



# Nominations for the prestigious 2015/2016 NSTF Awards in partnership with South32 are now open!



You can now submit nominations for an outstanding contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation for your favourite researchers and other SET-related professionals. Scientists, engineers, technologists, innovators, science communicators, research capacity builders, engineering capacity builders, organisational managers/leaders, and / or research managers.

## What is new this year?

1. The Capacity Development Awards now include Capacity Development in Engineering. Ensure that you nominate people who have made a difference through their supervision and mentorship.
2. **The NSTF is making a special award for a researcher in Crop Science and Food Security research this year, in honour of the 2016 International Year of Pulses, as declared by the United Nations.**
3. The NSTF is launching a brand new website at the end of November 2015 to serve all our members and stakeholders better! Thus Registration of nominations is not taking place online this year. **Registration forms** can be downloaded in Word format from the website.
4. The Vision of the NSTF is 'a **science, engineering, technology and innovation system responsive to the needs of the nation**'. The Awards are one of the ways in which the NSTF strives to realise this. Partnerships such as that with GreenMatter lead to recognition of contributions that have the potential to make a positive impact on South Africa, and on the world. Watch this space for news on new partners.
5. The NGO category was changed last year to include technology transfer and education/training contributions to science, engineering and technology. This is again the case this year, which opens up the NSTF Awards to a wider range of organisations and allows for recognition of social innovation efforts. Just please note that professional bodies as such will not be considered in this category. However, we encourage you to nominate worthy projects run by professional bodies.

## All information needed for the Nomination process is available:

- In this **pdf document** on the current website until end of November 2015. **We recommend downloading it to have it on hand. Then you need not worry about the transition to the new website.**
- In this pdf document on the new website after November
- On various pages of the current and new websites, including previous finalists and winners

Study all this information in advance of submitting a nomination. The criteria for evaluation of nominees are comprehensive to ensure quality and to maintain the prestige of the Awards. Please note that planning and time are required to complete the nomination document, hence the 13-week period (December to March) provided for preparation.

## The process consists of two stages:

- **Deadline of first stage - 9 December 2015:** Identify your candidate and register your nomination **by completing and emailing the Registration Form in Word format** by 12h00 noon on this day. The information will be captured in the NSTF database and provides the basis for all further processing and communications relating to the nomination. Please ensure that you **subscribe** to receive the NSTF newsletter. The NSTF will acknowledge receipt of your Registration by e-mail, and provide the Nomination forms for completion by the second and final deadline of Stage 2 of the nomination process. Please look out for this email, and note its content carefully.

- **Deadline of the second and final stage of the process - 4 March 2016:** The completed nomination form/s may be e-mailed to the NSTF at any time up to the closing date but must reach the NSTF before 12h00 on this day.

**Post-nomination Processes:** The processes that will follow the final deadline are:

- **The announcement of the nominees** through the NSTF e-Newsletter during April 2016
- **An adjudication panel of independent judges**, representing six different sectors of the NSTF membership as well as the award partners, will review the nominations to select the finalists and winners
- **The announcement of the finalists** during May 2016
- **Summaries of the finalists' work** are published in the annual *Who's Who* Booklet, which is distributed at the Gala Dinner and made available online on the web site
- **The announcement of the winners and celebration** will take place at the prestigious Awards Gala Dinner with the Patron, the Minister of Science and Technology, planned for late June or beginning of July 2016

### Publicity and Outreach Campaign with Winners

This prestigious recognition also profiles the winners as role models to thousands of young people at Science Centres and Universities across the country, through an outreach programme named the *Share 'n Dare* Programme, in which the youth are inspired by the Award winners to take up careers in SET. Thousands of South Africans are also reached through the Awards media partnerships with Business Report and Mail & Guardian, ensuring that not only the winners but also their employers are recognised for their expertise in SET.

