

Entrepreneurship for Physicists and Engineers from Developing Countries in Africa Cape Town – South Africa

9 – 13 November 2009

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT

The first African workshop on Entrepreneurship for Physicists, Scientists and Engineers will be held in South Africa, at iThemba Labs in Cape Town from 9 to 13 November 2009. The main goal of this project is to encourage and impart entrepreneurship skills in scientists and engineers from Africa. This is done so that they are in a position to commercialize or licence their research findings thereby use science and technology to start high-tech enterprises which contribute to sustainable development and poverty reduction in Africa. The workshop will have the following objectives

- (1) To build capacity in sustainable development through training trainers in entrepreneurship and innovation management skills
- (2) To encourage universities in Africa to introduce entrepreneurship and business skills in science and engineering curriculum
- (3) To ultimately reduce brain drain by encouraging a culture of entrepreneurship among African scientists
- (4) To encourage interdisciplinary and multi-stakeholder dialogue through bringing the following groups together during the workshop
 - i. Physicists, chemists, life scientists, engineers and social scientists
 - ii. North – South cooperation , scientists from Europe working with African scientists
 - iii. South – South cooperation, scientists from India & China working with African scientists.

We also plan to organise a training session every evening during the five days workshop, to train the lecturers/scientists in development of 'Entrepreneurship Curriculum'. This training would enable trained staff to teach undergraduate students at the university level an 'Entrepreneurship' module.

The South African Institute of Physics is partnering with Institute of Physics UK and Abdus Salam ICTP who have already facilitated several similar workshops on entrepreneurship for scientists and engineers from developing countries.

Further details will become available in the second announcement due to be released beginning of June 2009. Limited funding will be available to support delegates attend the workshop.

Conference Organisers

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Organising Committee Members

1. Mr Brian Masara - Executive Officer - SAIP, South Africa
2. Dr. Malik Maaza, iThemba Labs, South Africa
3. Dr Dipali D Chauhan , International Relations Manager IOP-UK
4. Dr. S. Raghu, ICTP & Advanced Fluidics LLC, USA



IOP Institute of Physics

