

## Women on the Frontier of Science and Innovation in Africa

**UNESCO:** UNESCO Windhoek Office and UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa in partnership with the Government of the Republic of Namibia (GRN) organized a high-level workshop on Gender Responsive Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) Policy and Governance Strategy for Sustainable Development. The workshop took place on 19-21 July in Windhoek, Namibia.



The main objective of the workshop was for stakeholders in STI and science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), to share ideas and best practices in order to recommend gender responsive strategies for engendering national and regional STI policy systems and governance strategies for inclusive growth and sustainable development at all levels.

The workshop was well attended by 60 participants from government, universities and research institutions. Members of parliament, scientists and gender experts from 16 Sub-Saharan African countries shared diverse ideas on mainstreaming gender in STI and Science STEM.

The workshop was officially opened by Dr. Jean-Pierre Ilboudo, Head of Office and Representative of UNESCO to Namibia. Hon. Patricia Appyiagei, the Deputy Minister of Environment Science Technology and Innovation (Ghana) and the Guest of Honour, highlighted the need to promote a culture of science through which science becomes part of our daily lives.

In her keynote address, Hon. Dr. Itah Kandjii-Murangi, Minister of Higher Education, Training and Innovation advocated for the domestication of the workshop recommendations on gender mainstreaming.

The participants visited the Namibia University of Science and Technology (NUST) for a Science Tour covering a variety of indoor and outdoor science demonstrations. Prof. Tjama Tjivikua and his team of scientists, led by Prof. Nnnesi Kgabi welcomed the participants. SDGs 5 Gender Equality' & 4 'Quality Education'