





## **PROGRAMME**

National University of Lesotho International Science and Technology Innovation Conference and Expo (NULISTICE)

#### **FEATURING**

2<sup>nd</sup> Africa-EU Renewable Energy Research & Innovation Symposium (RERIS)

23 – 26 January 2018, Manthabiseng National Convention Center, Maseru, Lesotho





























## Welcome

Dear Delegate,

It is a great pleasure and honour to welcome you to this auspicious occasion of the NUL International Science, Technology and Innovation Conference and Expo (NULISTICE) 2018, featuring the second edition of the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Research & Innovation Symposium (RERIS) 2018.

Innovative ideas through research and technology have emerged over the past two decades in a multidisciplinary approach to solve the problems of society and create jobs in the global economic agenda across all sectors. Sustainable use of resources with responsible entrepreneurship action represents a significant advance in understanding how innovation and business practices can help improve living standards of the society. Such a result is more predictable in its positive sense that the business environment between innovator, researcher and entrepreneur has to be supported by flexible policies to

encourage all stakeholders to hold them accountable to reasonable standards and to be more creative for societal benefit

This joint conference offers an opportunity to turn ideas into action. It is our collective duty to promote responsible business practices by mobilising resources and assisting entrepreneurship actions in each sector to ensure self-employment and job creation amongst the youth to develop our nation and continents. One of the key messages to be conveyed here is that responsibility cannot be outsourced. We have to develop flexible policies that would help in promoting ideas and give confidence and support to those who want to build the future. Entering into business means taking responsibility to adopt sustainable business practices that take into account both the bottom line and the impact of their activities on society. Academia, governments and civil society organisations have the responsibility to improve and provide a forum for dialogue, peer learning, standard setting, analysis, and best policy recommendations to promote the innovative practices in Lesotho, the African continent, and the world in general.

We hope that such a joint international conference and expo on science, technology and innovation will allow us to take joint actions to assist the youth in our respective countries to bring positive changes in societal development and protect the environment. We wish you an enjoyable stay in the Mountain Kingdom of Lesotho!

Sincerely,

Prof. Manthoto H. Lephoto

Muhaphulo

NUL PVC and Chairperson of the NULISTICE 2018



Mason there

Niklas Hayek

Project Manager, Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP) and RERIS organiser





## Introduction

# NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF LESOTHO INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION CONFERENCE AND EXPO (NULISTICE) 2018

In the recent global economic meltdown of 2008, Lesotho as a small nation experienced a serious decline in the job market for graduates. This posed a challenge to the National University of Lesotho to respond to this 'national crisis' as declared by His Majesty King Letsie III, the Head of State, who is also the Chancellor of the University. Following this, the University shifted its research focus from purely basic only, to applied, innovative and impactful research that addresses the economic challenges of society.

It is in this pursuit that the University held two Science and Technology Research and Innovation Expos in 2015 and 2016 showcasing 60, and 180 projects, respectively, that had potential for driving entrepreneurship to the community and hence, stimulating economic growth for thousands of graduates who would otherwise be lost into poverty. These two expos also exposed the need to infuse international views and expertise; and thus, the idea of hosting an international conference originated.

This 2018 NUL International Science, Technology and Innovation Conference & Expo is meant to provide an opportunity to turn ideas into action. It is expected that the attending scholars from all over the world will share their basic research findings, lessons in university-industry cooperation, successes and failures in commercialisation and policy recommendations in any of the areas mentioned above.

#### **NULSITICE 2018 Thematic Areas:**

- Biotechnology and food safety
- Environment and natural resource management
- Agriculture and climate change
- Entrepreneurship and information technology
- Materials science and nanotechnology

## AFRICA-EU RENEWABLE ENERGY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION SYMPOSIUM (RERIS) 2018

With more than 600 million Africans living without access to electricity and over 730 million relying on dangerous, inefficient forms of cooking, fast but sustainable development of African renewable energy markets is needed. Applied research and innovative business roll-outs play a key role in boosting this development, helping to secure energy supply in both rural and urban areas, and to increase generation capacities and energy system resilience.

In view of the above, the Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP) organises the second Africa-EU Symposium on Renewable Energy Research and Innovation (RERIS 2018) on occasion of NUL STICE 2018

Aiming to facilitate Africa-EU research collaboration, private and public sector participation in research, business innovation and university spin-offs, the symposium will address the following thematic areas:

- Power generation, distribution and transmission
- Decentralised and household energy solutions
- Energy socioeconomics
- Promotion of energy research, innovation, education and entrepreneurship

Selected full papers of oral presentations in RERIS thematic sessions will be published in "Springer Proceedings in Energy".



