

Positioning of RISA's Grant Making Mandate – Optimising RISA Domains interface

Dr Ndanduleni B. Nthambeleni

Executive Director: Grants Management and Systems
Administration

30 September 2015

6th Annual Research Administrator Workshop

Summerstrand Hotel, Port Elizabeth

South Africa

NRF at a glance

What do we do?

The NRF has three main functions:

- to support research and innovation, through its agency, Research and Innovation Support and Advancement (RISA); and
- to encourage an interest in science and technology through its business unit, the South African Agency for Science and Technology Advancement (SAASTA);
- to facilitate high-end research through its National Research Facilities.

Why do we do it?

One of the NRF's key objectives is to ensure appropriately qualified people and high-level infrastructure to produce the knowledge that makes South Africa a global competitor.

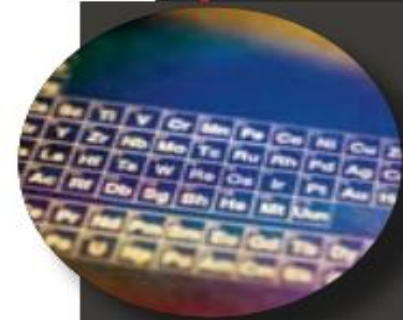
How do we do it?

Funding from the NRF is largely directed towards academic research, developing high-level human resources, and supporting the nation's National Research Facilities. Funding opportunities cover the full spectrum of beneficiaries: from students and researchers through to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and staff at HEIs, and from scientists involved in bilateral and multilateral joint research projects to private individuals or companies and Science Councils.