**2016 is the International Year of Pulses, as declared by the United Nations. This theme will be celebrated by the 2015/2016 NSTF Awards in partnership with South32.**

**Sponsors and partners:**



## About the NSTF Awards

The NSTF Awards honour and celebrate outstanding contributions to science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa.

The NSTF Awards is the flagship project of the National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), in partnership with South32.

The NSTF Awards honour and celebrate outstanding contributions to science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation. The awards encourage and reward excellence in:

- Scientific research
- Technological innovation
- Environmental sustainability/Green Economy
- Technology transfer
- Education and training
- Capacity building
- Management
- Communication and outreach

The NSTF Awards have been running since 1998, in partnership with South32 (resulting from the demerger of BHP Billiton).

**Largest SET awards in South Africa:** The NSTF Awards have grown to be the largest and most prestigious public SET and innovation awards in South Africa. The previous winners are widely recognised as worthy recipients. The NSTF Awards were established in 1998. This was just three years after founding the NSTF.

**Endorsed by the DST:** The NSTF Awards are endorsed and supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) since the inception of the awards. The Honourable Minister of Science and Technology is the official patron.

**These awards are unique in South Africa:** There are a number of reasons that the awards are special.

- The NSTF Awards are the only awards that are open, where the Call for Nominations includes the public.
- The process and awards event are collaborative.
- The awards recognise a variety of outstanding contributions by individuals and teams. These include all practicing scientists, engineers and other professionals across the system of innovation. Categories include research for innovation, research capacity building, management and related activities, communication for outreach and awareness, and achieving environmental sustainability and the Green Economy.
- Youth outreach is an integral part of the awards project. Top performing learners in mathematics and science in Grade 12 are recognised every year through the Brilliants Programme for our future innovators. There is also a year-long series of interactions with students and learners across the country. This is called Share 'n Dare.

### Nominations and adjudication process

Nominations are registered online by the first deadline (usually in December). Full nomination documents have to be submitted by the second deadline (usually in March).

An adjudication panel of independent judges is assembled annually. It represents all sectors of the NSTF membership and, in the case of the sponsored categories, the sponsors. The adjudication panel reviews the nominations, identifies those that are eligible, short-lists the finalists and makes the final selection of winners.

A panel of experts is also appointed by the NSTF Executive Committee. These experts assist the adjudication panel by reviewing and providing validation of the selections.

## Definitions of science, engineering, technology and innovation

<b>Science</b>	Refers to the systematic study of the nature and behaviour of the material and physical universe. This is defined, in the broadest sense, to encompass both the natural and human sciences.
<b>Engineering</b>	Considered as the practical application of this knowledge, especially in industry and commerce but also in human scientific fields.
<b>Technology</b>	Seen as the means with which science is converted into engineering and other applications, disciplines and undertakings.
<b>Innovation</b>	Means the application, in practice, of creative new ideas. It includes inventions, discoveries and the processes by which new products and services enter the market and the creation of new businesses.

The generic value chain which links these elements together is expressed in the definition of our National System of Innovation (NSI). The value chain spans the stages of inputs, processes, outputs, impacts and outcomes. It specifically includes:

- Research, development and creative work undertaken on a systematic basis. This is in order to increase the stock of knowledge, including knowledge of people, culture and society and the use of this stock of knowledge to devise new applications.
- Technology transfer activities associated with research, experimental development and contributing to the dissemination and application of scientific and technical knowledge
- Scientific and technical education and training

### The value of the NSTF Awards for the nominees

The NSTF Awards have long been coveted in South Africa as the ultimate public recognition of achievement and success in SET and Innovation sectors.

- Winners receive a prestigious, custom-made trophy at the annual NSTF Awards gala dinner which is held in Gauteng in June/July of each year.
- Finalists are featured in the Who's Who of SETI in South Africa, an annual publication.
- NSTF Award winners are profiled as ambassadors of SET at science centres and universities across South Africa through the 'Share 'n Dare' programme, where the winners share their experiences with the youth and 'dare' them to take up SET studies and careers.
- High-profile recognition is given and sought for winners and finalists on various media platforms, including the media sponsors, Business Report and the Mail&Guardian.
- A research grant is awarded in certain categories.