## **Conference Committees**

#### **CONFERENCE CHAIR**

Prof. Manthoto H. Lephoto, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, National University of Lesotho

#### ORGANISING COMMITTEE

Dr Thimothy Thamae, National University of Lesotho / NULSTICE lead organiser

Mr Niklas Hayek, Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation Programme (RECP) / RERIS lead organiser

Dr Moeketsi Mpholo, National University of Lesotho

Prof. Himanshu Narayan, National University of Lesotho

Mrs Maleshoane Ramoholi, National University of Lesotho

Dr Pulane Nkhabutlane, National University of Lesotho

Dr Mosotho George, National University of Lesotho

Mr Rets'elisitsoe Thamae, National University of Lesotho

Dr Puleng Ranthimo, National University of Lesotho

Mr Kebitsamang Mothibe, National University of Lesotho

Dr Sissay Mekbib, National University of Lesotho

#### SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE NULISTICE

Prof. Himanshu Narayan, National University of Lesotho

Dr Thimothy Thamae, National University of Lesotho

Dr Mosotho George, National University of Lesotho

Dr Pulane Nkhabutlane, National University of Lesotho

Dr Puleng Rathimo, National University of Lesotho

Dr Sissay Mekbib, National University of Lesotho

Mr Joseph Thabana, National University of Lesotho

Mr Rets'elisitsoe Thamae, National University of Lesotho

Mrs Maleshoane Ramoholi, National University of Lesotho

Mr Kebitsamamng Mothibe, National University of Lesotho

Dr Maluke Letete, National University of Lesotho

Dr Motlalepula Nete, Senior Lecturer, University Of Freestate, Bloenfontein, South Africa

Prof. Nelson Torto, African Academy Of Sciences, Nairobi, Kenya

Prof. Hailemichael Alemu, National University Lesotho

Prof. Krish Bharuth-Ram, Prof. Emirates, University Of Kwazulu Natal, Durban, South Africa



#### **SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE RERIS**

Dr Moeketsi Mpholo, Energy Research Centre, National University of Lesotho (RERIS chair)

Prof. Benmansour Abdelhalim, Université Aboubekr Belkaid de Tlemcen, Algeria

Prof. Venkata Ramayya Ancha, Jimma University, Ethiopia

Dr Ed Brown, Loughborough University, United Kingdom

Prof. Thameur Chaibi, National Research Institute for Rural Engineering, Water and Forestry, Tunisia

Prof. Seladji Chakib, Université Aboubekr Belkaid de Tlemcen, Algeria

Dr Zivaye Chiguvare, Namibia University of Science and Technology

Dr Jon Cloke, Loughborough University, United Kingdom

Prof. Emanuela Colombo, Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Prof. Abdellah Khellaf, Centre de Développement des Energies Renouvelables, Algeria

Prof. Izael Pereira Da Silva, Strathmore University, Kenya

Prof. Daniel Egbe, Johannes Kepler University Linz, Austria

Prof. Thomas Hamacher, Technische Universität München, Germany

Dr Jarkko Levänen, Aalto University School of Business, Finland

Prof. Angeles López Agüera, UNESCO-CLRLA / Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Spain

Prof. Martin Meyer-Renschhausen, Hochschule Darmstadt, Germany

Prof. Joseph Mutale, University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Prof. Wikus van Niekerk, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

Prof. Armando C. Oliveira, University of Porto, Portugal

Prof. Marco Rupprich, MCI - The Entrepreneurial School®, Austria

Prof. Wim Sinke, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Prof. Abdelilah Slaoui, University of Strasbourg, France

Prof. Anthony Staak, Cape Peninsula University of Technology (CPUT), South Africa

Dr Dirk Steuerwald, Swiss Academy for Development, Switzerland

Dr Sandor Szabo, European Commission Joint Research Centre, Italy

Dr Leboli Zak Thamae, Energy Research Centre, National University of Lesotho

Dr Daniel Yamegueu, International Institute for Water and Environmental Engineering (2iE), Burkina Faso

Prof. Abdellatif Zerga, Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (including Climate

