

Italy-South Africa matchmaking event on Aerospace
4-5 December 2017
CSIR – International Convention Centre, PRETORIA

Introduction

The Embassy of Italy in South Africa (SA) and the National Aerospace Centre (NAC) will be hosting a bilateral matchmaking event on the 4th and 5th of December 2017 at the CSIR - Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - International Convention Centre, Pretoria.

The Aerospace sector will be the focus of the 2017 event. The aim is to create bilateral business collaborations, joint ventures and commercial opportunities. In particular, for the benefit of both countries:

- presenting the policy framework for developing business opportunities
- defining and consolidating sectorial needs and industry requirements
- promoting collaborative economic growth and knowledge exchange
- facilitating stakeholders' meet-ups to foster bilateral and regional collaborations, extended to the wider Sub-Saharan area
- networking entrepreneurs, researchers, project managers in industry and public authorities and other main stakeholders
- defining common projects to foster the co-creation of new innovative solutions

The target audience for the events is: private sector, university and research institutes, industry associations, innovators, SMEs, public authorities and policy makers

Format for the Italy-South Africa matchmaking event

- Keynote Address / Plenary sessions / Panel Discussions / Face to face engagements
- Guided visit to South African facilities and infrastructures

Thematic areas for the Italy-South Africa matchmaking event

The event will promote business matching and joint high-tech collaborations. Specific opportunities will also include the following areas of interest:

Aerospace Industry Clustering – This theme comprises of the concept of virtual and physical clustering of industry and incentives for businesses. Examples of industry clustering in South Africa include the Commercial Aviation Manufacturing Association South Africa, Somerset East Airport, Centurion Aerospace Village, Coega Aerospace Cluster, OR Tambo Industrial development Zone, Aviation services training. Government Incentives and benefits thereof form part of this discussion with examples of challenges and successes in both SA and Italy.

Space Technologies and Projects – Small Satellites, Satellite Communications, Space Science and Technology and Exploration; Copernicus and Earth Observation, Positioning, Navigation and Timing; Space Situational Awareness

Advanced Manufacturing & Materials – South Africa capabilities in this sector will be showcased including the Aviation Manufacturing Industry's strengths and opportunities for improvement. New trends in the manufacturing sector such as, Industry 4.0, Automation, Augmented Reality, Virtual Reality, 3D /parametric design, the collaborative design space notion, 3D printing, etc. form part of this area, Air traffic Navigation Services, Maintenance Repair and Overhaul, Non-destructive testing.

Mega Aerospace Projects

- South African Regional Aircraft, Slick Aircraft, Jonker Sailplane, etc. (South Africa)
- Major systems, eg. SATAUTH, Adept engine, etc. (Italy)