



# NSTF-South32 Awards

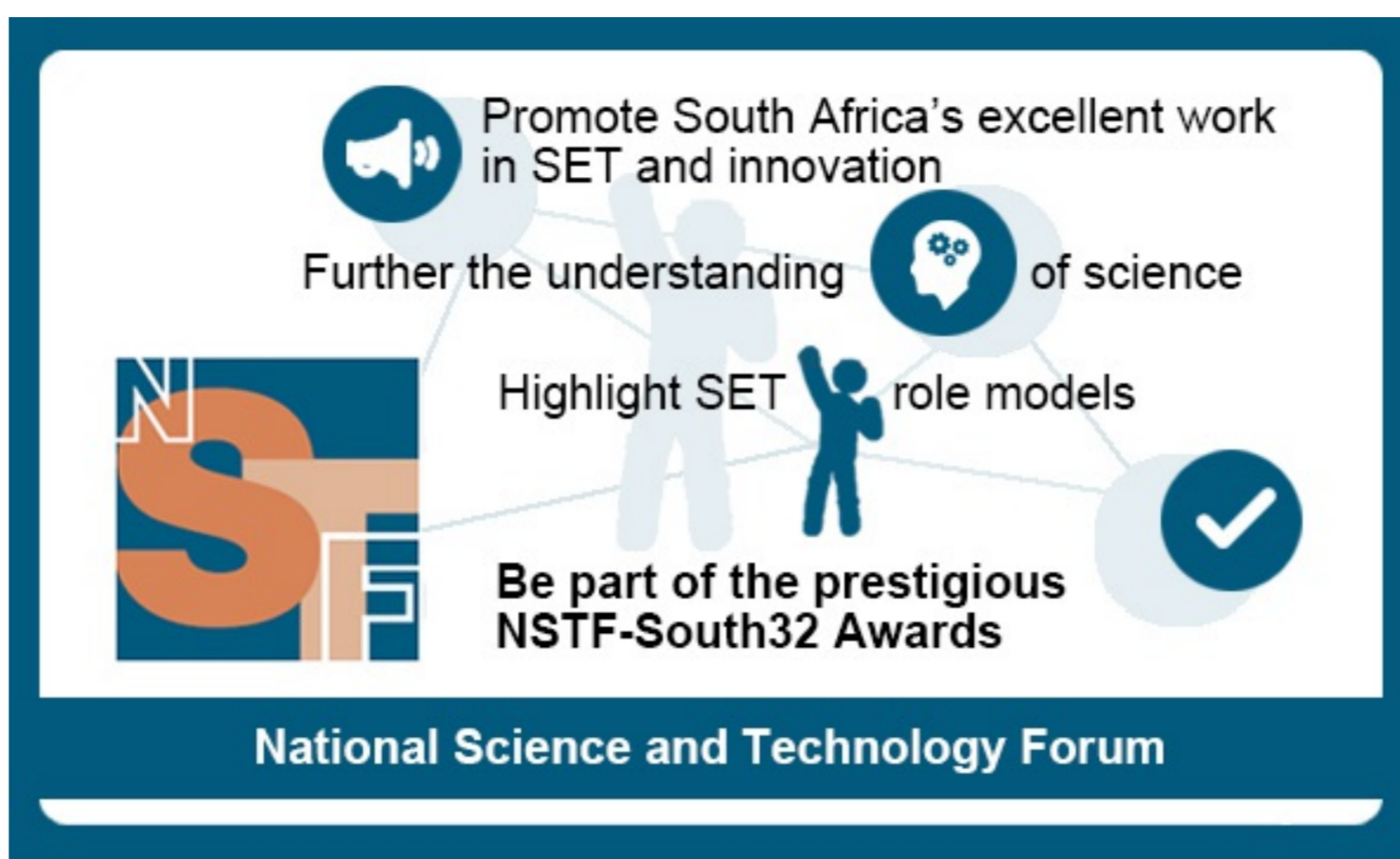
Today's research — tomorrow's innovation

## Call for nominations: 2019/2020 NSTF-South32 Awards

Register nominations online by 9 December 2019!  
#NSTFAwards2020

The [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) calls for [nominations](#) for the 22nd [NSTF-South32 Awards](#). These prestigious awards focus on science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation.

**Special Annual Theme Award:** The NSTF's theme for 2020 is Plant Health, aligned with the 'International Year of Plant Health' (#IYPH2020), as declared by the United Nations (UN). The [Special Annual Theme Award](#) for 2019/2020 will be made for *research and development (R&D) and innovation in Plant Health*.