Change) (PAUWES), Algeria

## **Conference Programme**



## Tuesday, 23 January 2018

#### 8.00 **SHUTTLE FROM HOTELS, REGISTRATION**

#### 9.00 **OPENING SESSION**

**ROOM: MACHACHE** 

Chair: Prof. Ngosa Mahao, Vice Chancellor, National University of Lesotho (NUL)

Introduction: Honourable Minister of Science & Technology, Mr Joang Molapo

**Opening Remarks:** The Right Honourable Prime Minister, Dr Thomas Motsoahae Thabane

Keynote: His Majesty, King Letsie III of Lesotho, Chancellor of the National University of Lesotho

#### **TEA BREAK AND GROUP PICTURE** 09.45

#### 10.15 **CONFERENCE PROGRAMM**

**ROOM: MACHACHE** 

Mr Markus Theobald, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to Lesotho tbc

Dr Thimothy Thamae, Senior Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Technology and Coordinator NUL Innovations Committee

Mr Niklas Hayek, Project Manager, Africa-EU Renewable Energy Cooperation

#### 10.30 PLENARY SESSION: "TRANSLATE RESEARCH INTO PRACTICE!" (PLENARY) ROOM: MACHACHE

#### Keynote:

Prof. Wikus van Niekerk, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

#### Panel:

17:30

**SHUTTLE TO HOTELS** 

Ms Mantopi Lebofa, Director, Technologies for Economic Development (TED), Lesotho

Ms Noara Kebir, Managing Director, Microenergy Systems, Germany

Dr Pulane Nkhabutlane, Lecturer, Department of Agricultural Economics and Extension-Consumer Science,

Head SanBio-Fisa Incubation Unit, National University of Lesotho

Mr Kuda Ndhlukula, Executive Director, the SADC Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (SACREEE), Namibia

Prof. Wikus van Niekerk, Dean, Faculty of Engineering, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

**Chair:** Dr Albert Butare, Former Minister of State in charge of Energy, Communication and Water in the Republic of Rwanda

# 12:30 LUNCH 14:00 THEMATIC SESSIONS I See Page 10-31 See Page 10-31 16:00 POSTER SESSION ROOM: FOYER

## Thematic sessions I (RERIS)



### Tuesday, 23 January 2018 14:00–16:00



#### **RERIS.I.1: ENERGY SOCIOECOMOMICS I**

Keynote: Economic Viability and Social Impact of Renew-

Chair: Dr Ben Campbell, Durham University, United

#### Presentations:

tion - Dr Simone Tagliapietra, Fondazione Eni Enrico Mat-

A Thermo-Economic Model for Objective Solar Collector



#### RERIS.I.2: DECENTRALISED RENEWABLE AND HOUSEHOLD ENERGY SOLUTIONS I

**Keynote:** Simulation and Optimisation of Renewable

Chair: Prof. Marco Rupprich, MCI - The Entrepreneurial

#### Presentations:

Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sci-



#### ROOM: QILOANE

## RERIS.I.3: POWER GENERATION, DISTRIBUTION AND TRANSMISSION

**Keynote:** Wide scale Deployment & Integration of solar PV into Electricity Grids: Technical and Economic Implications for Utilities – Prof. Joseph Mutale, University of Manchester, United Kingdom

**Chair:** Prof. Abdellatif Zerga, Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (including Climate Change) (PAUWES), Algeria

#### Presentations:

Prospects for Electricity Generation from Wind Potential of Zamala in Cameroon – Mr Myrin Ymele, University of Ngaoundere, Cameroon

Printing Powder-based Photovoltaic Modules: An Appropriate Technology to make African Countries Energy-self-sufficient — Prof. Dieter Meissner, Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia

Feasibility Study of a Linear Fresnel Solar Thermal Power Plant in Algeria — Dr Hani Beltagy, University of Blida, Algeria

## **Thematic sessions I (NULISTICE)**



## Tuesday, 23 January 2018 14:00-16:00



**ROOM: MACHACHE** 



**ROOM: MACHACHE 1** 

#### **NULISTICE KEYNOTE 1**

#### **NULISTICE.I.1: ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND** INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Chair:** Dr Pulane Nkhabutlane, Department of Agricultural

#### Presentations:

Mathematical Assessment of Global Solar Radiation in



#### **ROOM: MACHACHE 2**

## SESSION N.I.2: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**Chair:** Dr Puleng Matebesi, Department of Animal Science, National University of Lesotho