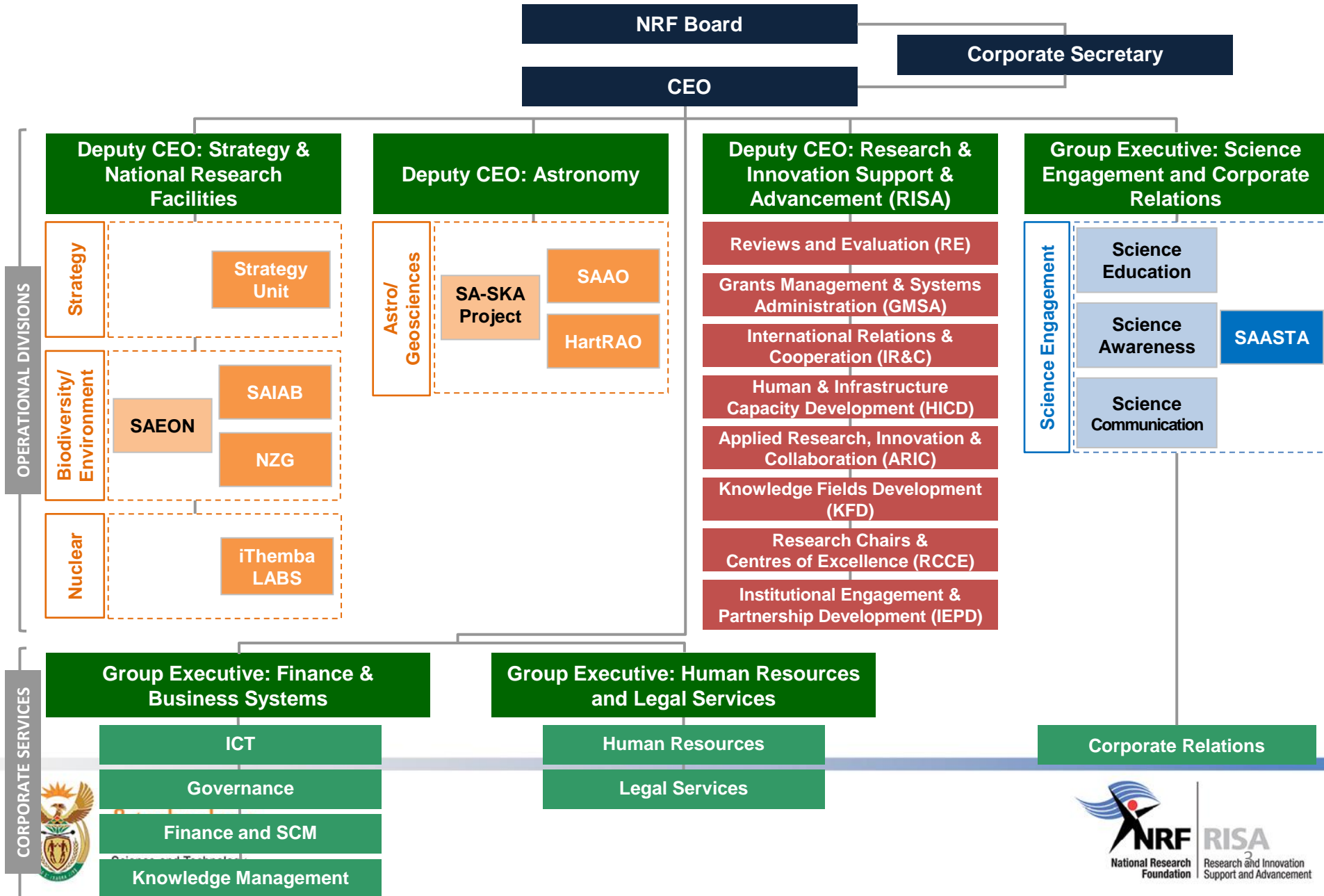
WHO

*is the
NRF?*

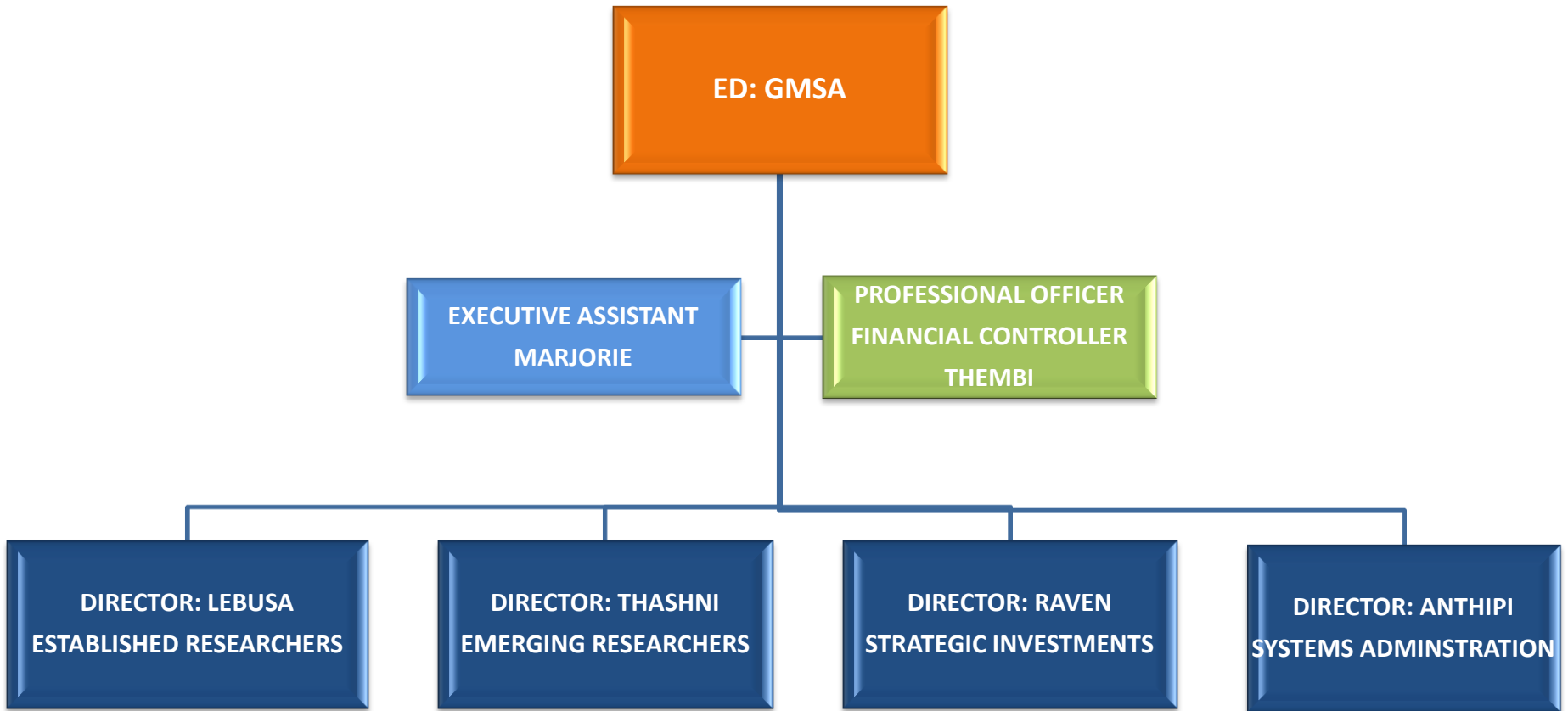
The National Research Foundation is the intermediary agency between the policies and strategies of government and those institutions that perform research. Unlike other Science Councils whose role is research performance, the NRF primarily fulfils an agency role, with a smaller portion of its activity allocated to research performance through the National Research Facilities.



