



# **INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON**

## **ROLE OF WOMEN IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH**

**APRIL 17-18, 2025  
PHOENIX, MAURITIUS**

## INTRODUCTION

Tackling some of the greatest challenges of the *Agenda for Sustainable Development – 2030* such as – sustainable agriculture; improving health and well-being; clean water and sanitation; clean energy; industry, innovation and infrastructure; climate action among others rely on harnessing the potential of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI).

Advancement of STI requires diversity in research and expansion of the pool of the talented researchers, bringing in broader perspectives, fresh ideas and creativity; which means getting more women involved working in these fields.

Women make major contribution to the socio-economic development of any country. Inclusiveness of women in various developmental activities and engaging more women in Science & Technology and Research are being increasingly advocated in the United Nations Conferences and other international and national forums.

So far, most of the countries in the Global South, no matter their level of development, have not achieved gender equality in STI. Even though women have made tremendous progress towards their increased participation in STI, they are still under-represented in these fields due to various factors, including societal stereotypes, gender bias, unequal opportunities and a lack of representation in the leadership roles.

Throughout the history, women have made significant contributions in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) but many groundbreaking contributions by women in these fields have been overlooked. One example is Rosalind Franklin, a chemist whose work was crucial in discovering the structure of DNA. Despite her vital role, recognition only came posthumously. Other unsung heroines include African-American mathematicians Katherine Johnson, Dorothy Vaughan and Mary Jackson at NASA. They played crucial roles in early space missions, inspiring the book and film "Hidden Figures", which brought their accomplishments into the spotlight much later. From Madame Curie, the only woman to receive Nobel Prizes in Physics and Chemistry to Shakuntala Devi - known as the Human Computer of India for her incredible mathematical abilities, women have made significant contributions through their research, inventions, innovations and discoveries and paved the way for a promising future.

Every year on February 11, the International Day of Women and Girls in Science is celebrated to acknowledge and encourage women's contributions to science and bridge the gender gaps in research. Encouraging and supporting women's participation in STI is essential for scientific advancement and innovation. By empowering women and promoting gender equality, a more inclusive, diverse and strengthened scientific ecosystem can be developed.

In view of the above, the *Centre for Science & Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre); New Delhi* in partnership with the *Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, Republic of Mauritius*, announces the organization of an International Workshop on the “**Role of Women in Science, Technology and Innovation in the Global South**” during **17-18 April, 2025** in Phoenix, Mauritius.

## OBJECTIVES

- To address the crucial role of women in the fields of Science, Technology and Innovation (STI);
- To encourage women scientists and technologists to address the socio-economic challenges through STI interventions;
- To identify and address the various challenges faced by women in their scientific career with a special focus on economic empowerment of women in developing countries;
- To focus on strengthening research infrastructure, capacity building and fostering a conducive environment for women working in the fields of STI;
- To develop policy formulation for achieving gender equality in STI;
- To identify suitable mechanisms to provide increased overseas opportunities in STI to women through developing programs such as Women International Grant Support (WINGS);
- To facilitate international cooperation and networking among women on STI issues

## TOPICS TO BE COVERED

- The interdependence of STI, women, gender equality and sustainability
- Women in Science: Gender equality in science, technology and innovation
- Science for Women: Supporting women's education and career development in STI
- Economic empowerment of women in developing countries
- Career barriers for women in STI
- R&D, capacity building and training for women in STI
- Case study and best practices
- Advocacy and awareness-raising
- National and international collaboration with partners to develop new initiatives

## IMPORTANT DATES

ACTIVITY	DATES
Submission of Application Starts	February 14, 2025
Last Date for Submission of Applications along with Abstract of Paper to be Presented	March 17, 2025
Last Date for Submission of Full Manuscript of Paper	March 31, 2025
Dates of the Workshop	April 17-18, 2025

## TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

TIME [Mauritius Time: GMT+4]	SESSION DETAILS	
	April 17, 2025	April 18, 2025
09:00 – 09:30 Hrs.	Registration and Technical Set-up	
09:30 – 11:00 Hrs.	Inaugural Session	Technical Session – III
11:00 – 11:30 Hrs.	Keynote Lecture 1	Keynote Lecture 3
11:30 – 13:00Hrs	Technical Session – I	Technical Session – IV
13:00 – 14:00 Hrs.	Lunch	Lunch
14:00 – 14:30 Hrs.	Keynote Lecture 2	Keynote Lecture 4
14:30 – 16:00 Hrs.	Technical Session – II	Panel Discussion and Concluding Session

*Note: A detailed Session-wise Programme will be made available before the Workshop.*

## PARTICIPANTS

Women scientists, researchers, educators and students; government officials, policymakers, and representatives of international organizations, NGOs and industry from the NAM and other developing countries are invited to participate in this Workshop. The combination of participants from various developing countries will allow the exchange of knowledge, ideas and experiences as well as provide opportunities for global networking and collaboration.

**Note:** *English will be the official language for the Workshop with no translation services.*

## RESOURCE PERSONS

Experts and professionals in the relevant fields from Mauritius, India and various NAM Member Countries will be invited to deliver keynote lectures at the Workshop.

## CERTIFICATE

Upon completion of the Workshop, participants will be awarded with Certificate of Attendance issued by the Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, Republic of Mauritius and the NAM S&T Centre.

## ABOUT THE ORGANISERS

### NAM S&T CENTRE

The Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S&T Centre) is an Inter-Governmental Organisation with a Membership of 47 countries spread over Asia, Africa, the Middle East and Latin America. The Centre was set-up in 1989 in New Delhi, India based on the decisions taken during various NAM Summits and is mandated to undertake a variety of programmes, including organization of international workshops, training programmes/workshops and implementation of multilateral collaborative projects. It also offers short-term fellowship programmes to scientists and researchers from developing countries in association with the Centres of Excellence in various countries. The Centre also brings out technical books, monographs and other scientific publications in different S&T subjects of interest to developing countries. The Centre's activities provide an opportunity for scientist-to-scientist contact and interactions; familiarizing participants on the latest developments and techniques in the subject areas; identification of the requirements of training and expert assistance; locating technologies for transfer between the Members and other developing countries and dissemination of S&T information etc. In addition, the Centre encourages Academic- R&D-Industry interactions in the developing countries through its "NAM S&T-Industry Network". The Centre is giving special focus on helping the NAM S&T Centre Member Countries in their capacity building to achieve the UN Sustainable Development Goals – 2030.



More details about the Centre are available at [www.namstct.org](http://www.namstct.org).

## MINISTRY OF TERTIARY EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND RESEARCH, REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS



The Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, Republic of Mauritius is responsible for the development and promotion of the tertiary education, science and scientific research systems in Mauritius. It defines and formulates policies and ensures that sound regulatory and monitoring mechanisms are in place for greater effectiveness and efficiency of the sectors under its portfolio. The key functions of the Ministry are, inter alia: to ensure equitable access to tertiary education, the provision of high-quality tertiary education and promotion of science, research and innovation to support the socio-economic progress of the country.

The Ministry is the Focal Point for the NAM S&T Centre in Mauritius.

### SUBMISSION OF APPLICATIONS

Scientists and experts desirous of participating in the Workshop, **except those from Mauritius**, should submit their applications **electronically** to the Director General, NAM S&T Centre, New Delhi at [namstcentre@gmail.com](mailto:namstcentre@gmail.com) as early as possible but latest by **March 17, 2025**.