#### Presentations:

Modelling Drought Recurrence Intervals from Theoretical Probability Distribution and SPI: Semonkong, Lesotho — Mi Bernard Moeketsi Hlalele, University of the Free State, Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa (DiMTEC), South Africa

Co-determination of Heavy Metals, Lead, Cadmium, Mer cury and Zinc In Water Samples by Anodic Stripping on Bismuth-Modified Electrodes – Prof Mantoa Sekota, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, National University of Lesotho

Bioenergy for Africa - the Quest for Energy Independence and Food Security, Dr Sissay Mekbib, Department of Biology and Biotechnology, National University of Lesotho

Mineral Production & Processing and Associated Environmental Issues in Sub-Saharan Africa – Dr Motlalepula Nete, Department of Chemistry, University of the Free State, South Africa



#### ROOM: MOKOROTLO

## SESSION N.I.3: MATERIALS SCIENCE & NANOTECHNOLOGY

**Chair:** Prof. Himanshu Narayan, Head, Department of Physics and Electronics, National University of Lesotho

#### **Presentations:**

Desulphurization of Diesel Fuels using Metal Oxide Loaded Activated Charcoal and Alumina – Mr Liberty Mguni, Material and Process Synthesis (MaPS), Florida campus, University of South Africa

Optical and Electrical Characterisation of Ni-doped CdS Thin Films Prepared by Chemical Bath Deposition – Dr Sheilah Bisach, Department of Physics, University of Nairobi, Kenya

Synthesis and Characterization of Copper Oxide Nanoparticles and their Application as Electrode Modifiers — Prof. Hailemicheal Alemu, Department of Chemistry & Chemical Technology, National University of Lesotho

Assessing the Economic Viability and Practical Application of Organic Photovoltaics in Africa - Ms Nwadiaru Ogechi Vivian, Department of Energy Engineering, Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Science (Including Climate Change), Algeria

## **Conference Programme**



## Wednesday, 24 January 2018

8.00 **SHUTTLE FROM HOTELS** 

#### 9.00 **EU-AFRICA JOINT PROGRAMMES FOR RESEARCH & INNOVATION**

**ROOM: MACHACHE** 

Dr Mahama Ouedraogo, The African Union Commission

Chair: Ms Eva Kagiri, Finnish University Partnership for International Development (UniPID)

10.00 **TEA BREAK** 

**THEMATIC SESSIONS II** 10:30

See Page 16-19

| 12:30 | LUNCH                 |  |
|-------|-----------------------|--|
|       |                       |  |
| 14.00 | THEMATIC SESSIONS III |  |
|       | See Page 20 – 23      |  |
|       |                       |  |
| 16.00 | POSTER SESSION        |  |
|       |                       |  |
| 17:30 | SHUTTLE TO HOTELS     |  |
|       |                       |  |

## Thematic sessions II (RERIS)



### Wednesday, 24 January 2018 10:30-12:30



#### **RERIS.II.1: ENERGY SOCIOECOMOMICS II**

Keynote: Why we need a Social Sciences Agenda in

Chair: Prof. Thameur Chaibi, National Research Institute

#### **Presentations:**

ann Obeng-Darko, University of Eastern Finland



#### RERIS.II.2: DECENTRALISED RENEWABLE AND HOUSEHOLD ENERGY SOLUTIONS II

**Keynote:** Development of Decentralised Rural Household

Chair: Prof. Venkata Ramayya Ancha, Jimma University,

#### **Presentations:**



#### ROOM: QILOANE

## RERIS.II.3: ENERGY RESEARCH, INNOVATION, EDUCATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**Keynote:** A Pan-African Research Agenda on Water, Energy and Climate Change – Prof. Abdellatif Zerga and Di Erick Tambo, Pan African University Institute of Water and Energy Sciences (including Climate Change) (PAUWES), Algeria

**Chair:** Prof. Joseph Mutale, University of Manchester, United Kingdom

#### **Presentations:**

Entrepreneurship as a Leverage for Innovative Energy Technologies in Africa: an Investigation of the Entrepreneurial Framework in Zimbabwe — Ms Hajer Ben Charrada Technical University of Munich, Germany

Promotion of Energy Research, Innovation and Entrepreneurship by Bilateral and International Projects between Tunisian Research Center and Private/Public European Institutions — Mr Mohamed Barbouche, Research and Technologies Center of Energy (CRTEn), Tunisia