## **Purpose of the NSTF Awards**

The NSTF Awards honour and celebrate outstanding contributions to science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa. This is done so that:

- Excellence is promoted among SET practitioners in research, development and innovation
- Recognition is given to excellent contributions to SET and innovation, including those contributions which make research possible and build capacity in the SET system
- Young people are encouraged to undertake studies and careers in SET
- The communication of science and the sharing of knowledge are promoted

Ultimately the purpose of the NSTF Awards is to contribute to achieving sustainable socio-economic growth for South Africa and to improving the quality of people's lives.

## **Objectives of the NSTF Awards**

- These prestigious awards celebrate, acknowledge and promote excellence in the South African research and development (R&D) community. This is done by cross-cutting sectors, levels, gender and race, while recognising both individuals and teams.
- The NSTF Awards celebrate scientific research that is professional, innovative, forward looking and relevant to both South Africa and the rest of the world.
- The awards encourage the involvement and participation of SET organisations in research while raising awareness among the general public about local research and its relevance.
- The awards address government R&D targets by:
  - Involving business
  - Drawing attention to scarce skills
  - Profiling role models
  - Facilitating knowledge transfer to learners and students, encouraging them to pursue careers in SET

## NSTF Awards' sponsors and partnerships

The NSTF supports the principle of collaborative, widely-inclusive awards.

The NSTF welcomes collaboration with other organisations, such as those where there have been partnerships for many years:

- Department of Science and Technology (since 1998)
- The Technology and Human Resources for Industry Programme (THRIP), an initiative of the Department of Trade and Industry (2004-2015)
- Eskom (since 2003)
- Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) (since 1998)
- Business Report (since 2010) which is part of *The Star*, *Pretoria News*, *Cape Times* and *Mercury* newspapers
- BHP Billiton (2011-2014), now South32 (2015)
- *Mail&Guardian* newspaper (since 2011)
- National Research Foundation (NRF) (2003-2014)
- SAASTA, a business unit of the National Research Foundation (2005-2014)



### How to become an NSTF Award partner or sponsor

If your organisation would like to partner with the NSTF on the NSTF Awards, please contact the Executive Director at [enquiries@nstf.co.za](mailto:enquiries@nstf.co.za) or 012 8413987.

## Awards categories

All the NSTF Awards are for an outstanding contribution to science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation:

<b>1. Award for an individual for an outstanding contribution to SET and Innovation in South Africa:</b>	
a) <b>Contribution over a lifetime</b> – fifteen years or more	
b) <b>T W Kambule Awards: Researchers</b> - Contribution to research and its outputs – over a period of up to fifteen years after award of a PhD or equivalent, predominantly in South Africa	
c) <b>T W Kambule Awards: Emerging Researchers</b> - Contribution to research and its outputs over a period of up to six years after award of a PhD or equivalent, predominantly in South Africa	
d) <b>Contribution through management and related SET activities</b> – over the last 5 to 10 years	
e) <b>Annual Theme Award</b> (awarded according to criteria in any of the above categories). For 2016 this Award is made for <b><i>Research in Crop Science and Food Security</i></b> .	
<b>2</b>	<b>Research or Engineering Capacity Development Awards</b> over the last 5-10 years
<b>3</b>	<b>The Green Matter Award</b> over the last 5-10 years
<b>4</b>	<b>Communication for Outreach and Awareness</b> during the past 5 years
<b>5</b>	<b>Research for Innovation:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Through a corporate organisation AND</li> <li>• Through a small, medium or micro enterprise (SMME)</li> </ul>
<b>6</b>	<b>Award for a Non-Governmental Organisation</b> over the last 5-10 years

# Nominations

## How to nominate someone

Read the awards information in this section carefully before submitting a nomination so that you are aware of the requirements.

