



Conference programme

14 – 15 September 2023

Sandton Convention Centre, Johannesburg, South Africa

Day 1: Thursday, 14 September 2023

| MORNING SESSION: A GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE Africa's biodiversity endowment and indigenous plant resources Creating an enabling environment for buyers, SMMEs and communities | | |
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| 9:00 – 9:30 | Arrival and festival registration | |
| 9:30 – 10:00 | Conference opening and welcome | Vuyo Koyana (Moderator) |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | Keynote address: Biodiversity economies as a tool of economic and social development – an African perspective | Sydney Nkosi (Keynote speaker) Acting DDG: Biodiversity Economy & Sustainable Use, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment (DFFE) |
| 10:30 – 11:30 | Panel discussion: South Africa's vision for prosperity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SA's rich biodiversity endowment and how it is creating an enabling environment for development of its biotrade sector ▪ Africa's natural resource assets, competitiveness and comparative advantages ▪ BioPANZA's five clusters - sustainable supply, innovation, policy, market access and finance | Preshanthie Naicker (Session host) Director: UNDP GEF-6 Bioprospecting Value Chains (DFFE) BioProducts Advancement Network South Africa (BioPANZA) |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | Panel discussion: Conservation and sustainable use Improved integration of conservation into ABS and biotrade - needs, challenges and opportunities | Friedrich zur Heide (Session host) Neil Crouch (Speaker) Panel including DFFE, ARC, Honeybush traditional knowledge holder, Parceval |
| 12:30 – 13:00 | Facilitated discussion: Biotrade financing and funding Public/private sector dialogue on requirements, opportunities and options | Dagmar Honsbein (Session host) BioInnovation Africa (BIA) project, Namibia Cyril Lombard (Speaker) ABioSA project advisor |
| 13:00 – 14:00 | LUNCH BREAK | |
| AFTERNOON SESSION: AN INDUSTRY PERSPECTIVE Developing sector development plans (SDP) to expand the biotrade sector Targets, budgets and resources – and removing market barriers | | |
| 14:00 – 14:45 | Panel discussion with SDP implementers: Putting industry in the driving seat for biotrade growth | Sandra Kruger (Session host) Kruger Swart Associates |

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| | Biotrade SDPs and opportunities to engage | Adrie El Mohamadi (Speaker) GIZ ABioSA/BIA manager Panel including Paul Hartwig (Buchu Association), Yolande le Roux (SA Honeybush Tea Association), Avril Harvey (Southern Africa Botanical Products Association), Gus le Breton (African Baobab Alliance), Cyril Lombard (Marula) |
| 14:45 – 15:30 | <p>Case study from the African Baobab Alliance (ABA): A successful pan-African approach to biotrade</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of a robust economic sector ▪ Overcoming sector challenges for a pan-African resource – pricing, consumer awareness, absence of uniform quality standards, limited market recognition, absence of data to substantiate health benefits, different regional or national regulations ▪ Multi-stakeholder partnerships to enable transboundary collaboration ▪ Requirements for growth – government support and investment in research, community engagement, standardisation and sectoral market access strategies ▪ Strategic approaches to ABS | <p>Suhel al Janabi (Session host)</p> <p>Gus Le Breton (Speaker) Chair, African Baobab Alliance</p> |
| 15:30 – 16:00 | <p>Will Marula be the next superfruit from Africa? An overview of science supporting new product ideas and what the Marula sector can learn from Baobab industry growth</p> | Cyril Lombard (Speaker) ABioSA project advisor |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | Day 1 summary - audience questions & feedback | Vuyo Kokana (Moderator) |
| 17:00 | COCKTAIL FUNCTION AND OFFICIAL OPENING OF AFRICAN BIOTRADE FESTIVAL | |