The Status of Large-Scale Solar Thermal Systems for Industrial Applications in South Africa and the Promotion of Solar Thermal Research at CRSES Stellenbosch University

— Mr Angelo Buckley, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

## **Thematic sessions II (NULISTICE)**



Wednesday, 24 January 2018 10:30-12:30



**ROOM: MACHACHE** 



**ROOM: MACHACHE** 

#### **NULISTICE KEYNOTE 2**

#### **NULISTICE.II.1: AGRICULTURE AND CLIMATE** CHANGE

Chair: Dr Molapo Setsumi, Department of Animal Sci-

#### Presentations:



#### **ROOM: MACHACHE 2**

## NULISTICE.II.2: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**Chair:** Mr Rets'elisitsoe Thamae, Department of Economics, National University of Lesotho

#### **Presentations:**

Optimisation of the Photovoltaic Off-Grid System for the Production of Electricity at Nkoteng in Yaoundé – Dr Aloyem Kaze Tchinda, Department of Electrical and Power Engineering, University of Bamenda, Cameroon

Public-private Partnership Investment to enhance Sustainable Renewable Energies in Rwanda — Mr Kazungu Jules Regional Research Centre for Integrated Development (RCID), Rwanda

Determinants of Livelihood Uutcome Differentials among Urban Youth in Nairobi, Kenya — Dr Christine Njuguna, Kenyatta University, Nairobi, Kenya

A Review of Some Best Practices in the Energy Sector with Policy Options for Uganda - Prof Albert Rugumayo, Ndejje University, Uganda



#### ROOM: MOKOROTLO

## NULISTICE.II.3: BIOTECHNOLOGY AND FOOD SAFETY

**Chair:** Dr Sissay Bekele Mekbib, Department of Biology and Biotechnology, National University of Lesotho

#### **Presentations:**

Physicochemical and Microbiological Quality Assessment of different Brands of Bottled Water, Maseru, Lesotho — Mr Molefe Khothalang, Department of Biology and Biotechnology, National University of Lesotho

Deploying novel forms of Nisin to control Listeria Monocytogenes in the Food Industry – Mr Lekatsa Teboho, Department of Nutrition, Faculty of Health Sciences, National University of Lesotho

Screening and Extraction of Essential Oils from Different Indigenous Non-food Plants for Detergent Production, Mr Thabiso Letseka, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, National University of Lesotho

Lesotho Medicinal Plants of the Asteraceae Family:
A Review of the Ethnobotany, Chemistry and Conservation
Status - Mr Mohale Mabaleha, Department of Chemistry,
Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences, University
of the Free State, South Africa

## Thematic sessions III (RERIS)



## :::: Wednesday, 24 January 2018 14:00 – 16:00



#### RERIS.III.3: ENERGY SOCIOECOMOMICS III

Keynote: Lessons from Kenya about what's holding back

Chair: Dr Albert Butare, Former Minister of State in

#### Presentations:



#### RERIS.III.2: DECENTRALISEDRRENEWABLE AND HOUSEHOLD ENERGY SOLUTIONS III

Keynote: Private Sector Involvement in Off-Grid Electrification - Mr Balthasar Klimbie, key expert of the SEforALL **EU Technical Assistance Facility** 

Chair: Prof. Sampson Mamphweli, Stellenbosch Univer-

#### Presentations:

national Institute for water and environment engineering,

Least-Cost Modelling of Decentralised Energy-Water-Food



#### ROOM: QILOANE

## RERIS.III.3: ENERGY RESOURCE MAPPING AND PLANNING

**Keynote:** Rural Household Electrification in Lesotho – Dr Moeketsi Mpholo, Energy Research Centre (ERC), National University of Lesotho

**Chair:** Prof. Abdellah Khellaf, Centre de Développement des Energies Renouvelables, Algeria

#### **Presentations:**

An Application of the Multilayer Perceptron: Estimation of Global Solar Radiation and the Establishment of Solar Radiation Maps of Togo — Dr Komi Apélété Amou, University of Lomé, Togo

Remote Sensing Techniques for Village Identification: Improved Electrification Planning for Zambia – Mr Alin Radu, Reiner Lemoine Institute, Germany

Analysis of Solar Radiation Models and three-dimensional Modelling of Irradiance — Dr Al-Mas Sendegeya, Namibia University of Science and Technology, Namibia