The process consists of two stages:

### Stage 1– deadline in December

1. Study the following sections carefully to familiarise yourself with all the requirements:
  - About the awards
  - Awards categories
  - Criteria for assessment
  - Terms and conditions
  - Past winners
2. Choose the category in which you will be nominating the candidate.
  - You may decide to nominate the candidate in more than one category, in which case more than one motivation must be prepared. Refer to Terms and conditions.
3. Notify the nominee of your intention to nominate and ensure that you receive their agreement to participate.
  - The nominee may have received an NSTF Award previously. Although some awards can be made to the same individual/team more than once, this only occurs if new work is presented for consideration.
  - Alternately, the nominee may have already been approached by someone else and agreed to be nominated.
4. Complete and submit the online Registration before the close of business on the day of the deadline.
  - The information will be captured in the NSTF database and provides the basis for all further processing and communications relating to the nomination.
5. You will receive an e-mail notification confirming receipt of your submission and a link to the full Nomination Form/s for downloading and completion. Or the full Nomination Form/s will be sent as an attachment to the email.

### Stage 2 – deadline in March

1. Complete the full Nomination Form/s.
  - The nominee needs to be involved in the preparation of the submissions to ensure accuracy and comprehensiveness.
  - If the nominee cannot prepare the material themselves, they should at least be aware of and approve the strategy of the approach, as well as the submission content.
2. The full Nomination Form provides the entire motivation for the adjudicators' consideration.
  - Supplementary information in the form of CDs, papers, books etc will only be considered where called for– such as in the Communication Award category.
3. In the event that you are submitting your candidate in more than one category, the second motivation should cross-refer to the first and give only material which is different.
  - Refer to the Terms and conditions.
4. Ensure that the completed full Nomination Form/s are e-mailed to the NSTF before the final deadline.

## Awards for individual contributions

### All categories

The following criteria broadly apply to assessing all categories of the awards:

- The contribution to the advancement of science/technological innovation/new knowledge generated:
  - the inputs to this contribution
  - the research process
  - the outputs
- The practical application/implementation
- Commercial or economic impact
- Relevance to South Africa and its people and resultant contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) policy
- Promotion of public understanding of SET
- Promotion of education in the field as a contribution to the public understanding of SET
- Social and economic sustainability
- National and international recognition

### Additional criteria for assessment

These additional criteria apply to the awards for individual researchers. Namely:

<p><b>Categories for individuals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>There are 5 categories for individuals, for any field of activity relating to research and its outputs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Contribution over a lifetime</b> – fifteen years or more</li> </ul> <p><b>T W Kambule Awards: Researchers</b> - Contribution to research and its outputs – over a period of up to fifteen years after award of a PhD or equivalent, predominantly in South Africa</p> <p><b>T W Kambule Awards: Emerging Researchers</b> - Contribution to research and its outputs over a period of up to six years after award of a PhD or equivalent, predominantly in South Africa</p> <p><b>Contribution through management and related SET activities</b> – over the last 5 to 10 years</p> <p><b>Annual Theme Award</b> (awarded according to criteria in any of the above categories). For 2016 this Award is made for <b>Research in Crop Science and Food Security</b>.</p> <p>These are all made to individuals based in South Africa, and who are South Africans or permanent residents. The individual must have made an outstanding contribution to SET in South Africa in any field of activity relating to research and its outputs. This could include the management of related SET activities necessary for the successful development and diffusion of new or improved products.</p> <p>For 2016 two of these categories cover a period of work which is related to the completion of a PhD or equivalent. This provides a common maximum period across all disciplines in which research is carried out.</p>
<p><b>Awards for research and engineering capacity development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• over the last 5-10 years</li> </ul>	<p>These awards are made to individuals based in South Africa, regardless of nationality or citizenship. The individuals must have, during the last 5 to 10 years, demonstrated outstanding leadership in increasing the participation of young researchers or engineers in their chosen SET fields.</p> <p>The purpose of this category is to recognise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Individuals who have trained and guided significant numbers of diverse post-graduate students to the completion of masters, as well as doctoral studies</li> <li>OR</li> <li>• individuals who have impacted on the climate of a department or</li> </ul>

