



PSTF

Public Sector Trainers' Forum

2026

9-10 March

Birchwood Hotel
Ekurhuleni, Gauteng

Conference Programme

Theme:

Professionalisation-
advancing the
developmental agenda of
the state



school of government

Department:
National School of Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

A **NATION** 
THAT **WORKS** **FOR ALL**

Learn Serve Grow



OPENING AND WELCOME SESSION : PUBLIC SECTOR PRACTITIONERS AS PILLARS OF ECONOMIC GROWTH, DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND ETHICAL GOVERNANCE



PROGRAMME DIRECTOR: DR ANUSHA NAIDOO

**DAY 1 MONDAY
9 MARCH 2026**

VENUE: OR TAMBO



WELCOME REMARKS BY

NSG Acting Principal, Ms Phindile Mkwanazi

01

08:45– 09:15

OPENING ADDRESS

Inkosi E.M. Buthelezi, Minister for Public service and Administration (MPSA)

02

09:15– 10:00



10:00– 10:30

SESSION 1

STRENGTHENING THE CURRICULUM TO SUPPORT A CAPABLE, ETHICAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL STATE

ADDRESS BY PROF KGOATHSO SHAI, SAAPAM PRESIDENT: CURRICULUM MATTERS IN STATE CAPACITY AND PROFESSIONALISATION: THE SCOPE OF POSSIBILITIES

03

10:30–11:00

**PARALLEL SESSION 1.1
VALUES & YOUTH**

**PARALLEL SESSION 1.2
LOCAL CAPABILITY FOR
NATIONAL PROSPERITY**

**PARALLEL SESSION 1.3
POLICY AND OVERSIGHT
PERSPECTIVES**

**PARALLEL SESSION 1.4
EXECUTIVE EDUCATION**

04

11:00–13:00

**VENUE
MARCO POLO**

**VENUE
AUDITORIUM**

**VENUE
KING SHAKA**

**VENUE
OR TAMBO**

Moderator
Ms Nibe

Moderator
Ms Phehla

Moderator
Ms Kgotse

Moderator
Ms Botha

Democracy and
values-based
curriculum

Ms Shanaaz Majiet

Investing in youth
and new entrants

**Dr Izi Malatjie, NSG
Mr Ndumiso
Kubheka, NYDA**

Policy initiatives for
a capable local
sphere

**Dr Thobile
Mhlono, SALGA
Ms Tina Andries
COGTA
Ms Lesego
Maakane COGTA
Prof Halima
Khunoete, KZN
COGTA**

Capabilities for
integrated
planning,
budgeting and
municipal revenue
generation
**Mr Jan Hattingh,
National Treasury**

Ethics and
meritocracy hand in
hand

**Dr Kholofelo
Sedibe, PSC**

Enhancing
performance and
accountability
systems at all levels

Executive education
for complex public
sector contexts

**Prof Milly Paile
NSG,
Prof Rainer Kattel,
University College
London,
Prof Nartey
INSEAD**



LUNCH

13:00 – 13:55

SESSION 2

DIGITAL INNOVATION AND TRANSFORMATION IN GOVERNMENT

PARALLEL SESSION 2.1 INNOVATION ENABLEMENT	PARALLEL SESSION 2.2 DIGITAL INTEGRATION IN ETD	PARALLEL SESSION 2.3 PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR COLLABORATIONS	PARALLEL SESSION 2.4 PUBLIC SECTOR INNOVATION INTERNATIONALLY	05 14:00– 15:30
VENUE MARCO POLO	VENUE AUDITORIUM	VENUE KING SHAKA	VENUE OR TAMBO	
Moderator Ms Pienaar	Moderator Ms Msinga	Moderator Ms Williams	Moderator Mr Hannekom	
When bureaucracy and innovation coexist Mr Pierre Schoonraad, CPSI Green innovation for public service excellence and an inclusive economy Dr Ford CSIR Ms Magama Makgamatho (COEGA)	Integration of AI in curriculum development Prof Linda van Ryneveld, UP Digital skills in public admin programmes Mr Mxolisi Ntlabati, DLRRD Mr Trevor Rammitlwa, NEMISA	Creating and Sustaining Government–Private Sector Networks – supporting Sustainable Programmes in Infrastructure, Finance, and Technology Ms Nevashnee Naicker Anglo American South Africa	Drivers of and responses to digital innovation and transformation Mr Dino Poonsamy, NSG Ms Tatjana Reiber, IDOS Prof Caroline Brassard, Chandler Academy of Governance	
VENUE OR TAMBO				06 15:45– 17:15
Workshop on research and writing for publication Dr Johnny Pietersen, NSG with local and international partners: Mr Edmund Beerwinkel (JUTA) Dr Peter Lukey (Case Study Writer/ Stellenbosch University) Ms Alice Odhiambo and Mr Musiwalo Enos Sikhauli (Case Study Writer/ SASSA) Mr Pierre Schoonraad (CPSI) Dr Felix Gadzaov- Director of the Digital School of Public Administration Centre- Graduate School of Public Management, Prof Ivan Lapshin, Prof Artem Chalenko, Ms Alina Akchuria (RANEPa)				



