

PROGRAMME

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT WORKSHOP ON DEVELOPING AND PROTECTING DARK-SKIES

Programme Director: Mr Takalani Nemaungani

- 08:30 Registration
- 09:00 Opening and welcome remarks by the Karoo Hoogland Mayor
- 09:20 Overview of astronomy and why it matters by the South African Astronomical Observatory
- 09:40 Astronomy Management Authority perspective
- 10:00 South Africa's Astro-Tourism Strategy by the Department of Tourism
- 10:20 The dark sky concept: What it means and why it matters by DarkSky International
- 10:40 The requirements and benefits of dark sky certification by DarkSky International

11:00 Refreshment break

- 11:30 Success stories
 - Lapalala Wilderness Reserve by Ms Bronwyn Maree
 - Kgalagadi Transfrontier Parks Destinations by Ms Eleanor Muller
- 11:50 Heritage route maps by Ms Lauren Buchanan
- 12:10 Human capacity development and outreach initiatives by the Department of Science, Technology and Innovation
- 12:30 Community dialogue on local values, perceptions, and aspirations regarding night-sky protection by the Office of Astronomy for Development
- 12:45 Indigenous astronomy: Our connection to the night sky by North West University

13:00 Lunch

- 14:00 Break-away discussions: Local action ideas
- 14:45 Plenary feedback and reflections led by the Programme Director and group moderators
- 15:00 Co-development of a practical, community-driven dark sky plan
- 15:45 Closing remarks by the Programme Director
- 16:00 Formal programme ends
- 18:00 Stargazing at the SAAO



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& innovation**

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