Day 2: Friday, 15 September 2023

| MORNING SESSION – INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVES Preparing for biotrade industry exports | | |
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| 8:30 – 9:00 | Summary of Day 1 | Vuyo Koyana (Moderator) |
| 9:00 – 9:30 | What are international buyers looking for in African biotrade? Discussion with EU buyers and African producers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overview of business relationships ▪ Compliance with market regulations ▪ Meeting volume and quality needs ▪ Product and company promotion ▪ How EU buyers identify suppliers | Gustavo Ferro (Session host) Consultant (SIPPO) Panel including Will Coetsee (Botanica), Sven Ballschmiede (IOFI), Daniel Fraas (Schwabe) |
| 9:30 – 10:00 | How much intellectual property (IP) is in a cup of tea? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Overview of IP opportunities and benefits for the biotrade sector ▪ The most appropriate IP for different businesses and products – copyright, patents, trademarks, etc. ▪ South Africa’s IP legislative framework | Magdaleen van Wyk (Speaker) Project Coordinator, Swiss-SA Intellectual Property Project (SSAIP) Dr Thandanani Cwele (Speaker) Senior Manager: Patents and Designs, Companies & Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC) |
| 10:00 – 10:30 | A South African biotrade conservation and sustainable use standard: Why bother? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The rationale for new standards and certification ▪ How is the new standard being developed? ▪ Who is involved? ▪ Developing and testing a robust and practical standard ▪ Is participation voluntary? ▪ How industry can support development and testing of a new standard | Preshanthie Naicker (Speaker) Director: UNDP GEF-6 Bioprospecting Value Chains (DFFE) Prof Neil Crouch (Speaker) Bioprospecting Economy Lead at the SA National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) |
| 10:30– 11:00 | Evolving due diligence requirements Implications for BioTrade supply chains | Rik Kutsch Lojenga (Speaker) Executive Director, Union for an Ethical Biotrade (UEBT) |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | The value of Geographic Indicator status for African biotrade species and producers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Why pursue GI status ▪ Different GI options for biotrade producers ▪ Marketing benefits from GI status ▪ The SA experience with Rooibos – what other sectors can learn | Marthane Swart (Speaker) SA Rooibos Council & Kruger Swart Associates (KSA) |
| 11:30 – 12:15 | Standards for essential and vegetable oils – trade facilitator or barrier? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Role of standards in facilitating trade and supporting an emerging industry ▪ Development of SA standards for indigenous essential and vegetable oils – the impact and benefits | Karen Swanepoel (Speaker) Executive Director, Southern African Essential Oils Producers Association Dr Elsie Meintjies (Speaker) Global Quality and Standards Project South Africa (GQSP-SA) |



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| 12:15 – 13:00 | Trading as equals while preserving biodiversity – what's the cost? Business and community inclusion in the Honeybush sector | Inge Adelfang-Hodgson (Session host) Dr Damien Krichewsky (Speaker) Forum Internationale Wissenschaft, University of Bonn Mons Adelfang-Ramsden (Speaker) MD, Quiet Insight & ABioSA/DFFE community engagement pilot project |
| 13:00 – 13:30 | LUNCH | |
| AFTERNOON SESSION – DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION Discovering the latest biotrade research | | |
| 13:30 – 14:00 | Contemporary biotrade research in South Africa Introduction to ABioSA student presentations | Jessica Mutuwa (Session host) ABioSA consultant |
| 14:00 – 14:20 | Modulation of intestinal cell inflammation with Rooibos extracts An assessment of effects of Rooibos polyphenols on gut health | Shana De Bruyn-Orr (Speaker) Cape Peninsula University of Technology |
| 14:20 - 14:40 | Cultivation practices and utilisation of Marula by smallholder farmers in the dry regions of Zimbabwe Field research from the Vuravhi communal lands in Chivi | Andrew Tapiwa Kugedera (Speaker) Bindera University of Science Education |
| 14:40 – 15:00 | The untapped medicinal value of Honeybush in the management of diabetes | Kyle Le Roux (Speaker) Stellenbosch University |
| 15:00 – 15:20 | Aspects of the sustainability of the cultivated Honeybush tea industry in South Africa. | Tafadzwa Makhuza (Speaker) Rhodes University |
| 15:20 – 15:40 | The only sustainable economy for Rooibos and Honeybush is green | Rhoda Malgas (Speaker) Stellenbosch University |
| 15:40 – 16:00 | Adding value to Marula Modelling of the extraction of valuable compounds from <i>Sclerocarya birrea</i> | Trishen Reddy (Speaker) Vaal University of Technology |
| 16:00 – 16:30 | Three students selected to present their biotrade research at an international event | Khorommbi Matibe Chief Director Biodiversity Economy and Sustainable Use, DFFE |
| 16:30 | CONCLUDING REMARKS, SUMMARY AND CLOSING OF CONFERENCE | |

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