NRF Organisational Structure



GMSA Organogram



Established Researchers

012 481

Director	Lebusa	Monyooe	4230
Professional Officer	Simon	Lotz	4125
Professional Officer	Lyndia	Erasmus	4042
Professional Officer	Marinky	Tshephe	4060
Liaison Officer	Mandisa	Cele	4056
Liaison Officer	Eulenda	Mosese	4147
Liaison Officer	Lerato	Thokoane	4327
Liaison Officer	Sarah	Sepamla	4043
Liaison Officer	Cebsile	Makhanya	4155
Liaison Officer	Tshifhiwa	Munzhelele	4300
Liaison Officer	Jane	Mabena	4067
Liaison Officer	Pamela	Mteto	4122
Liaison Officer	Amanda	Raphetane	4195
Liaison Officer	Judith	Mahlanya	4063
Administrative Assistant	Siviwe	Mokone	4301



science
& technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Emerging Researchers

012 481

Director	Thashni	Pillay	4241
Professional Officer	Zikhona	Lose	4365
Professional Officer	Nozine	Nqeketo	4184
Professional Officer	Perimalla	Pillay	4178
Professional Officer	Vacant	Vacant	
Liaison Officer	Eliazare	Ntlhakana	4280
Liaison Officer	Onnica	Motsepe	4112
Liaison Officer	Melissa	Govender	4311
Liaison Officer	Lehlogonolo	Phaahla	4102
Liaison Officer	Thandeka	Mthethwa	4163
Liaison Officer	Vacant	Vacant	
Liaison Officer	Galefele	Mabalane	4279
Liaison Officer	Zodwa	Mahlangu	4114
Intern	Malebo	Mohlala	4121
Intern	Lelethu	Sikwebu	4066
Administrative Assistant	Virginia	Mashishi	4310



science
& technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Strategic Investments

012 481

Director	Raven	Jimmy	4069
Professional Officer	Stephen	Dlamini	4037
Professional Officer	Tania	Diedricks	4118
Professional Officer	Mpai	Motsei	4078
Liaison Officer	Jan	Phalane	4157
Liaison Officer	Christa	Huizinga	4085
Liaison Officer	Miriam	Tlou	4032
Liaison Officer	Johanna	Leduka	4029
Liaison Officer	Deomanie	Maharaj	4175
Liaison Officer	Viresni	Moonsamy	4352
Liaison Officer	Tshepiso	Masemola	4336
Administrative Assistant	Becky	Matee	4027



science
& technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Systems Administration

012 481

Director	Anthipi	Pouris	4240
Professional Officer	Bettie	de Beer	4034
Professional Officer	Takalani	Mbambala	4079
Professional Officer	Vacant	Vacant	
Liaison Officer	Sibongile	Matjeka	4072
Liaison Officer	Maria	Matjeka	4098
Liaison Officer	Philasande	Giwu	4394



science
& technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Grant Finance

012 481

Financial Controller	Thembekile	Ramotebele	4064
Finance Officer	Tebogo	Manganye	4142
Finance Officer	Tsebo	Masihleho	4181



science
& technology

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Scope of the GMSA

As one of RISA service domains, GMSA performs the following functions in the granting business of RISA

- Grants Management and Expenditure
- Systems Management
- Audit and Grant Finance
- Reporting
- Stakeholder Relations (Call Centre)

GMSA Key Performance Driver

- Expenditure >98% of annual awarded grant budget
- Therefore must:
 - Publish call for application as planned
 - Over allocate the grant budget
 - Secure all documentations so as to release funds fully
 - Work with institutions to minimize cancellations
 - Timeous monitoring of claim rates
 - Timeous reallocation of returned funds
 - Encourage expenditure and reporting