Applicants from Mauritius should submit their requests directly to Director – Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, Govt. of Mauritius at [Director.Tertiary@govmu.org](mailto:Director.Tertiary@govmu.org) with subject line as “NAM S&T Workshop 17-18 April 2025”

Following documents must be submitted as e-mail attachments:

- a) Filled in Application Form (Blank form **enclosed**).
- b) An Opinion/Write-up (a short paragraph; in MS Word format) on how the applicant qualifies to participate in the Workshop.
- c) A Short Biography (to be written in third person; 250-300 words max) highlighting the current engagement, areas of expertise, major achievements, academic qualification and professional experience as succinctly as possible.
- d) An Abstract (about 300 words in MS-Word only) of the Paper that would be presented at the Workshop.
- e) A copy of relevant pages of valid Passport.

**Note:** The documents (b), (c) and (d) above must be in **MS-Word format** only; PDF or image files will not be accepted. Hard copies of the Application Form and the above attachments are NOT REQUIRED to be submitted.

### PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

Delegates/Participants are expected to present a Country Status Report and/or a research/scientific paper on any of the themes appropriate to the Workshop.

## **PUBLICATION OF PAPERS**

A publication edited by one or more international experts and based on the papers presented by the participants during the Workshop and also containing papers contributed by other experts in the field may be brought out in the form of a book as a follow-up of this Workshop. Therefore, all participants are requested to submit the manuscripts of their full papers in MS-Word format only well in advance, but latest by **March 31, 2025**.

## **SELECTION OF APPLICANTS**

Selection of applicants will be made based on their academic and professional background, relevance of their current engagements in the relevant field and the abstract of paper submitted by them. Successful applicants will be electronically informed about their selection.

Other details and terms and conditions for the participation of scientists from various countries will be given to the individual candidates on receipt of their applications.

## **FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

The financial terms and arrangements for international travel of the foreign participants will be conveyed to individual applicants on receipt of their application and other documents.

## **LOCAL HOSPITALITY**

Local hospitality in Mauritius including accommodation, meals and local transport including the airport transfers to the foreign participants sponsored by the NAM S&T Centre will be provided by the Mauritian host from **16 April, 2025 [2pm]** to **19 April, 2025 [Noon]** (i.e. from one day before to one day after completion of the Workshop). The participants will have to make their own arrangements to stay beyond these dates.

## **ENTRY FORMALITIES AND IMMIGRATION**

Participants of the Workshop must be in possession of a current passport or any other internationally recognized travel document, which must have a period of validity of at least six months beyond the period of stay in Mauritius and must be endorsed for travel to Mauritius.

Participants should have a valid visa for entry into Mauritius. The Mauritian diplomatic mission located in or closest to the country of the participant should be approached for obtaining an entry visa. For a large number of countries, however, online visa application is available. Upon request, the organisers will facilitate the issuance of visa by providing the participants with an official letter of invitation.

**Note:** The governments/institutions of the selected participants will be required to bear the following costs:

- All expenses in the home country incidental to travel abroad, including expenditure for passport, required medical examinations, vaccinations and miscellaneous expenses such as internal travel to the airport of departure in the home country.
- Salary and other related allowances for the participants during the period of the Workshop

- Cost of medical insurance to cover the period of participation in the Workshop.

The organisers of the Workshop will not assume responsibility for the following expenditures in connection with the participant's attendance in the Workshop:

- Expenses incurred for any insurance, medical bills or hospitalization fees.
- Compensation in the event of death, disability or illness of participants.
- Loss of personal belongings or compensation for damage caused to them by climatic or other conditions.
- Other costs, including the visa fee, airport taxes, flight cancellation and excess baggage, etc.

### OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION

- Mauritius is usually warm and humid in the month of April, with average maximum and minimum temperatures 28°C and 22°C respectively.
- Mauritian Standard Time is +04 hours ahead of GMT.
- The Local Currency is Mauritian Rupee (MUR); the current exchange rate of USD 1\$ = ~46.4 MUR.