	<p>school to significantly increase the diversity of students completing both masters and doctoral studies at the school</p> <p>The following additional criteria are reviewed for this category:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The number of South African post-graduate students trained who have completed their studies</li> <li>• The impact of leadership on the climate of a department or school to significantly increase the diversity of students completing both masters and doctoral studies</li> <li>• Assistance provided to students to present and publish research work</li> <li>• Supervising and refereeing of dissertations</li> <li>• Provision of mentorship, support and the development of essential skills in the world of business and work</li> <li>• Continued interest shown in the individuals' professional advancement</li> </ul>
<p><b>Contribution through management and related SET activities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• over the last 5 to 10 years</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>This award is for outstanding contributions through activities other than research. It includes all other contributions that are often necessary for the successful development and diffusion of new or improved products, processes or services such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Managerial activities</li> <li>• Technical activities</li> <li>• Commercial and financial activities</li> </ul>

Once Registration of a nomination is done online, the relevant form will be made available in Word format to be filled in.

## Special Annual Theme Award

Every year the NSTF Awards celebrate a particular theme in science, engineering and technology. Usually this theme is aligned with the year's theme as declared by the United Nations and UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation). However, the NSTF does reserve the right to determine its own annual theme.

The NSTF strives to make a special award for research in a particular discipline every year. This does depend on sponsorship availability and whether a suitably broad and relevant discipline can be identified.

For 2016 this Award is made for **Research in Crop Science and Food Security**.

### Criteria for assessment

The same criteria apply to a Special Annual Theme Award, as to the other individual research awards. Namely:

<p><b>Criteria that apply to all categories</b></p>	<p>The following criteria broadly apply to assessing all categories of the awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The contribution to the advancement of science/technological innovation/new knowledge generated:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the inputs to this contribution</li> <li>○ the research process</li> <li>○ the outputs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The practical application/implementation</li> <li>• Commercial or economic impact</li> <li>• Relevance to South Africa and its people and resultant contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) policy</li> <li>• Promotion of public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Promotion of education in this field as a contribution to the public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Social and economic sustainability</li> <li>• National and international recognition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Detailed description and additional criteria</b></p>	<p>The Annual Theme Award can be awarded according to the criteria in any one of the other Awards categories, which are described in detail on separate pages and the respective nomination forms for each category.</p>

**Note:** Once Registration of a nomination is done online, the relevant form will be made available in Word format to be filled in.

### Previous Special Annual Theme Awards:

Year	Special Annual Theme Award	Winner
2015	Photonics	Prof Andrew Forbes

## NSTF-GreenMatter Award

In 2015, the NSTF and GreenMatter forged a new partnership to launch the NSTF-GreenMatter Award.

GreenMatter is a programme of the Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation. It consists of a network of partners who implement the 20-year Biodiversity Human Capital Development Strategy. This is co-led by SANBI (the South African National Biodiversity Institute).

The NSTF-GreenMatter Award recognises researchers and organisations working towards achieving biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and a green economy.

