



BOTSWANA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
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FIRST CIRCULAR

Dear colleague,

Here is the first circular of the **Space and Planetary Science in Botswana Workshop** to be held between 29 October and the 03 November at Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST), Palapye, Botswana.

Aim and Scopes:

- To present the progresses in Space Science and Technology Strategy in Botswana.
- To assess the new development in Space and Planetary Science in Africa from the perspective of policy makers and scientists.
- To engage all the relevant stakeholders in the discussion of the future of Planetary Science in Botswana and beyond.

Summary:

Botswana Government has recently endeavored in the implementation of a new Space Strategy, one of the first of its kind in sub-Saharan Africa. The Strategy aims to place Botswana among the countries that are driving the Space and Planetary Science agenda in the continent.

For the achieving of these ambitious goals it is paramount to link Botswana tertiary education institutions, namely University of Botswana and Botswana International University of Science and Technology (BIUST), with international research partners.

It is paramount, at this inception stage, to engage the local and international stakeholders. Aim of this workshop is in fact to promote a first meeting of the local research leaders that contributed in developing Planetary Sciences in Botswana and the international partners that have manifested interest in taking part in the raise of Space Science in Africa.

You are kindly invited to join the **Space and Planetary Science in Botswana** Workshop as an engagement and training leading to the implementation of a Planetary Science in the tertiary education system of Botswana. The proposed workshop will run over a 3 days period on the following areas:

- 1) Planetary Sciences,
- 2) Earth Observations
- 3) Astronomy.

The **Space and Planetary Science in Botswana** workshop will be a unique opportunity to engage local, regional, continental stakeholders, invited experts and delegates of the International partner institutions in dialogue and interactions to help drive initiatives like

development of policies in the broad area of Space and Planetary Science across the continent. This will prepare the ground for further initiatives in related fields of SPACE science and Technology. For instance of trustworthy research data cyber-infrastructures for eResearch and the requisite human capital development including in data science. The proposed workshop will be conveniently held in Botswana at the International University of Science and Technology.

Below is preliminary program of the workshop with all the invited speakers.

Sincerely yours,

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PROGRAM OF THE ACTIVITIES

DAY	TIME	EVENT	VENUE
28th October			
Sunday	18:00	Ice breaker party	M5 Hotel
29th October			
Monday	8:30	Welcome Remarks	BIUST VC/DVC
	8:45	Opening Remarks	Permanent secretary
	9:00	The Space Science and Technology Strategy of Botswana	Dr. O. Monngakgotla/ DRST delegate
	10:30	Coffee break	
	10:30	Planetary Science in Botswana	Dr F. Franchi/ BIUST
	11:15	Astronomy in Africa and Botswana	Prof. Hillhouse/ BIUST Kevin Govender/ IAU
	12:30	Lunch	
	13:30	Big data and cyber infrastructures	Dr. Tshiamo/ UB Or Dr. H. Hlomani/ BIUST
	14:15	Remote sensing and space science	Dr J. Maphanyane/ UB
	15:00	AVN/SKA project: the impact on PSS in southern Africa	Dr A. Tiplady/ SKA SA
	15:45	EuroPlanet	Prof. N. Mason/ Europlanet
	16:30	Coffee Break	
	17:00	Visit BIUST facilities	
			BIUST
30th October			
Tuesday	8:30	Opening remarks	Prof. E. Shemang/ BIUST
	9:00	Planetary Science: New opportunity for Africa	Prof. Nigel Mason/ Europlanet
	9:30	Field analogues in Africa	Dr. B. Cavalazzi/ Europlanet
	10:00	Field analogues in Botswana	Dr. Franchi/ BIUST
	10:30	Coffee break	
	11:00	The meteorite of CKGR	Mr. M. Gabadirwe/ BGI Prof. A. Proyer/ BIUST
	11:30	Planetary Science in Morocco	Prof. G.G. Ori/ Ibn Battuta Centre
	12:00	Planetary Science in South Africa	Prof. R. Gibson/ Wits Univ.
	12:30	Lunch	
			BIUST

	13:30	Space Strategy in Ethiopia	Dr Kelali Adhana Tekle/ Mekelle University Dr. Alemiye Mamo Yacob/ ESSTI	
	14:00	Space strategy in Nigeria	Dr. Bonaventure Okere/ University of Nigeria	
	14:30	Space Strategy in Zambia	Prosperity Simpemba/ The Copperbelt University	
	15:00	Coffee break		
	15:30	Astrobiology	Dr. W. Geppert/ European Astrobiology Institute	
	16:00	Extreme environments and Astrobiology	Dr. K. Olsson-Francis/ Europlanet	
	16:30	Deep time and Planetary Science	Dr. F. Franchi/ BIUST Dr. B. Cavalazzi/ Europlanet	
	17:00	Europlanet Transnational Access program	Prof. G. Davies/ Europlanet	
	19:00	Social dinner		M5 Hotel

31st October				
Wednes.	8:30	Opening remarks	DVC AA BIUST	BIUST
	8:45	The role of BIUST in Planetary Science	Dr. F. Franchi/ BIUST	
	9:30	BIUST and Europlanet	Prof. N. Mason/ Europlanet	
	10:30	Coffee break		
	11:00	Discussion	ALL	
	12:00	Closing Remarks	Prof. E. Shemang/ BIUST	
	12:30	Lunch		
	13:30	Visit to Khama Rhino Sanctuary		

1st November		
Thursday	6:30	Departure from Palapye
	10:30	Visit to the Sua salt pan
	18:30	Arrive in Gweta

2nd November		
Friday	6:30	Departure from Gweta
	10:30	Visit to lake Ngami/Dunes
	18:30	Arrive in Ghanzi

3rd November		
Saturday	8:30	Departure from Ghanzi
	12:30	Dunes
	18:30	Arrival in Gaborone