

Dr. Elizabeth Rasekoala – Bio/Profile

DR ELIZABETH RASEKOALA is the President of ***African Gong*** – The Pan-African Network for the Popularization of Science & Technology and Science Communication, which aims to advance the Public Learning and Understanding of Science (PLUS), scientific outreach and scientific literacy on the African continent (www.africangong.org). She is a member of the African Union Commission (AUC) Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Committee for the ten-year '***Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa***' (STISA-2024).

African Gong's mission is to embark and sustain African citizens and communities through science communication and the public learning and understanding of science (PLUS) on an evolving, empowering and progressive journey to own and include scientific notions in their everyday experience, so that they are better able to make informed choices and decisions that will improve the quality of their lives. The critical context for this transformation is that of advancing the sustainable development of the continent, in line with the **UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's)**; the **African Union's Agenda 2063** and its **Science, Technology and Innovation Strategy for Africa (STISA 2024)**.

Dr. Rasekoala with a professional background in Chemical Engineering and industry internationally, has championed, advocated, researched, presented and written widely on public innovation and transformative development through advancing diversity, sociocultural inclusion and gender equality issues in science communication and science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education, skills and entrepreneurship development. She is an independent professional who is passionate about transformation, development work and multi-disciplinary frameworks. She is also committed to demonstrable, analytical and fact-based approaches to problem solving, with an outcomes-based focus leading to measurable impact/objectives.

Dr. Rasekoala is a member of the **Advisory Council** for the **Women in STEM Initiative of Ingenium** – Canada's Museums of Science and Innovation, and also a founder member of **SET4Women**, the South African Government Reference Group on Gender, Science and Technology. She is the Founder and Executive Director (1995-2005) of the **African-Caribbean Network for Science & Technology (ACNST)**, working to advance human capital development, race and gender equality, and social inclusion in the scientific enterprise, in the African Diaspora.

Dr. Rasekoala has provided extensive advisory and consultancy expertise to various governments, institutions and multilateral international organisations over the past 15 years, including the following: the UK Government Department for Education & Skills (DfES); the UK Government Department for International Development (DfID); the European Commission – DG Research, Science & Innovation; the US National Science Foundation; the South African Government Department of Science & Technology (DST); the South African National Research Foundation (NRF); the Nigerian Government Federal Ministry of Agriculture & Rural Development (FMARD); the Brazilian Government Departments - Fundacao Cultural Palmares, and the Federal Ministry of Education; the British Council; the German Academic Education Service (DAAD); the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (UNCHR); the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA); UNESCO; ICSU-Regional Office for Africa; the Southern African Development Community (SADC); the African Union Commission (AUC); and the African Development Bank (AfDB).

Advancing science communication, democracy and ownership in Africa. An interview with Elizabeth Rasekoala (Sustainable Research Cooperation 2019)

<https://sureco-review.net/interview-elizabeth-rasakoka/>