### Criteria for assessment

<p><b>Criteria that apply to all categories</b></p>	<p>The following criteria broadly apply to assessing all categories of the awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The contribution to the advancement of science/technological innovation/new knowledge generated:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the inputs to this contribution</li> <li>○ the research process</li> <li>○ the outputs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The practical application/implementation</li> <li>• Commercial or economic impact</li> <li>• Relevance to South Africa and its people and resultant contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) policy</li> <li>• Promotion of public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Promotion of education in the field as a contribution to the public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Social and economic sustainability</li> <li>• National and international recognition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Detailed description and additional criteria</b></p> <p><b>NSTF-GreenMatter Award</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• over the last 5-10 years</li> <li>• sponsored by GreenMatter/ Lewis Foundation</li> </ul>	<p>This award is made to an individual, team or organisation. It is for an outstanding contribution to SET in South Africa, towards achieving environmental sustainability and the Green Economy, over the last 5-10 years. When an individual contribution to SET is assessed, the same criteria apply to the NSTF-GreenMatter Award, as to the other individual researcher awards.</p> <p>This award gives recognition to the following contributions considered either together or separately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outstanding work in trans-disciplinary research or human capital development that promotes environmental sustainability within an academic or non-academic context. This could include the development and implementation of programmes in these areas of activity that have an impact within and between institutions.</li> <li>• Innovation in management and leadership leading to the attraction, development, retention and transformation of human capital. This is within organisations that work towards environmental conservation, research and management. There should be an explicit novel link between the organisations' objectives, management and leadership approaches and organisational success.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Outstanding contributions in shaping the national agenda on the environment in national policies, legislation and programmes. The work recognised could include knowledge-based advocacy and awareness programmes designed to bring about social change, as well as impact that is clearly demonstrated through successful implementation.</li></ul>
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**Note:** Once Registration of a nomination is done online, the relevant form will be made available in Word format to be filled in.

## Communication Award

The complete title of the Communication Award is: The NSTF Award for Communication for Outreach and Creating Awareness of science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation.

The award recognises a communicator who has made an outstanding contribution to SET through a substantial impact in terms of public awareness of SET.

Initially the award was made in collaboration with SAASTA/NRF from 2007 to 2014.

### Criteria for assessment

<p><b>Criteria that apply to all categories</b></p>	<p>The following criteria broadly apply to assessing all categories of the awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The contribution to the advancement of science/technological innovation/new knowledge generated:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the inputs to this contribution</li> <li>○ the research process</li> <li>○ the outputs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The practical application/implementation</li> <li>• Commercial or economic impact</li> <li>• Relevance to South Africa and its people and resultant contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) policy</li> <li>• Promotion of public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Promotion of education in the field as a contribution to the public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Social and economic sustainability</li> <li>• National and international recognition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Detailed description and additional criteria</b></p> <p><b>Award for communication for outreach and creating awareness of SET and innovation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• within the last 5 years</li> </ul>	<p>The award recognises a communicator who has made an outstanding contribution to SET through making a substantial impact in terms of public awareness.</p> <p>This award is made to South African journalists, researchers, writers, educators, academics, specialist science communicators or science centres. The award is open to anyone:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who has had articles published in any South African print medium AND/OR</li> <li>• Who has had insert broadcasts on any South African radio or television programme AND/OR</li> <li>• Who has communicated science and technology regularly in other innovative ways (eg drama, cartoons, exhibitions, public lectures) during the past 5 years or less</li> </ul> <p>Entries may include communicating on the life sciences, physical and social sciences, engineering and mathematics, as well as policy, health and environmental issues related to science and technology.</p> <p><b>Aims:</b> The award is intended to encourage the promotion of science and technology through conventional and/or innovative means, in order to:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise public awareness of SET issues and how the quality of people's daily lives is affected by such issues</li> <li>• Raise public awareness of career opportunities in SET</li> <li>• Engage the public in SET in innovative ways</li> </ul> <p><b>Method and quality of delivery:</b> The communicator must use innovative and diverse but appropriate approaches in his or her communication to public audiences. The award-winning communicator/researcher's work should promote knowledge and an understanding of controversial or complex issues. The communicator's approach must be accessible, innovative, objective, responsible and scientifically correct.</p> <p><b>Reach of communication:</b> The reach of the nominee's public communication should be demonstrable. The communication should preferably include diverse audiences.</p> <p><b>To include with the nomination form:</b> A portfolio of communication interventions and products. This should incorporate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Copies of the articles/programmes/books or videos/DVDs of performances</li> <li>• Documentation which provides evidence of the nominee's work</li> <li>• Any awards for science communication and/or grants received for public awareness projects (eg National Science Week) should be mentioned in the nomination form</li> </ul>
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**Note:** Once Registration of a nomination is done online, the relevant form will be made available in Word format to be filled in.

