

Event: Pan-African community discussion held on 19.10.2021.

Panelists:

- **Prof. Peter Jenni**(ALU Frieberg)
- **Prof. Fernando Quevedo**(Univ. of Cambridge)
- **Prof. Farida Fassi**(Mohammad V Univ.)
- **Dr. Gopolang Mohlabeng**(Queens Univ.)
- **Dr. Marie Chantal CYULINYANA** (Univ. of Rwanda)
- **Prof. Mirjana Povic**(Ethiopian Space Science & Technology Inst.)



Letter of Interest

Observer

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This letter of interest is based on the panel discussion held on 19.10.2021, under the stewardship of Ketevi Adikle Assamagan from Brookhaven National Laboratory. The objective was to understand and identify the means to improve the quality of life and science in the continent of Africa. In other words it was meant to find out ways to improve the living conditions and the contributions in science for the countries in the continent. The discussion was held by senior level experts as well as individuals in the early stage of their career from all over the globe.

The discussion highlighted the need of the involvement of grassroots level community driven strategies those are inclusive in nature and their role in getting support from the leaders and policy makers. During the discussion, the role of science in development of society came up again and again and in this process the role of policy makers was highlighted. It was highlighted that education, knowledge transfer, community driven activity, cooperative learning should be more goal oriented and focused towards getting fundings from the policy makers. In order to find ways to implement the same there was a comparison of strategies adapted by various nations including some from Europe, some from Asia and some from south America performed during the discussion. During this comparison the importance of cooperation between different nations and holding collaborative program was highlighted. The discussion ended with a note that once these things are executed properly, they would bring development and prosperity to the stakeholder nations.

According to the opinion of the observer, some amount of focus on the strategies to improve the quality of education involving analytical and digital components and space science would have

a great impact in the development of the whole continent.

Investments in astronomy, particularly space related activities have a great potential to reach out to the regions those are remote and physically inaccessible. Satellite based program holds the promise of connecting these regions to the fields of knowledge and information about weather and environments to boost economical prospects of the people living over there. The scientific promise that Astronomy and Astrophysics holds are as follows.

The deep space has always surprised us with observables from the rare events like high energy cosmic rays, photons, and neutrinos from cosmic accelerators. These events happen in astrophysical environment with high abundance. The radical proposals about discovery of new science involving majorons, dark photons, sterile neutrinos etc., often need high intensity beams and strong flux along with existence of extreme conditions to establish their existence. Under normal situations creating a conducive conditions in a lab is often found to be difficult and expensive. So if these two efforts are combined in tandem, the discovery potential for these items mentioned gets optimized. We believe that such a scheme would improve the developmental prospects and discovery potentials of various scientific objects—in the continent of Africa.