

PROGRAMME

SOCIAL ASPECTS OF ICT AND AI IN SOUTH AFRICA: TOWARDS A RESEARCH BUSINESS PLAN

3 March 2023, Catalyst Hotel, Sandton
09.30 – 16.00

Microsoft Teams meeting - Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

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Meeting ID: 360 211 772 924

Passcode: sjIH9W

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- 09.00 - 09.30: Arrival, registration, and tea
- 09.30 – 09.45: Welcome Remarks and Purpose
Mr Llanley Simpson (Director: Socio-Economic Partnerships, DSI)
- 09.45 – 10.00: The importance of social research in navigating the risks and opportunities in the transition to the digital society
Prof. Narnia Bohler-Muller (Divisional Executive: HSRC Developmental, Capable and Ethical State (DCES) research division)
- 10.00 – 11.00: The Foundational Digital Capabilities Research (FDCR) Programme: Overview of CSIR domains
Dr Lulama Wakaba (Executive Manager for the Next-Gen Enterprises and Institutions Cluster, CSIR) on behalf of the CSIR domain leaders
Dr Sagren Moodley (Director: Basic Sciences, DSI) on quantum computing
- 11.00 – 11.20: **Tea Break**
- 11.20 – 12.30: Strategic presentations on the state of social research on the digital society
- **Dr. Vijay Reddy**, Distinguished Research Specialist, HSRC IED division, and Principal Lead on DSI Public Relationship with Science (SAPRS) Survey.
 - **Dr Rachel Adams**, Research ICT Africa, Project Lead of the African Observatory on Responsible AI (AI4D) and Principal Investigator of the Global Index on Responsible AI.
 - **Dr. Trevor Ngwane**, Centre for Sociological Research and Practice Staff and co-author (with Prof. Malehoko Tshoaedi, UJ) of *The Fourth Industrial Revolution: A Sociological Critique* (Jacana, 2021).
 - **Prof. Michael Gastrow**, Director: HSRC Impact Centre Science in Society unit, and Professor of Practice: DST/NRF/Newton Fund Trilateral Research Chair in Transformative Innovation, the 4th Industrial Revolution and Sustainable Development (UJ).
- 12.30 – 13.00: General discussion on priority themes and research gaps

13.00 – 14.00: **Lunch**

HSRC Board: Dr Reginald Cassius Lubisi (Chairperson), Dr Kgomotso William Kasonkola, Dr Deenadayalen Konar, Prof. Ibbo Day Joseph Mandaza, Ms Shameme Manjoo, Dr Alex Mohubetswane Mashilo, Prof. Zerish Zethu Nkosi, Adv Faith Dikeledi Pansy Tlakula, Prof. Fiona Tregenna, Prof. Sarah Mosoetsa (CEO)

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14:00 – 14:30: Capturing the dimensions of the social impact of the digital society in South Africa
(Brief inputs to stimulate follow-up discussion)

- **Public awareness, beliefs and behavioural norms** - Dr. Ben Roberts, HSRC DCES;
Coordinator: South African Social Attitudes Survey (SASAS) series
- **Work and unemployment** - Dr. Bongwiwe Mncwango and Dr Adam Cooper, HSRC IED
- **Socio-cultural (bias, digital slavery, etc)** - Dr Alude Mahali, HSRC IED
- **Education and skills development** - Dr Andrea Juan, HSRC IED

14:30 – 15:45: Group discussion on priority themes and research gaps (session 2) - towards a research business plan

15.45 – 15.55: Closure - **Mr Llanley Simpson** (Director: Socio-Economic Partnerships, DSI)

15.55 – 16.00: Vote of thanks - **Prof. Narnia Bohler-Muller** (Divisional Executive: HSRC)