Register nominations for individuals, teams and organisations for an outstanding contribution to SET and innovation in South Africa. The [contributions recognised](#) are in the following broad areas, among others:

- Scientific research
- Capacity building in engineering research
- The green economy
- Water solutions
- Data for research
- Innovations
- Science communication
- Non-profit activities
- Plant Health, through the 2019/2020 Special Annual Theme Award

### What's new this year?

There are no changes to the criteria of categories, apart from the theme change and reminder of previous changes of importance as follows:

- Special Annual Theme Award:** Plant Health – The scope for the special theme award could include:
  - All areas of science, engineering, and agriculture that improve plant health in managed or natural ecosystems
  - Research combating the threat of pests, weeds, and disease-causing organisms to plants
  - New findings about plant health and fighting plant disease, pests and weeds
  - Understanding invasion biology and ensuring plant biodiversity, in the context of climate change
  - Improving plant health through innovations in fields which could include plant nutrition, genetics, biological control, agrochemicals, pollinator biology, etc
  - Finding innovative solutions to plant health challenges, including indigenous knowledge systems, directed towards South Africa's sustainable development, particularly for job creation and the alleviation of poverty.
- Green Economy Award:** This Award was introduced last year and is continued this year. It comes as a continuation of a similar award in previous years.
- Communication Award:** Please take note that for this category, there is a special call to professional science communicators to apply.
- Innovation Award:** We introduced a major change to the Innovation Category in 2017 and continue to place greater emphasis on 'innovation'.
- Research Category:** The time periods for each category are now clearly anchored to the commencement of the research career. There is no requirement for a PhD. All research categories are now open to anyone currently involved in research. We have continued with the strengthened focus on the further development of outputs towards innovations.

### The NSTF's vision

A transformed country where SET and innovation contribute to a high quality of life for all who live in South Africa, where the profile of SET professionals is representative of the population's profile and where the education system is effective, particularly in terms of performance in SET subjects and promoting innovation.

The [NSTF Awards](#) are one of the ways in which the NSTF strives to realise its vision.

### Awards nomination process

This is a two-stage [nomination process](#):

#### Stage 1 – Register a nomination by 9 December 2019

- Please note that registering a nominee is only the *beginning* of the two-stage nomination process. When you register a nominee, the NSTF Office will respond with the official category nomination *form* to be completed by 2 March 2020 (Stage 2).
- Notify the nominee that you intend to nominate him/her/them (team/organisation). Ensure that you receive their agreement to participate.
- Complete and submit the online [registration](#). The nominee will receive an email notification confirming receipt of your registration and the NSTF Office will respond with the full nomination form/s as an attachment to complete. Please alert the NSTF office at [awards@nstf.org.za](mailto:awards@nstf.org.za) should you (the nominee) not receive this notification and the relevant forms. Make sure also that this email address is white listed to receive these notifications.

#### Stage 2 – Submit completed nomination documents 2 March 2020 no later than 12:00

- Ensure that the fully-completed nomination form/s are emailed to the NSTF at [awards@nstf.org.za](mailto:awards@nstf.org.za) before the final deadline and that you receive a confirmation from the NSTF Office.

Please note that planning and time are required to complete the nomination document. Hence there is an 11-week period (December to March) provided for this preparation.

### Awards categories

**Full title of categories:** All the awards are for an outstanding contribution to science, engineering and technology (SET) and innovation... (The complete title of each award starts with this wording in place of "contribution".)

1. <b>Individual Awards</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. <b>Lifetime Award</b> – contribution over 15 years or more</li> <li>b. <b>TW Kambule-NSTF Award: Researcher</b> – contribution through research and its outputs over a period from 6 years up to 15 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in South Africa</li> <li>c. <b>TW Kambule-NSTF Awards: Emerging Researcher</b> – contribution through research and its outputs over a period of up to 6 years of research work from the commencement of the research career, predominantly in South Africa</li> <li>d. <b>Management Award</b> – contribution through management and related activities over the last 5 to 10 years in South Africa</li> </ul>
2. <b>Engineering Research Capacity Development Awards</b> – contribution by an individual over the last 5 to 10 years
3. <b>NSTF-Lewis Foundation Green Economy Research and Innovation Award</b> – contribution by an individual or an organisation for research and innovation towards achieving biodiversity conservation, environmental sustainability and a greener economy over the last 5 to 10 years
4. <b>NSTF-Water Research Commission (WRC) Award</b> – contribution by an individual or an organisation in South Africa towards sustainable water management, knowledge generation and solutions over the last 5 to 10 years
5. <b>Data for Research Award</b> – contribution by an individual or a team for advancing the availability, management and use of data for research
6. <b>Innovation Awards</b> – contributions by an individual or a team for innovations and their research and/or development over the last 5 to 10 years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Innovation Award: <b>Corporate Organisation</b></li> <li>b. Innovation Award: <b>Small, Medium or Micro Enterprise (SMME)</b></li> </ul>
7. <b>Communication Award</b> – contribution for outreach and creating awareness by a team or individual over the last 5 years
8. <b>Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) Award</b> – contribution including technology transfer, and education and training activities over the last 5 to 10 years
9. <b>Special Annual Theme Award: Plant Health</b> – awarded according to criteria in any of the categories). For 2019/2020 this Award is made for a contribution through R&D, and innovation in Plant Health

*Please forward this email to your colleagues, business contacts and all interested persons. Help to find and acknowledge the who's who in SET and innovation in South Africa!*

#### About the NSTF

The National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), established in 1995, is a broadly-representative stakeholder body for all SET and innovation organisations in South Africa, which seeks to influence policy formulation and delivery.

The NSTF Awards are unique in SA, recognising the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation.

The science bursaries page <http://www.nstf.org.za/bursary/> provides information on bursaries and bursary providers for science, engineering and related studies.

#### Disclaimer

The NSTF has taken all practical measures to ensure that the material contained in this newsletter is correct. The NSTF reserves the right to make changes as it deems necessary.

#### Privacy

Registration details submitted to the NSTF will be treated confidentially and will only be used by NSTF to communicate with its members and subscribers.

#### For more information

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