



International
Astronomical
Union | Office of
Astronomy
for Development

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NEWS



Results of OAD 2017 Call for Proposals

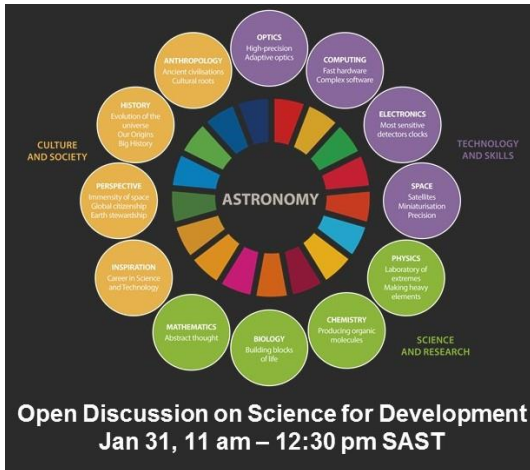
The OAD's sixth annual call for proposals has concluded and 16 projects have been selected to receive a total of €112,661 in 2018. This includes 6 projects in TaskForce-1, 5 projects in TaskForce-2 and another 5 in TaskForce-3. The OAD has also compiled a 'Recommended list' of project proposals that were approved by the reviewers but could not be funded. Both the funded and recommended list of projects are available on the [OAD website](#)



Science Forum South Africa 2017

At the Science Forum 2017, the South African Minister of Science and Technology, Naledi Pandor, presented awards of recognition to Phil Charles, Patricia Whitelock, Khotso Mokhele, and Kevin Govender, for their contributions in South Africa being selected as the host of the IAU OAD. Kevin Govender and Vanessa McBride from the OAD also participated in a number of panel discussions at SFSA 2017.

Read more on the [OAD website](#)



Brainstorming Session on Sci4Dev

31 Jan, 11am-12:30pm SAST,

URL: <https://zoom.us/j/698643949>

The OAD is hosting an open, brainstorming session on the Role of Science in Development using Astronomy as an example. The session is part of the series of monthly meetings to explore brainstorming across disciplines about development challenges. The session is open to everyone and will be hosted both online and in person at the SAAO auditorium.

Read more on the [OAD website](#)



Dot Astronomy 9 Conference

The Ninth Dot Astronomy conference was held from 14-17 November in Cape Town, jointly hosted by the OAD and SAAO. Dot Astronomy brings together an international community of astronomy researchers, developers, educators and communicators to showcase and build upon web-based projects, from outreach and education to research tools and data analysis.

Read more on the [OAD website](#)

PROJECTS – UPDATES

The OAD funded 20 projects in 2017 - 9 projects in TF1 (Universities & Research), 6 projects in TF2 (Children & Schools), 5 projects in TF3 (Public). Projects are now at the end of their implementation phase. Below are few of the pictures sent in by the projects. For more updates, please visit the [OAD website](#)



REGIONAL OFFICES – UPDATES

- Andean ROAD will be involved in the hosting of the [41st International School for Young Astronomers \(ISYA\)](#) in Socorro, Santander-Colombia from July 8-28, 2018

- **Arab ROAD and LOAD** conducted a number of Astronomy lectures organized by members of Jordanian Astronomical Society (JAS) & Arab Union of Astronomy and Space Sciences (AUASS)
- **East African ROAD** coorganized, participated and conducted the AstroBus-Ethiopia project, a mobile astronomy outreach program. It was conducted from 20-30 October 2017 and reached 10 cities in three regions of Ethiopia
- **East Asian ROAD and Chinese Language Center** was involved in conducting public talks, seminars and trainings in China in addition to regular activities such as popular publications, science cafes, and migrant children school visits.
- **Portuguese Language Office** in Brazil is organizing '[Astronomy for all](#)' program offering special lectures in Astronomy and sky gazing targeted at the general public
- NARIT, host of the **South East Asian ROAD**, participated in the 9th South East Asian Astronomy Network meeting (SEAN), held at Mandalay University, Myanmar from 29-30 November 2017
- **South West and Central Asian ROAD** co-organized the UNESCO regional conference on "Astronomical Heritage of the Middle East" from 13-17 November 2017 in Yerevan, Armenia
- **Southern African ROAD** organized an Astrolab workshop from 6-11 November 2017 at the National University of Science and Technology in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe
- **West African ROAD** coorganized an intensive 1-week python computing workshop together with NASRDA-Centre for Basic Space Science (CBSS) in November, 2017

More details on the [OAD website](#)

MEETINGS AND VISITORS

- A delegation from Ethiopia visited the OAD during an official trip to South Africa which included visits to a number of Astronomy and Space institutions.
- Diaz-Merced was one of the speakers at the mini Science Forum held at the Cape Town Science Centre in November. The aim of the event was to partner with local institutions and government agencies to create an interest in science, especially among school children
- Diaz-Merced contributed to the "[A Message from Earth](#)" project, a tribute to and recreation of the Voyager Golden Record
- McBride gave a talk at the Annual General Meeting of the South African Women in Science and Engineering (SA WISE) on 4 December 2017

- Venugopal attended the First African Space Generation Workshop organized by the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC) which is a student and young professional organization under the United Nations
- Melo Mtombeni from the University of Cape Town completed an internship with the OAD from 15 November to 15 December 2017
- Govender gave a talk at the SA-China Bilateral Meeting on Big Data Astronomy
- McBride introduced the [Data Science Toolkit](#) to astronomers at the Astroinformatics conference
- Samir Dhurde from Inter-University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics (IUCAA), India visited OAD in November 2017
- Govender made a presentation on Astronomy for Development to the members of the South African Institute of International Affairs in October 2017

UPCOMING EVENTS

Communicating Astronomy with the Public - CAP2018

24–28 March 2018

Fukuoka, Japan

<http://www.communicatingastronomy.org/cap2018/>

40th International School for Young Astronomers (ISYA)

26 March 2018 - 11 April 2018

Cairo, Egypt

<http://isya-2018-egypt.com/>

European Week of Astronomy and Space Science (EWASS 2018)

3-6 April 2018

Liverpool, UK

<http://eas.unige.ch/EWASS2018/session.jsp?id=SS23>

41st International School for Young Astronomers (ISYA)

8-28 July 2018

Socorro, Santander-Colombia

<https://eventos.redclara.net/indico/event/842/>

COSPAR Teacher Training Workshop 2018

14-22 July 2018

Pasadena, USA

<http://galileoteachers.org/cospar-teacher-training-workshop-2018/>

IAU XXX General Assembly

20-31 Aug 2018

Vienna, Austria

<http://astronomy2018.univie.ac.at/>