MFAA, Call Schedule and Opening of Calls

Funding Activities	Lead	Participating
1. Master Funding Administration Agreement	GMSA	Legal department
2. Call Schedule	GMSA	Funding domain, RE
3. Multiple eligibility of grants	GMSA	Funding domain
4. Opening of Calls		
a. Documents required		
i. Request for Call to RISA IT	Project Leader	RISA IT, Sponsor,
ii. Framework document	Funding domain	GMSA, RE
iii. Funding Guide (incl Scorecard)	GMSA	Funding domain, RE
iv. Web text	Project Leader	Funding domain, GMSA
v. User Acceptance	Project Leader	GMSA, Funding domain and RE

Application Design, testing and screening

Funding Activities	Lead	Participating
b) Application Design		
c) Application testing online	RISA IT	GMSA, RE, Funding domain
5. Internal screening processes		
a. Screening of applications	GMSA	
b. Uploading of qualifying applications onto Phoenix Grant Systems	GMSA	
6. Review of Proposals		
a. According to ToR for review	RE	
b. Uploading to Phoenix on defined panels	RE	
c. Remote and Panel reviews	RE	

Funding decisions, Review outcome and Sign off of funding decisions

Funding Activities	Lead	Participation
d. Review Outcome	RE	
e. Regret letters and all Feedback	RE	
7. Funding decisions	Project Leader	
a. Creation of funding spreadsheets according to GMSA Specs	Project Leader	Project Team
b. Meeting funding guide requirements	GMSA	
c. Meeting funding instrument objectives	Funding domain	
d. Sign-off of funding spreadsheets	Project Leader	RE, GMSA, Funding domain
8. Electronic reconciliation of panel decisions with funding decisions	GMSA	IT

Award process and Grants expenditure

Funding Activities	Lead	Participating
9. Award process		
a. Grant reconciliation	GMSA	
b. Issuing Award letters	GMSA	
c. Conditions of grants	GMSA	Legal, Funding domain
d. Student Agreements	GMSA	
e. Tracking Student completion	GMSA	Corp Gov
e. Release of grants	GMSA	
10. Monitoring and Reporting on Grants Expenditure		
a. Monthly cost centre reports	GMSA	
b. Register of Grants	GMSA	
c. Dashboard reporting	Corp Gov	GMSA

Appeals process, APR's and Funding Instrument evaluation

Funding Activities	Lead	Participating
11. Appeals process based on Merit & Procedural grounds		
a. Online Appeals form	RE	GMSA, Funding domain
b. Process (Appeals Com)	Funding Domain	
c. Outcome spreadsheet	RE	
12. Annual Progress Reports		
a. Design of the report	Funding domain	GMSA, RE
b. Testing of report online	GMSA	Funding domain
c. Process of acquiring reports	GMSA	
d. Evaluation of reports against objectives	Funding domain	
13. Funding instrument evaluation	RE	

Grant carry forward, Grant projections and Grant Audit

Funding Activities	Lead	Participation
14. Carry forward process		
a. Carry forward guide	GMSA	
b. Motivations onto Phoenix and consideration thereof	GMSA	Funding domain
c. Carry forward approvals	GMSA	Funding domain
15. Grants Projections	GMSA	Finance, Funding domain
16. Audit of Grants		
a. External Audit	GMSA	Finance, External Auditors
b. Internal Audit	GMSA	Internal Auditors
17. Audit of Systems (Phoenix & NRF Online Submission)	Corp IT	GMSA, Auditors

PARTNER with us
Realise the POTENTIAL



Enkosi, Thank you,
Ndo livhuwa, Re a leboga,
Siyabonga, Dankie

2016/04/11



NRF
National Research
Foundation

**National
Research
Facilities**
Research Infrastructure and
National Research Facilities



NRF
National Research
Foundation

HartRAO
Hartebeesthoek Radio
Astronomy Observatory



NRF
National Research
Foundation

SAAO
South African
Astronomical Observatory



NRF
National Research
Foundation

NZG
National Zoological Gardens
of South Africa



NRF
National Research
Foundation

SAEON
South African Environmental
Observation Network



NRF
National Research
Foundation

SAIAB
South African Institute for
Aquatic Biodiversity



NRF
National Research
Foundation

iThemba LABS
Laboratory for Accelerator
Based Sciences



NRF
National Research
Foundation

RISA
Research and Innovation
Support and Advancement



NRF
National Research
Foundation

SAASTA
South African Agency for Science
and Technology Advancement