## Thematic sessions III (NULISTICE)



## **Wednesday, 24 January 2018** 14:00–16:00



**ROOM: MACHACHE** 



**ROOM: MACHACHE 1** 

#### **NULISTICE KEYNOTES 3**

#### **NULISTICE.III.1: ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND INFOR-**MATION TECHNOLOGY

Chair: Dr Thimothy Thamae, Department of Chemistry and

#### Presentations:



#### **ROOM: MACHACHE 2**

## NULISTICE.III.2: ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

**Chair:** Dr Mosotho George, Head, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, National University of Lesotho

#### **Presentations:**

Spatio-Temporal Climate Change Risk Assessment: Mangaung Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa — Mr Bernard Moeketsi, University of the Free State, Disaster Management Training and Education Centre for Africa, South Africa

Performance Evaluation of Grid-Connected Solar PV in the Tropical Conditions - a Case Study of Karume Institute of Science and Technology, Zanzibar — Mr Mohammed Haji, The Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology, Tanzania

Evaluation of Animal Manure as a Feedstock for the Production of Biogas in comparison with Sewage Water Microalgae – Ms Tebello Matlosa, Department of Biology and Biotechnology, Faculty of Science and Technology, National University of Lesotho

The VIP Latrine in Lesotho: Addressing Technical Flaws from the Qachas' Nek District Experience – Prof. Aiyuk Sunny, Department of Environmental Health, Faculty of Health Sciences. National University of Lesotho



#### ROOM: MOKOROTLO

## SESSION N.III.3: MATERIALS SCIENCE & NANOTECHNOLOGY

**Chair:** Prof. Heilmichael Alemu, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, National University of Lesotho

#### **Presentations:**

Raman Spectroscopy and Imaging of Bernal-Stacked Bilayer Graphene Synthesised on Copper Foil by Chemical Vapour Deposition: Growth Dependence on Temperature — Dr Mopeli Fabiane, Department of Physics and Electronics, National University of Lesotho

Pore Size Enhancement in TiO2 Thin Films and its Effects on Dye Sensitised Solar Cells – Mr Domtau Dinfa Luka, Department of Physics, University of Jos, Nigeria

Iminophosphine complexes of palladium and platinum: Application in cross-coupling and oligomerisation/polymerization, Dr Tebello Mahamo, Department of Chemistry and Chemical Technology, National University of Lesotho

Multiwall Carbon Nanotubes Ag-Pt Composite Electrochemical Sensor for Nevirapine Antiviral Drug — Prof. 'Mangaka Matoetoe, Department of Chemistry, Cape Peninsula University of Technology, South Africa

## **Conference Programme**



## 🛗 Thursday, 25 January 2018

#### 8.00 **SHUTTLE FROM HOTELS**

#### 9.00 **COOPERATION PITCH SESSION**

**ROOM: MACHACHE** 

Chair: Dr Moeketsi Mpholo, NUL

Dr Timothy Thamae, NUL

Mr Niklas Hayek, RECP

Dr Ed Brown, LECDN

Ms Eva Kagiri, UniPID

Ms Ranisha Banset, Energypedia

Ms Noara Kebir, Microenergy Systems

Mr Kuda Ndhlukula, SACREEE

Prof. Abdellatif Zerga, PAUWES

Mr Phelane Phomane, Tangerine

Mr Lebohang Ramaisa, Econet Telecom Lesotho

#### 9.30 **TEA BREAK**

#### 10:00 **RERIS TRAINING WORKSHOP**

ROOM: MACHACHE

"From Energy Research to Bankable Power Practice"

Chair: Ms Noara Kebir, Managing Director, Microenergy Systems

More information on Page 28

#### 10:00 **NULISTICE ROUNDTABLE**

ROOM: MOKOROTLO

"Youth and Entreprensuership in Lesotho"

 $\textbf{Chair:} \ \mathsf{Prof.} \ \mathsf{Spirit} \ \mathsf{Tlali}, \ \mathsf{Department} \ \mathsf{of} \ \mathsf{Physics} \ \mathsf{and} \ \mathsf{Electronics}, \ \mathsf{National} \ \mathsf{University} \ \mathsf{of} \ \mathsf{Lesotho}$ 

More information on Page 29

12.30 **LUNCH** 

14.00 OPEN POSTER SESSION AND VISIT TO NULISTICE EXPO AND INNOVATION MARKET

14:00 TELECONFERENCE WITH ENERGY CATALYST CONFERENCE LONDON ROOM: MACHACHE

18.00 GALA DINNER

Closing remarks: His Majesty, King Letsie III of Lesotho, Chancellor of the National University of Lesotho

