



## Regional Experts Meeting

**Theme:** Building Thriving Innovation & Entrepreneurship Ecosystems across Southern Africa

**Location:** Second Floor, Brickfield Canvas, Cape Town, South Africa

**Date:** 18 September 2024

**Time:** 08:30 hrs - 16:30 hrs

### Agenda

Description	Speaker	Time
<b>Registration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tea / Coffee</li> <li>Networking</li> </ul>	<b>All Delegates</b>	8:30 - 9:00
<b>Welcome &amp; Opening Remarks:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overview of the meeting objectives</li> <li>Introduction of participants</li> <li>Innovation &amp; Entrepreneurship Poem</li> </ul>	<b>SADC Secretariat</b> Principal Secretary  Reaboka Morakabi Acting SPO-STI	09:00 - 09:30
<b>What is SAIC?:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SAIC background and objectives</li> <li>Operationalisation and status update on current initiatives</li> <li>Discussion on lessons learned and collaboration opportunities</li> </ul>	<b>SAIC Board</b> Obakeng Segwagwe Vice Chairperson SAIC	09:30 - 10:15
<b>Member State Updates:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Brief presentations (5min) from each country on their regional startup ecosystems</li> <li>Unique challenges and opportunities in each region i.e. (data platforms, funding instruments &amp; startup friendly policies)</li> <li>Identification of best practices and key success factors</li> </ul>	<b>All Delegates</b> Alphabetical Order	10:15 - 12:15
<b>BoostUp - Regional Startup Competition</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What is BoostUp?</li> <li>Successes &amp; Collaboration Opportunities</li> <li>SAIC Work Plan &amp; Outlook</li> </ul>	<b>SAIC Secretariat</b> Sina Legong SAIC PMO  Tendai Mazhude SAIC PMO	12:15 - 13:00
<b>Lunch</b>	<b>Break</b>	13:00 -14:00
<b>Integrating Innovation &amp; Technology in Enterprise Development:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion on the role of innovation and technology platforms in scaling startups</li> <li>Case studies or examples of successful technology integration in startups</li> <li>The role of technology platforms in data collection, funding and policy decision making</li> </ul>	<b>Sw7</b> Keith Jones CoFounder Sw7	14:00 - 14:45



<p><b>Policy Panel Discussion: Startup Acts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The role of policy in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship</li> <li>• Lessons learnt for member states looking to setup Startup Acts</li> <li>• How can Startup Acts lead to increased financing for Enterprise Development initiatives and startups alike</li> </ul>	<p><b>Panellists</b></p> <p>Dr Konanani Rashamuse Chief Director: Innovation Priorities and Instruments DSI</p> <p>Belisa Rodrigues Learning Specialist i4Policy</p> <p>SA Startup Act Movement Adrian Dommissie Founding Director Dommissie Attorneys</p> <p><b>Moderator</b> Alexandra Fraser CEO Viridian</p>	<p>14:45 - 16:00</p>
<p><b>Key Takeaways &amp; Next Steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summary of event highlights</li> <li>• Outline of action items and roadmap</li> </ul>	<p><b>SADC Secretariat</b> Reaboka Morakabi Acting SPO-STI</p>	<p>16:00 - 16:15</p>
<p><b>Vote of Thanks &amp; Closing Remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Event Close</li> </ul>	<p><b>DSI</b> Mandry Ntshani Director Africa Multilateral Cooperation</p>	<p>16:15 - 16:30</p>