

**20<sup>th</sup> SAASTEC Conference**

**26 - 29<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

**Vuwani Science  
Resource Centre**

**University of Venda  
Thohoyandou ~ Limpopo**

In celebration of Nelson Mandela's Centenary Year  
the theme for the conference is

**'Making  
Madiba  
Proud....'**



**1st Announcement & Call for Papers**

## It is with great pleasure that Vuwani Science Resource Centre invites you to attend the 20<sup>th</sup> SAASTEC Conference.

In celebration of 2018 being Nelson Mandela's Centenary Year, the theme for the conference is:

**“Making Madiba Proud...”**

This theme allows us to make a critical assessment of the achievements of our science centres in the past, to identify our strengths and weaknesses as well as our opportunities and threats in the present, and to develop our institutions in such a way that they make an even bigger impact in the future, as part of the Mandela legacy.

### Call for Papers, Poster Presentations and Exhibitions

Delegates are invited to submit proposals for oral and/or poster presentations. Your presentation(s) should focus on the theme above. Posters are again encouraged this year. There will be dedicated poster sessions included in the programme with prizes for the most innovative posters. Deadline for the submission of proposals is 30 August 2018.

Commercial displays are also welcome. Please see the SAASTEC web site for more details.

### Venue, Date and Registration Fees

Venue: Vuwani Science Resource Centre, University of Venda, Thohoyandou, Limpopo

Date: Monday 26 - Thursday 29 November 2018

Registration: Monday afternoon ~ 26 November 2018

Cost: SAASTEC Members R1800.00 / NON-SAASTEC Members R2500.00

Accompanying persons are welcome to attend the social functions at an additional cost. Please indicate your interest on the registration form. Final cost will be provided at a later stage.

### Conference Objectives

#### Papers & posters are invited in line with the following objectives:

- To share experiences on the themes of the conference and catalyse future exchange of knowledge among colleagues in the SADC countries and the world networks.
- To focus on the impact of science and technology centres in the regions they serve.
- To stimulate the development of science and technology centres and to present models that could enhance education and change in Southern Africa.
- To interact with the relevant regional and national government officials, partners from the private sector, academics and students from HEI's (Higher Education Institutions, e.g. universities), principals, teachers, interested stakeholders and members of the community.

## Who Should Attend?

Professionals from science and technology centres, national research facilities, innovation support centres, museums, planetariums, aquariums and art galleries as well as researchers, educators, teachers, government officials, administrators and policy makers involved with the public understanding of science, mathematics and technology (PUSET), curriculum developers and subject advisors.

Sponsors, industry partners, stakeholders and other interested members of the community are also welcome.

## Accommodation & Transport

Please consult the SAASTEC [website](#) for conference accommodation. Due to the distance from the airport delegates will be expected to provide their OWN transport to the conference.

Transport will be provided daily from **designated accommodation** to the conference and functions.

## Registration and Payment of Registration Fees

The registration form is available on the website.(or see link below).

All payments should be made into the SAASTEC account and the deposit slip should be emailed to the SAASTEC secretary together with your details. Participants from South Africa should deposit registration fees into the Standard Bank Account, while delegates from all other countries can do a wire swift from any bank (SWIFT code provided). **Cash or cheque's will not be accepted.**

**Account name:** Southern African Association of Science & Technology Centres

**Bank:** Standard Bank

**Current Account:** 000 092 851

**Branch Code:** 00 02 05

**Swift Code:** SBZAZAJJ

## Registration Form



[SAASTEC web site](#) / [Yuwani Science Resource Centre](#)

**Email : SAASTEC Secretary** - [secretary@saastec.co.za](mailto:secretary@saastec.co.za)

**Email : Disampras Mathebe** - [sampie.mathebe@univen.ac.za](mailto:sampie.mathebe@univen.ac.za)

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[Yuwani SRC Facebook](#)



## Vuwani Science Resource Centre

In tandem with the mission of the University of Venda, we aim to reach out to the rural people and to contribute significantly to the development of the rural community through specific services at the Vuwani Science Resource Centre. The centre is strategically located in a rural area in the Limpopo Province and was built from the funds donated by Zenex Foundation. The main aim was to bring Science, Mathematics and Technology education closer to the rural community. The centre was officially opened in May 2000 as a science resource centre by Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa. In 2004 the National Department of Science and Technology identified Vuwani Science Resource Centre as a potential site to develop as a rural science centre and approved a grant of R1, 5 million to build an additional building for exhibits and other related activities. This building was officially opened by the then Minister of Science and Technology, Mr. M. Mangena in 2006.

The centre has four laboratories, one for each of the following disciplines: physics, chemistry, biology and computer literacy. Learners from the schools in the region use these facilities to acquire hands-on experience. When professional expertise is required, the staff members from the university extend their services. Since its inception, the centre is committed to the empowerment of rural communities in the field of science and technology and attempts to address the needs of the pupils from the surrounding secondary schools.

- Basic computer training
- Computer literacy programme
- School visits to the centre
- Laboratory Instruction
- Content Teaching/Revision
- Career Guidance
- Visits to School (Mobile Laboratory)
- Viewing of educational video
- Saturday classes
- Winter school and spring school
- Mathematics and science teachers upgrading programme
- Health education programme
- Legal aid clinic
- Use of venues
- Secretarial services (for the community)
- National Science Week(NSW)
- Other activities

GPS Coordinates: Latitude -22,9757 / Longitude 30,4444 Thohoyandou, Limpopo, 0950