## **Conference Programme**



## Friday, 26 January 2018

#### 8.00 **NULISTICE EXPO AND INNOVATION MARKET**

All day (free entry for NULISTICE and RERIS participants) More information on Page 30

#### 9.00 FIELD TRIP TO THE OUTSKIRTS OF MASERU

Pick-up from hotels at 9.00am

The Daytrip will be a one-day short trip around the outskirts of Maseru meant to give the international visitors a feel of this tiny Mountain Kingdom. Visitors will first go to the National University of Lesotho, situated some 30 km South East of Maseru. Then they will move to Metolong dam, not only to see the dam but enjoy the scenery of Lesotho's foothills. On the way back, they will stop at Thaba Bosiu Cultural Village, to enjoy a braai and then come back to Maseru.



# RERIS Training Workshop "From Energy Research to Bankable Power Practice"

Thursday, 25 January 10.00, Room: Machache

Research and practical implementation in the field of decentralised energy have a synergistic relationship, with each one more effective if and when informed by the other. Indeed, the work of practitioners is more effective if guided by established research findings. The work of researchers is more effective if hypotheses stem from practical experience, which betters research, and in turn, practice.

In reality, energy research and practice often run in parallel, with little knowledge exchange and consideration of the other. Energy practitioners, for example, rarely refer to research outputs, even if peer reviewed and reputable, often having discovered early on the irrelevance/unfit of research findings to the practical issues faced. Energy researchers, on the other hand, rarely prioritise engaging in actual practice / implementation, thereby generating research which by no surprise lacks apparent practical relevance.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP INCLUDE:**

- Provide international and local researchers/ academics and local practitioners in Lesotho with a platform for discussion on how to make research more relevant/fit for practice.
- Enable match-making and establishing paths for further joint work between local and international researchers/academics and local private sector actors in Lesotho.
- Inform participants about different product-service systems in the field of energy access in developing economies (e.g. mini grids, distribution models for decentralised RE & EE).
- Inform participants about different product-service systems in the field of energy access in developing economies (e.g. mini grids and distribution models)

## NULISTICE Roundtable "Youth and Entrepreneurship"

Thursday, 25 January, 10.00, Room: Mokorotlo

Never before has there been a time when Lesotho's educated young people have faced a threat as bad as the threat of unemployment. Just a decade ago, higher education used to be viewed as a passport to a well-paying job, often a job at the public sector. Of course the public sector dominated economy, with little private-sector backup always being a time-bomb and everyone knowing it.

Times changed, the time-bomb went off in the upper half of the last decade: the number of graduating students ballooned and the public sector quickly became saturated. A new, slow national tragedy brewed: high level of unemployment among the educated youths. Of course local universities keep producing more graduates like never before and the problem is worsening.

However, it is not all doom and gloom in the Mountain Kingdom, there is a silver lining and, of course, a light at the end of the tunnel. The youth are not idly standing by. In fact, they are defying odds and, with little to no support, they are beginning to start innovative businesses. They have also developed innovative business ideas. Some of the youth's work is highlighted on a weekly basis on the Facebook page platform "NUL Research and Innovations".

This will be a session in which some of these young people will share the ups and downs of getting a business started with little to no funding, the support they have received along the way and the lessons they have learned. Discussions will also include lessons for the future.



## **NULISTICE Expo & Innovation Market**

2018 Expo will be the continuation of the first two (held in 2015 and 2016). This event is mainly targeting the local audience and it is meant to help society appreciate an important role that can be played by science, technology and innovation in daily life and to help attract funding and commercialisation of academic projects.

For the past two years, the event has generated an amazing interest in the country. While most people appreciate and communicate with the NUL through the media outreach platforms, the Expo is unique in the sense that it provides a means for members of society to get a feel of the projects. The result has been intensive networking and in some cases, emergence of new companies.

Traditionally, the main people who exhibit their products and projects in this Expo are NUL teachers, students and graduates. However, the following Expo will encourage the participation of innovators from all over the country.

Under this category, we are expecting more than 250 innovators to showcase their products and small businesses. Anyone can apply to this category and the fee charged is only 360 LSL (= 23 EUR) for four days from 23 January to 26 January. The only limit is that businesses should display only products they produce first-hand, not those that they buy and sell.

