

Towards a Sustainable Network of Physicists in Southern Africa

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Motivation

- Challenges faced by countries in Southern Africa require a well coordinated, integrated approach.
- Opportunities within the Southern Africa region could be better harnessed by collaborating.
- Physics is the key in addressing the challenges faced by the Southern Africa region.
- Physics in Southern African countries faces multiple and often unique challenges.
- Please add pointers for motivating why there is a need for a sustainable physics networking in Southern Africa - the science case, the social case, and the sustainability case. Or is there a need?
- ...

In responding ...

- Physics will need the other science disciplines and the social sciences.
- Physics will need the civil societies, policy makers, the private sector, and the institutions of higher learning.
- Physics should embrace inter-disciplinary and trans-disciplinary approaches.
- A strong regional network will contribute positively with one voice in shaping physics in the continent.
- Easy mobility of physicists across the borders of Southern Africa region.
- Please add – What could be the benefits of a sustainable physics network in the Southern Africa region?
- ...

The Network ...

- SAPHysNet is a working name. I am the chair of the Task Team to co-create SAPHysNet.
- The network should be co-created by the physicists in Southern Africa for physicists in Southern Africa.
- Co-created through robust and yet focused discussions.
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion should be part of the guiding principles.
- Ethical conduct , democratic ideals, transparency.
- Include research and training, physics education, innovation, and public/govt/industry engagement among the focus areas.
- Driven by the need for a strong physics for sustainable future of Southern Africa region.
- If there is a need for a network – what would you like to see as its characteristics?
- Looking forward to robust and fruitful discussions.