



4th South African Conference on Essential and Vegetable oils

Treasures of the past leading to the trophy of the future

Venue: Rosemary Hill, Pretoria

Programme subject to change

Day 1, 23rd July 2026

- 08:15 - 08:50 Arrival and registration**
- 9:00 – 09:15 Words of Welcome and Opening of Conference**
Conference programme director: Dr Elsie Meintjies, UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION – GLOBAL QUALITY AND STANDARDS PROGRAMME, SOUTH AFRICA (UNIDO – GQSP-SA)
- 9:15– 09:25 Ms Claudy Steyn**
Chief Director: CHEMICALS, COSMETICS, PHARMACEUTICALS & PLASTICS
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE, INDUSTRY AND COMPETITION (the dtic)
- 9:25 - 09:35 Mr Daniel Lauchenauer**
HEAD OF SWISS STATE SECRETARIAT FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS SECO
SOUTH AFRICA
- 09:35 - 09:45 Mr Bernard Bau**
Project Manager UNIDO, GQSP-SA
- 09:45 - 10:00 Commercialisation of publicly funded intellectual property in South Africa:
the case of indigenous plants-based cosmetics**
Mr Vuyisile Hobololo Head: Indigenous Knowledge Systems Business Unit,
Bio-economy Division. TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AGENCY (TIA)
- 10:00 – 10:10 Mrs Nnana Makhubu**
Chairperson: SOUTHERN AFRICAN ESSENTIAL OIL PRODUCERS' ASSOCIATION
(SAEOPA)
- 10:10 – 10:40 Keynote speaker: Lessons from the past and message to the future
generation**
Prof Ben-Erik van Wyk UNIVERSITY OF JOHANNESBURG (UJ)
- 10:40 – 10:50 Cake cutting ceremony for SAEOPA 25th Birthday**
- 10:50– 11:00 Group photo**
- 11:00 – 11:30 Tea/coffee comfort break**



Session 1: Positioning Southern Africa on the global front

Session moderator: Ms Pri Elamthuruthil UNIDO GQSP-SA

11:30 – 11:50 **Economic outlook and impact of war in Iran for industry**
Mr Wandihle Sihlobo AGRICULTURAL BUSINESS CHAMBER OF SOUTH AFRICA (AGBIZ) / Mr Wolfe Braude

11:50– 12:10 **New directions in research of essential oils**
Prof David Katerere TSHWANE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (TUT)

12:10 – 12:30 **Past present and future of perfumery: Essential Oils for Increased Well-Being in Everyday Life**
Mrs Muneera Haerli VENTURE SUPPORT

12:30 – 12:50 **Smell and Sensation – standards for the essential and vegetable oils industry**
Dr Elsie Meintjies, UNIDO GQSP-SA

12:50 – 13:00 Q & A

13:00 – 14:00 **Lunch and Exhibitions**

Session 2: MARKETS

Exploring new horizons: market trends in the essential and vegetable oils

Session moderator: Mrs Preshanthie Naicker DEPARTMENT OF FORESTRY FISHERIES AND ENVIRONMENT (DFFE)

14:10 - 14:30 **Future prospects for cosmetics market based on recent trade fairs**
Mrs Mariette van Rooyen COSMETIC EXPORT COUNCIL OF SOUTH AFRICA (CECOSA)

14:30 - 14:50 **Potential of new products.**
Green Gold - Money Really Can Grow on Trees
Mr Denzil Phillips - DENZIL PHILLIPS INTERNATIONAL

14:50 – 15:10 **Branding and formulating with indigenous oils**
Dr Carina Franck FRANCK GLOBAL

15:10– 15:30 **Beyond the oil**
Ms Kate Nene YEYE FARMING

15:30 – 15:50 **A buyer's perspective on take-off agreements**
Mr Guillaume Delaunay BIOSYLX

15:50 – 16:00 **Questions and Answers**

16:00 - 16:10 **Vote of thanks**
Mr Bernard Bau Industrial Development Officer, UNIDO



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16:10 – 17:00 Networking Coffee/tea, steam distillation and cold pressing demos, exhibitions

Day 2, 24th July 2026

08:30 - 09:00 Arrival and registration

09:00 – 9:30 **Recap of day 1**
Dr Elsie Meintjies, UNIDO GQSP-SA

09:30 – 09:55 **Innovation in future industries**
Keynote speaker: Use of Essential Oils as Phyto nematocides on the Management of Plant parasitic nematodes in South Africa
Dr Mbokota Candy Khoza, AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH COUNCIL (ARC)

Session 3: AGRICULTURE
Cultivating success: Innovations in local agriculture for global impact
Moderator: Mrs Rosemary Du Preez, Director SAEOPA

10:00 – 10:20 **Future of genetic study in selection of plants for commercializing**
Dr Ansia van Collier UNIVERSITY OF STELLENBOSCH (US)

10:20 – 10:40 **Possibility of essential oils in treatment of foot and mouth disease and other veterinary infections**
Prof Lyndi Mc Caw UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA (UP)

10:40- 10:50 **Questions and Answers**

10:50- 11:15 Tea networking break and exhibition

Session 4: SECURING THE FUTURE: STRATEGIES FOR SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY CHAINS
Moderator: Mrs Rosemary du Preez Director SAEOPA

11:20 - 11:40 **Sustainable Development of Upcycled Hop Oil Solutions from African Variety Hop Co-Product**
Ms Wanda du Plessis PRESERVE BOTANICA

11:40 – 12:00 **Current and future financial models of essential oil enterprises**
Mr Wynand Gericke ROSEHIP FARM

12:00– 12:20 **Challenges and successes of rural enterprise**
Mr Vincent Zulu BNX

12:20– 13:00 **Producers panel discussion on challenges and opportunities**
Questions and Answers

13:00 - 14:00 **Lunch and networking**



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Session 5: Collaborative Success: Leveraging local and global partnerships

Moderator: Ms Jacqui January

14:05 - 14:25 Castor oil proudly South Africa

Ms Irene Mafatse Tsele TUMAI

14:25 - 14:45 Africa partners to Medicinal and Aromatic Plant Academy for Female Entrepreneurs in Africa. MAPS ERASMUS Project

Ms Esther Ngina - KENYA PARTNER

14:45 – 15:05 Essential and vegetable oils in SADC- Profiles of producers and 25 years celebration

Ms Karen Swanepoel, Executive Director, SAEOPA

15:05 – 15:15 Questions & Answers

15:15 – 15:20 Vote of thanks

Ms Nnana Makhubu, Chairperson SAEOPA

15:20 – 15:30 Closing

Dr Elsie Meintjies UNIDO GQSP-SA

15:30 – 16:30 Networking: tea and coffee