic spectrum in order to promote research in the field of gamma-rays astronomy.

The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology and the University of

Namibia represent Namibia on the H.E.S.S. Steering Committee (SC). As such, the NCRST Commissioners—Chaired by Dr Norton Titus found it prudent to visit the H.E.S.S. experiment, which is located about 100 km South of Windhoek. The Commissioners were accompanied by some NCRST staff members, including the Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Albertina Ngurare.

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A visit to H.E.S.S by the NCRST Commissioners



Strengthening Science, Technology and Innovation Systems for Sustainable Development



Employee Profile:
Dr. Nhlanhla Lupahla

The visit, proceedings and outcome

On Friday, 21 January 2022 at 08h30, the NCRST delegation departed to H.E.S.S. via C26 road south of Windhoek. The delegation received a warm reception from the H.E.S.S. site manager, Mr Toni Hanke, and his technical team. The H.E.S.S. Director, Prof. Stefan Wagner was also present, and he gave a detailed presentation on the history, collaboration, and scientific work carried out at H.E.S.S. After the presentation, the delegation toured the site to have a practical orientation of the infrastructure.

The tour concluded with a formal meeting between H.E.S.S. management, employees and Commissioners. At this meeting, Dr Titus emphasised that Namibia should strive to leverage on science and technology to improve the lives of Namibians and the world at large.

The following are key points from the meeting:

- Increase the visibility of H.E.S.S. and the involvement of the scientific community in Namibia
- NCRST be periodically represented at H.E.S.S. for skills transfer and learn the management, science, planning, engineering, and logistics at the site
- Organise tours for students and learners to visit the H.E.S.S. telescopes

For opportunities on the H.E.S.S. experiment, visit our previous newsletter or contact the National Commission on Research, Science and Technology (NCRST) on 061 431 7000.

Alternatively, visit: <https://www.mpi-hd.mpg.de/hfm/HESS/>





Stakeholders consultation workshop held in Windhoek recently

Strengthening Science Technology and Innovation Systems for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Namibia

The Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers (hereinafter, referred to as the “Recommendation on Science” or RSSR) was adopted by 195 states (Namibia included) on 13 November 2017 meeting at the General Conference of UNESCO at its 39th session (39 C/Resolution 85). This Recommendation to UNESCO Member States provides the internationally agreed model set of framework policies, regulations and institutional practices for national Science Technology and Innovation (STI) systems in all member countries.

In order to deliver on the aspirations of the RSSR, the Swedish Development Agency (SIDA) funded the project “Strengthening Science Technology and Innovation Systems for Sustainable Development in Africa”. The project has started with six pilot countries: Namibia, Ghana, Sierra Leone, Zimbabwe, Republic of Congo, and Tanzania.

The National Commission on Research, Science and Technology as the implementing Agency assigned by the line Ministry, implemented phase 1 of the project in 2021, while phase 2 will be implemented in 2022.

A consultation group was established, the group constitutes of key Namibian STI experts from Namibia Statistics Agency (NSA), University of Namibia (UNAM), National Planning Commission (NPC), Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST), Namibia Training Authority (NTA), International University of Management (IUM), Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture (MEAC) and the Ministry of Higher Education, Technology, and Innovation (MHETI).

Moreover, data collection and institutional assessment and benchmarking from stakeholders nationwide took place when COVID-19 restrictions were relaxed, allowing for physical engagements. The main purpose was to evaluate SDGs' contributions and linkages in the National Systems of Innovation (NSI) and how such networks could be strengthened towards delivering the National STI policy goals. The results will be availed in 2022 before the project comes to an end.

Other activities lined up during 2022 on the project include.

- Targeted national advocacy,
- Reporting on the implementation of RSSR
- Capacity building in policy implementation, monitoring and reviews.
- Report on Scientific Freedom.



UNESCO SIDA NCRST Project – Stakeholder’s consultation workshop held at UNAM – Henties Bay

Employee Profile



Full Name: Lovisa H Immanuel

Job Title: General Manager - Innovation and Technology Development

Brief description of your job responsibilities/duties:

The primary purpose of the General Manager position is to provide strategic leadership towards research and development programmes and the national facilities function.

The national facilities functions are to provide stakeholders access to research and innovation facilities.

Additionally, the position supports the implementation of national research and innovation programmes as well as administer the Biosafety Act.

Qualification (s):

- Bachelor of Science: Food Science and Technology, University of Namibia
- Diploma in Management Studies, Management College of Southern Africa
- Master of Science: Food Science and Nutrition, Michigan State University
- Master of Business Administration, Australian Institute of Business
- Senior Management Development Programme, Stellenbosch University

How long have you been employed at NCRST?

- Over 9 years

What are your interests?

- My interest is in supporting early-stage start-ups, inclusive of innovation and co-creation, research, and product development

Family status (Married, single, children, siblings etc):

- I Married and I have a daughter and a son.
- I have five siblings.

Employee Profile



Full Name: Dr. Nhlanhla Lupahla

Job Title: General Manager – Research, Science, Technology, and Innovation, Coordination and Support

Brief description of your job responsibilities/duties:

- Assist and advise the CEO and senior management on the most appropriate research science and technology coordination and support practices to achieve the required strategy.
- Initiate and develop feasibility studies on STI developments. Evaluate the feasibility study information and advises colleagues and the CEO accordingly.
- Provide input into the organisation's annual business plan.
- Provide advice on all relevant research science and technology coordination and support function related risks/opportunities and advise the CEO on best action to be taken.

Qualification (s):

- Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics, Science and Technology (UNISA)
- Master of Science in Mathematics, Science and Technology (UNISA)
- BED Hons in Mathematics Education (Enrique Jose Varona Higher Pedagogical Institute, Cuba)

How long have you been employed at NCRST?

1 month

What are your interests?

- Travelling and mountaineering
- Coaching/playing basketball
- Watching TV and reading novels on underground crime (Favourite writer, Mario Puzzo)
- Reading Maths and Science Journals

Family status (Married, single, children, siblings etc):

- Married with 4 daughters and 4 siblings

Any other information you wish to share with your colleagues?

- I am a strong advocate of lean process improvement, teamwork and healthy organisational communication.