## Research for Innovation Awards

The South African economy needs to continue on its road to becoming globally competitive. In large part, this is up to businesses, industry and institutions – particularly Universities of Technology. That is why the NSTF Awards include two annual awards for South African research which has led to South African innovation.

The NSTF appreciates that it is a ‘long walk’ through research to commercialisation of ground-breaking scientific and technological discoveries. The NSTF continues to recognise and bring the very best of such efforts to the public’s attention. South Africans should know what excellent R&D is being done inside the laboratories of our country, and the inventiveness of our scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs to bring discoveries to market.

### Criteria for assessment

<p><b>Criteria that apply to all categories</b></p>	<p>The following criteria broadly apply to assessing all categories of the awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The contribution to the advancement of science/technological innovation/new knowledge generated:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the inputs to this contribution</li> <li>○ the research process</li> <li>○ the outputs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The practical application/implementation</li> <li>• Commercial or economic impact</li> <li>• Relevance to South Africa and its people and resultant contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) policy</li> <li>• Promotion of public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Promotion of education in the field as a contribution to the public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Social and economic sustainability</li> <li>• National and international recognition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Detailed description and additional criteria</b></p> <p><b>Awards for research leading to an innovation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	<p>These awards are made to teams or individuals who have made outstanding contributions to SET through research that has led to an innovation in South Africa.</p> <p>Awards are made to teams or individuals from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Corporate organisations:</b> This includes large companies, science councils, universities etc, unless the unit where the research and development has been carried out fits into the SMME category AND</li> <li>• <b>Small, medium and micro enterprises (SMMEs):</b> The award is for an SMME operating as a business for profit, defined as having less than 50 employees or an annual turnover of less than R30 million over the last three years. A company that is wholly owned by a corporate, or is a corporate-controlled company does not qualify under the SMME category.</li> </ul> <p>These awards are made where it can be demonstrated that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Research carried out in South Africa has led to new science which in turn has led to new engineering or medical or social concepts ie technology OR THAT</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Engineering or medical or social concepts (ie technology which has been developed in South Africa and has been applied) that have led to a successful innovation. This can be either an accepted innovation in science, a project, a product, a range of products, a methodology or any other form of applied output completed in the recent past.</li></ul>
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**Note:** Once Registration of a nomination is done online, the relevant form will be made available in Word format to be filled in.

## NSTF Award for a Non-Governmental Organisation

The NSTF NGO Award is for any non-governmental organisation which has made an outstanding contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) in South Africa. This includes any:

- Non-profit company
- Non-profit organisation
- Public benefit organisation
- Community-based organisation

As part of the NSTF Awards, there has always been a category for NGOs which recognises the significance of South African innovation. In 2015 the criteria were extended to include:

- **Technology transfer activities** contributing to the dissemination and application of scientific and technical knowledge
- Scientific and technical **education and training**

### Criteria for assessment

<p><b>Criteria that apply to all categories</b></p>	<p>The following criteria broadly apply to assessing all categories of the awards:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The contribution to the advancement of science/technological innovation/new knowledge generated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ the inputs to this contribution</li> <li>○ the research process</li> <li>○ the outputs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The practical application/implementation</li> <li>• Commercial or economic impact</li> <li>• Relevance to South Africa and its people and resultant contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) policy</li> <li>• Promotion of public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Promotion of education in the field as a contribution to the public understanding of SET</li> <li>• Social and economic sustainability</li> <li>• National and international recognition</li> </ul>
<p><b>Detailed description and additional criteria</b></p> <p><b>Award for a contribution to SET and Innovation through an NGO</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• over 5-10 years</li> </ul>	<p>This award is made to an NGO or a team or an individual working through an NGO registered in South Africa, which has made an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation in South Africa over 5-10 years. (NGOs include non-profit companies, non-profit organisations, community-based organisations, public benefit organisations, and other organs of civil society.)</p> <p>There are no additional criteria. However, in the interpretation of the criteria as set out above, the adjudicators will examine the contribution against the purpose of the awards and the definitions (of science, engineering, technology and innovation) and will take into account the impact of the NGO's work.</p>

**Note:** Once Registration of a nomination is done online, the relevant form will be made available in Word format to be filled in.