### SECRETARIAT & ENQUIRIES

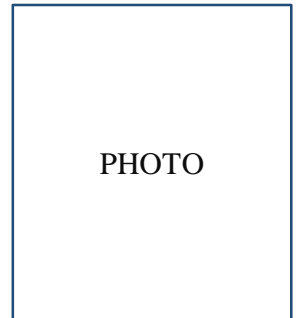
<p><b>CENTRE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY OF THE NON-ALIGNED AND OTHER DEVELOPING COUNTRIES (NAM S&amp;T CENTRE)</b></p>	<p><b>MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, TERTIARY EDUCATION, SCIENCE &amp; RESEARCH REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS</b></p>
<p><b>Dr. Amitava Bandopadhyay</b>          Director General,          Centre for Science &amp; Technology of the Non-Aligned and other Developing Countries (NAM S&amp;T Centre),          Core - 6A, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,          India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road,          New Delhi –110003,          Republic of India  <b>Tel:</b> +91-11-24645134, 24644974  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:namstcentre@gmail.com">namstcentre@gmail.com</a>  <b>Website:</b> <a href="https://www.namstct.org">https://www.namstct.org</a></p>	<p><b>Prof. (Dr.) Kiran Bhujun</b>          Director – Tertiary Education and Scientific Research Division,          Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, Government. of Mauritius,          Level 2, MITD House,          Phoenix – 73544,          Republic of Mauritius  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Director.Tertiary@govmu.org">Director.Tertiary@govmu.org</a></p>



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**17-18 APRIL, 2025  
PHOENIX, MAURITIUS**

**APPLICATION FORM**



PLEASE TYPE OR USE BLOCK CAPITALS  
(NO COLUMN SHOULD BE LEFT BLANK)

**SECTION-A**

(To be filled in by the Applicant)

- 1 Last Name (Prof. /Dr. /Mr. /Mrs. /Ms.): .....  
**(As in Passport)**  
First Name: .....  
Middle Name: .....
- 2 Designation (Position held): .....
- 3 Nationality: .....
- 4 Date of Birth: .....  
Place of Birth (City) .....(Country).....
- 5 Passport No: .....  
Place of issue: .....  
Date of Issue: ..... Valid up to: .....  
*(Please **attach** copies of the relevant pages of your Passport)*
- 6 Name of the Parent Institution (Employer):.....  
Full Address (Office):  
.....  
.....  
Phone: ..... Mobile: .....  
Fax: ..... E-mail: .....

7 Full Address (Home):

.....  
.....

Phone: ..... Mobile: .....

Fax: ..... E-mail: .....

8 Educational Qualifications:

Highest Degree. ....

Year of Award: .....

University: .....

Field of Study: .....

9 A Short Biography (to be written in third person; 250-300 words max; in MS Word only – to be **ATTACHED**)

10 An Opinion/Write-up (a short paragraph; in MS Word only) on how the applicant qualifies to participate in the Workshop - to be **ATTACHED**

11 An Abstract (about 300 words, in MS-Word only) of the Paper that would be presented by you at the Workshop - to be **ATTACHED**

Date: ..... Signature: .....

## SECTION-B

### ENDORSEMENT BY THE NOMINATING AUTHORITY

*(The Applicant in a Member Country of the NAM S&T Centre must get the Application Form endorsed by the Focal Point of the Centre in his/her country, if he/she wishes to take advantages extended to the official nominee of the country. For the list of Member Countries and names/addresses of the Focal Points please visit the Centre's official website; [www.namstct.org](http://www.namstct.org).)*

Name (in full): .....

Designation: .....

Signature: .....Date: .....

### SEAL

**Enclosures:**

- An Opinion/Write-up (a short paragraph; in MS Word format) on how the applicant qualifies to participate in the Workshop.
- A Short Biography (to be written in third person; 250-300 words max; in MS Word only) highlighting the current engagement, areas of expertise, major achievements, academic qualification and professional experience as succinctly as possible.
- An Abstract (about 300 words; in MS-Word only) of the Paper that would be presented at the Workshop.
- A copy of relevant pages of your valid Passport

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