THE NULISTICE EXPO & INNOVATION MARKET WILL BE HELD AT:

Pioneer Mall Pioneer Rd. Maseru, Lesotho





## Information for International Participants\*

#### VISA

Visitors can apply for an electronic visa online at http://evisalesotho.com. An overview of visa exemptions is available at http://evisalesotho.com/visa-exemptions/.

#### MASERU, CAPITAL CITY OF LESOTHO

Maseru has always been one of Africa's quieter cities, but the capital of Lesotho has rapidly expanded in recent years. Today, the city is home to a decent selection of accommodations and restaurants, well-stocked shops, friendly people and a host of other modern amenities. Although there are very few traditional tourist attractions, the city is a great place to recharge and stock up before venturing further into Lesotho.

One of the most monumental buildings in the country stands near central Maseru. Called the Mokorotlo, the site is a traditional hut redesigned in a more modern and sophisticated style. The revamped hut houses a museum where visitors can learn more about the nation's history, culture and traditions.

There are many opportunities for outdoor adventures in and around Maseru. The city is home to some excellent gyms, tennis courts and golf courses, and canoeing down the Caledon River is a great way to explore the area's flora and fauna. Visitors can also ride horses in more off-the-beatentrail parts of the capital and hike up the city's largest hill to catch great views of the capital.

Shopping is another popular activity in Maseru, and visitors can likely find everything they need before venturing further into the country, where Westernstyle shops are nearly nonexistent. In the capital, visitors can find shopping centers similar to European supermarkets, but there are also a number of cellphone and electronics stores. For local crafts, head to the Basotho Hat, a small shop run by the government. There, visitors can purchase beautiful hand-made items like ceramics, jewelry, toys and clothing.

Just south of Maseru is the village of Thetsane, where a cluster of factories produce clothing like jeans and T-shirts for American chain stores. While downtown Maseru has a slow, easy-going pace, Thetsane's industrial atmosphere creates a chaotic hustle and bustle

<sup>\*</sup> Source: http://www.visitcapitalcity.com/africa/maseru-lesotho

Maseru is home to a number of outstanding restaurants, and it is easy to get a good meal within the city on any budget. Visitors can feast on a variety of cuisines, including Mediterranean, American, Chinese, Ethiopian, Italian and Indian.

At night, the city comes alive as locals get off work and want to relax. There are many popular bars and clubs in the area, most of which are filled with young expats or government workers. It is not too hard to find decent live music, and the drinks are

One of Lesotho's most remarkable sights is only about three hours away from the capital by car.

The Semonkong Falls (picture below) drop over 200 meters, and visitors can swim in the pond below during the summer months. In the winter, the pond freezes and the falls become trapped in ice.

cold and reasonably priced.

Thirty-five kilometers south of Maseru is the town of Morija. There, visitors can see well-preserved footprints of dinosaurs that once lived in Mozambique. Visitors to the town can also explore the Lesotho Evangelical Church and the Maeder House and Arts Center. There are also many opportunities for mountain climbing, hiking and pony-trekking in the town.

#### MASERU CLIMATE

Maseru experiences warm summers and mild, chilly winters. Rainfall is more common during the hotter months although it does rain throughout the year.

#### LANGUAGES IN LESOTHO

Sesotho and English are the official languages of Lesotho.

#### LESOTHO PREDOMINANT RELIGIONS

Christianity is the dominant religion in Lesotho, with approximately 90 percent of the population being Christian belonging to different denominations. The Lesotho Constitution provides freedom of religion.

#### LESOTHO CURRENCY

The Loti is the official currency of Lesotho. Current exchange rate: 1 LSL = 0.061 EUR (Nov. 2017)

#### MASERU GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

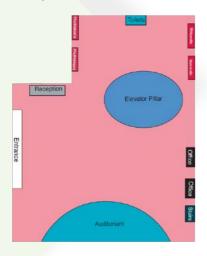
Maseru is located on the west central border between Lesotho and South Africa on the Caledon River. The approximate population of Maseru is 230,000.

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## Venue

#### THE CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD AT:

Manthabiseng National Convention Center
Main South 1, Opp Iketsetseng Primary School,
Maseru, Lesotho





#### THE NULISTICE EXPO & INNOVATION MARKET WILL BE HELD AT:

Pioneer Mall

Pioneer Rd.

Maseru, Lesotho

#### FOR ANY REQUESTS DURING THE CONFERENCE, CONTACT:

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