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NUCLEAR RE-IMAGINED - YOUTH REFLECTIONS

ORGANISED BY:

**WITS UNIVERSITY,
AFRICA4NUCLEAR &
WIN GLOBAL - YG**



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ABOUT THE EVENT

EVENT OVERVIEW

Event Name: Nuclear Re-Imagined: Youth Reflections

Theme: Youth Shaping Africa's Energy Future

Date: 04 August 2025

Venue: University of the Witwatersrand (Wits University), Johannesburg

Expected Audience: 100+ young people (students, graduates, early-career professionals)

TARGET AUDIENCE:

- University students (especially in STEM disciplines)
- Young researchers and innovators
- Early-career professionals in science and engineering
- Youth organisations and science clubs
- Representatives from government, academia, and industry

BACKGROUND

In celebration of young leaders in shaping South Africa's energy future, Wits University, Africa4Nuclear and Women in Nuclear Global - Young Generation (WiN-YG) are hosting a youth-focused event. This initiative aims to inspire and empower young South Africans—both male and female—interested in energy conversation, with a special focus on the vital role of nuclear science and technology in addressing climate change, protecting biodiversity, and securing a clean energy future.

By bringing together students, young professionals, and key industry stakeholders, the event will provide a platform for collaboration, mentorship, and knowledge sharing. The key speakers include Deputy Minister of Energy and Electricity (DEE), Wits University Principal and Vice Chancellor, Portfolio Committee on Science and Innovation Chairperson, OECD-NEA Head of Nuclear Science Division, industry and academic experts, among others.

Through the Nuclear Re-Imagined event, we're amplifying young voices, showcasing innovation through sustainable financing, and encouraging the next generation to step into leadership roles in the nuclear and clean energy sectors. Because the future of our planet—and our power—depends on them.

PROGRAMME

09:00 - 09:30	Registration & Networking Breakfast
09:30 - 09:35	Opening and Welcome Address Host: Princess Mthombeni, Africa4Nuclear
09:35 - 09:55	Welcome Remarks + Keynote Address: Prof Zeblon Vilakazi, Wits University VC
09:55 - 10:10	Welcome Remarks: Nomso Kana, Chairperson: Africa4Nuclear
10:10 - 10:30	Keynote Address by Ms Samantha Graham-Marè, Deputy Minister of Energy & Electricity
10:30 - 10:45	Industry Speaker: NRWDI CEO, Riedewaan Bakardien "Ensuring Safety and Sustainability in the Back-end Nuclear Fuel Cycle"
10:45 - 11:15	Tea/Coffee Break
11:15 - 12:00	Panel 1: "Unlocking Innovation, Investment & Inclusion for New Energy Generation" Moderator: Princess Mthombeni , Africa4Nuclear SPEAKERS: - Wits Business School: Head: Energy Leadership Centre, Prof David Phaho - President & Chairperson: Academy of Science SA, Prof Thokozani Majozi , - Energy Specialist: Ms Lungile Mashele - Portfolio Committee: Science & Innovation Chairperson: Ms Tsakani Tshiviti ,
12:00 - 12:10	Keynote: Nuclear Energy Agency (NEA), Head of Division of Nuclear Science, Dr Tatiana Ivanova
12:10 - 12:40	Panel 2: "Breaking Barriers in the Nuclear Industry" Moderator: Amanda Mbhele, Women In Nuclear Global Young Generation SPEAKERS: - Department of Energy & Electricity, Ms Bessie Makgopa - WiNSA Chairperson, Noxolo Kunene - "Women contributions to nuclear science in South Africa". - SAYNPS Executive Chairperson, Emmanuel Montwedi - "Insights on the support of young nuclear professionals". - Prof Usman Uyabo: "Sharing research opportunities in nuclear science".
12:40 - 12:50	Quiz and Prize Giving
12:50 - 12:55	Closing Remarks
12:55	Departure

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THANK YOU



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