## Terms and conditions

### 1. Adjudication

- a. The awards are given for an individual's or team's or organisation's sustained work over a period of time, and not just for their outputs. The outputs are used by the adjudicators as evidence of the nominee's contribution.
- b. The panel can call for interviews with candidates if this is considered necessary.
- c. **Information provided may be subject to verification and clarification.** However, no more information than that supplied with the nomination will be actively sought.
- d. The adjudicators reserve the right to change the category chosen by the nominator where they consider another category more appropriate.
- e. The adjudicators reserve the right to withhold an award in any of the categories.
- f. The decision of the panel is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- g. With regard to the contribution which is recognised by the awards in the individual/researcher categories, this contribution must be made in South Africa in the defined period. However, it can be based on work commenced or developed/advanced abroad. Short visits of less than a year are discounted.

### 2. Eligibility

- a. Only living persons and the teams in organisations still in existence will be considered for awards.
- b. **Previous winners will not be considered for awards again except where the relevant time period has elapsed and new work is covered.**
- c. Previous winners in the Research for Innovation or earlier organisational categories are eligible for nomination provided that the innovations put forward do not represent a duplication of the previously-recognised contribution.
- d. While a nominee or project or team might be considered in different categories, only one award is made for a particular contribution.
- e. Finalists and winners must be prepared to have their photographs published in the media and to be interviewed.

### 3. Liability

- a. The NSTF cannot be held responsible for decisions made on the basis of false or inadequate information supplied.
- b. Complaints made to the NSTF regarding plagiarism etc will be referred to the relevant ethics or professional bodies for further action.
- c. The NSTF reserves the right to extend the closing date for nominations in any category should this be considered appropriate.
- d. **The costs of attendance at an NSTF meeting (for recognition of finalists) and Awards Gala Dinner (for the announcement of winners) will not be covered by the NSTF and is the responsibility of the finalist or the employer of the finalist.** If nominated NGOs do not have funding for attendance, they can contact the NSTF Office on enquiries@nstf.co.za or 012 8413987 to discuss possible options.

### 4. Nomination documents

- a. The online Registration must confirm that the nominee is aware of the intent and agrees to the nomination.
- b. The final Nomination Form must contain a declaration by the individual or, in the case of nomination for a Research leading to an Innovation category, the team leader (as applicable) must show acceptance and professional accountability for the nomination content as a whole.
- c. Dedicated Nomination Forms are provided for each of the awards categories. In some cases these have been clustered into one form.
- d. Where a candidate is nominated in more than one category, the relevant Nomination Forms must be completed for each category. It is requested that further Nomination Forms do not repeat the material provided in the *principal* Nomination Form (the first Nomination Form that was completed). Further Nomination Forms should cross-refer to the principal form where applicable, and provide

only the additional material relevant to the category. However, care should be taken to ensure that all information necessary for adjudication has been included, bearing in mind that the interpretation of the criteria vary to a degree between the categories.

- e. All criteria are relevant and require a response. However, information provided under one heading should not be repeated under others.
- f. Motivations (not including the explanatory text provided) should be no more than 400 words in any one section and no more than 1 500 words altogether.
- g. The motivation must be succinctly set out and amounts or statistics included, such that the work/projects which form the basis of the nomination are clearly identified and described under the headings.
- h. The term 'work/projects', should be taken to include a portfolio or a range of projects and is meant to embrace research projects, construction projects, development projects or communication projects as may be appropriate.
- i. Patentable and private information disclosed in the motivation under the criteria should be so indicated and will then be treated as such and fully protected.