



science  
& technology

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **NAM S&T CENTRE – DST SOUTH AFRICA TRAINING FELLOWSHIP ON MINERAL PROCESSING AND BENEFICIATION**

This document provides some background information about the programme, South Africa and Mintek so that the applicants can be prepared for the programme.

### ***The Programme***

In 2013, South Africa commenced a 3 year term as President of the Centre for Science and Technology of the Non-Aligned and Other Developing Countries (NAM S & T Centre). The Centre is based in India. As the current President of the Centre, South Africa decided to implement a training programme in Mineral Processing and Beneficiation.

The Department of Science and Technology of South Africa (DST), in collaboration with MINTEK will implement the training programme for the member states of NAM S&T Centre.

For 2017 the programme will, once more, be hosted by Mintek and will commence on Monday 15 May and will finish on Friday 04 August, a total of 12 weeks.

This capacity development training is aimed at professionals already working in the minerals field, but with limited exposure to modern, advanced and new ways of minerals processing and beneficiation, and those who would benefit from developing an overview of how to facilitate the development of the minerals sector in their country.

### ***Format of the Training***

The training programme has been designed and customized to suite each fellow, taking into account their;

- Background
- Qualifications
- Experience
- Country's developmental needs

To facilitate this, the programme is limited to 20 fellows for each intake.

Each fellow will be attached to Mintek's operating Divisions where they will participate in on-the-job-training on existing Mintek projects and programmes. Fellows will be rotated between Divisions / disciplines during the programme so that they are exposed to a range of projects and disciplines.

Fellows will be pre-allocated to a Mintek Division at the start of the programme, based on the information received from the application process. However 2 to 3 weeks into the programme the personalised plan for each fellow will be reviewed with them and modified as required, subject to the availability of space in other divisions.

Over and above the on-the-job-training, there will be a series of plenary sessions covering a range of topics, including;

- Minerals policy issues.
- The structure of the global mining industry.
- Why companies invest in mining projects.
- The mechanics of mineral project development.
- Theoretical training on the main aspects of mineral processing and beneficiation.
- The developmental role that national minerals facilities can play in developing the minerals industry in a country.
- International accreditation and certification.

There will also be technical visits to other institutions and mining sites e.g. Department of Science and Technology, Council for Geoscience, Mintek's Savmin, Sorting plants and a possible visit to a gold or platinum mine.

In order to avoid idling of the fellows when the divisions are writing reports or waiting for completion of experiments, fellows will be provided with desktop projects to research on. These include a range of topics such as:

- A review of technologies used to process gold
- What benefit can a mineral processing organisation like Mintek have in your country
- A review of the main mining countries
- How do you use your mining sector for long term benefit to your country?
- Industrial minerals are an important component of many countries' mineral heritage. What are the constraints and limitations of industrial minerals and how can the industrial minerals sector be used to maximise the national benefit.
- Is it possible to develop a safe and sustainable artisanal mining sector

## **General Information**

### ***Accommodation***

The fellows participating in the programme will be accommodated at a guest house in Randburg.

### **Please note that the following are not included:**

- **Travel costs over the weekends:** (except for the formal social programme that is arranged by Mintek – on approximately 1 day every second weekend). Other travel requirements are for the fellows personal cost and can be arranged with the Guest House or local taxis.
- **Lunch during the week and over weekends:** Mintek has an on-site canteen during the week where fellows can purchase lunch; alternatively fellows can choose to buy their own lunch from the local shops. The same applies over the week-ends.

**All fellows will be provided with a monthly stipend to cover the above costs plus additional personal spendings.**

### ***Working times***

The working week in South Africa is Monday to Friday and the programme will run on all weekdays from Monday until Friday, unless there is a public holiday during the week.

Transport to and from the guest house will be arranged.

Weekends, i.e. Saturdays and Sundays, will be free leisure time for all fellows. Notwithstanding that, Mintek will arrange a social programme for delegates that will run on approximately one weekend day every second weekend. Examples of these activities include visits to cultural sites, functions etc.

### ***Stipend***

The fellowship includes a monthly stipend. At the start of the programme each fellow will be provided with an ATM debit / credit card with the first month's stipend preloaded. The stipends for the subsequent months will be loaded onto the card at the beginning each month. The stipend is to cover the cost of lunch each day as well as any other personal costs.

### **• *Health Precautions***

#### **Vaccination**

If you're an adult, you won't need any inoculations unless you're travelling from a yellow-fever endemic area (the yellow fever belt of Africa or South America), in which case you will need certification to prove your inoculation status when you arrive in South Africa.

It is recommended that you have the required inoculations four to six weeks before you travel to South Africa. A yellow fever inoculation certificate only becomes valid 10 days after inoculation – after which it remains valid for 10 years.

#### **Drinking water**

High-quality tap water is available in South Africa's urban areas.

#### **Chronic medication**

Pharmacies are well stocked, and equivalents to most international medicines are available. Pharmacists may not dispense Schedule 3 drugs and up without a doctor's prescription, so visitors on chronic medication should carry their own prescription, and must strictly be in English.

It is also advisable to bring along enough medication and be prepared to produce the copy of your doctor's prescription in customs if so required.

### **• *Currency***

Major credit cards can be used in most establishments in urban areas and there are ATMs. Traveller's cheques can be exchanged at banks.

Banking Hours: Mon-Fri 09:00-15:30; Sat 08:30-11:00.

### **• *Language***

English is widely spoken and is the official language used at Mintek. There are 11 official languages in South Africa.

- **Climate**

Please note that May, June and July is a winter season in South Africa. Seasonal average temperatures are given below. Most days will be dry (the rainy season in Johannesburg is summer) with mild weather, but please pack some warm clothing, in winter temperatures in Johannesburg can drop to below 0°C.

Temperatures °C	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Maximum (average)	26	25	23	22	18	15	16	20	23	25	25	26
Minimum (average)	15	15	14	11	8	5	5	7	10	12	13	15

- **Electricity**

220-230 volts, 50 Hz. Plugs are South African 3-pin.

- **Travel tips**

When packing for travel to South Africa, please be aware that South Africa, in common with most countries, has restrictions on foodstuffs, tobacco products etc. that can be carried across the border. If you intend to bring any consumable items please check to ensure that you will be permitted to enter South Africa with them.

Fellows of the previous programmes have found it useful to bring a spare cellular telephone with them and obtain a local prepaid sim card for use during the programme or you may purchase one upon arrival in South Africa.

- **Social Conventions**

It is illegal to smoke in public places.

Tipping: Tip about 10% if the bill does not include a service charge. Tip porters, car guards and petrol attendants about ZAR5-10. (Not compulsory)

Office Hours: Mon-Fri 09:00-17:00. Shopping Hours: Mon-Sat 09:00-17:00. Major shopping centres stay open until late in the evenings and open on Sun.

- **Good buys**

African art and handcrafts; wire ornaments; beadwork; wood crafts; wine

**Contact us:**

The programme will be managed by Mr Monde Mtakati who will be responsible for all logistical and day to day operational issues. His contact details are;

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Alan McKenzie is the Mintek Executive responsible for the programme. His contact details are;

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