GALA DINNER
VENUE: TERMINAL A



07
18:30– 21:00



PROGRAMME DIRECTOR: MS LOUISE LEPAN AND PROF BUSANI NGCAWENI

Key note Address:

**Ms Pinky Kekana, Deputy Minister for Public Service And Administration,
On The Occasion of the 24th Public Sector Trainers' Forum (PSTF) Conference
09 March 2026, Birchwood Hotel And Conference Centre, Boksburg**

END OF DAY ONE

SESSION 3

MODERNISING METHODOLOGIES FOR GREATER AUTHENTIC PUBLIC PARTICIPATION



VENUE: OR TAMBO
PROGRAMME DIRECTOR: DR PHUMZILE MMOPE

DAY 2 TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2026



MODERATOR DR MOHLOKOANE

Address: Dr Raed Mohammed BenShams, IIAS President: Building public sector capacity for economic growth, digital transformation, and ethical governance Messages of support from partners

01

08:45– 09:15

Panel discussion: Continental outlooks on Public Sector capacity building agendas

Ghana: Dr Appiah-Marfo, GIMPA
Zambia: Prof Jacob Malingo, NIPA
Kenya: Mr Prisca Oluoch, KSG
South Africa: Dr Mary Mangai, SAAPAM

02

09:15– 10:30

Address: Ms Nthabiseng Makhatha from STATSSA: Data driven and evidence based decision making - Public sector exigencies and enablers

03

10:30– 11:00



11:00– 11:30

PARALLEL SESSION 3.1 PUBLIC SECTOR PRODUCTIVITY

PARALLEL SESSION 3.2 OPEN, DISTANCE AND ELEARNING

PARALLEL SESSION 3.3 TRENDS IN SECTOR ACADEMIES

PARALLEL SESSION 3.4 PARTICIPATORY PLANNING AND SERVICE DELIVERY

04

11:30–13:00

VENUE MARCO POLO

VENUE AUDITORIUM

VENUE KING SHAKA

VENUE OR TAMBO

Moderator
Ms Budaza

Moderator
Mr Mthethwa

Moderator
Ms Phalane

Moderator
Mr Xabanisa

Anticipatory capacity for 21st century public sector – a productivity perspective

Dr Johnny Pietersen, NSG

Lalane Janse van Rensburg (Productivity SA)

Enabling public sector professionalisation through ODeL

Dr Fran Geyling, NSG

Learning management systems and learning analytics

Mr Alistair Johanson, GCRA
Mr Jannie vd Westhuisen, WCPTI

Trends toward modernising methodologies for public sector training and development

Ms Melisa Murray, Brigitte Mabandla Justice College SARS Academy: Representative

Participatory planning and user-centric service delivery – case studies

Ms Louise Lepad, NSG
Ms Helen North, KZN OTP

Using data for planning and precinct development

Ms Enkosi Mpondo, Public Works and Infrastructure



LUNCH

13:00 – 13:45

SESSION 4

FROM LEARNING TO ACTION: DESIGNING CURRICULUM WITH A STRONG WORKPLACE INTEGRATION FOCUS

**VENUE
OR TAMBO**

05

13:45- 15:30

**MODERATOR
MS FAITH NYAKA**

Panel discussion: Quality Councils - perspectives on work integrated strategies and recognition of micro-credentials

Dr Makhapha Makhafola, SAQA
Dr Ajay Jivan, SABPP
Dr Marco MacFarlane QCTO
HEI

SESSION 5

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE: MINDSETS AND COMPETENCES

CONFERENCE CLOSURE: ACTING PRINCIPAL, MS PHINDILE MKWANAZI (NSG)

06

15:30- 16:00

END OF DAY TWO



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TRAVEL SAFE