



The Academy of Science of South Africa (ASSAf)  
cordially invites you to a conversation with

**Prof Michael Kahn**

on

**Origins and Destinations Known:  
Learning from the Tracer Study of International  
African Doctoral Graduates**

South Africa's universities host a large considerable number of international doctoral students, of whom international Africans make up close to 40% of the eventual PhD graduates. Immigration policy requires the graduates to return 'home' upon completion, raising the question - where do they go to? The conventional wisdom is these highly-skilled graduates will leave the continent for opportunities in the North. This lack of information presents a serious gap in evidence for policy making. With NRF support a tracer study of International African doctoral graduates of the five research universities was carried out over the period 2012-2016. Performing the tracer study called for dealing with severe informational obstacles. The online survey achieved a 42% return rate and provides robust, and quite surprising insights.

Date: 22 June 2021

Time: 11:00 – 12:00

Venue: Zoom

RSVP: [Click here](#)



**About Prof Michael Kahn**



Professor Michael Kahn is a policy analyst and evaluator in the fields of research and innovation. He has been advisor to the Ministers of Education, and Science and Technology, a Chief Director in the Gauteng Provincial Government, analyst in the Centre for Education Policy Development, Professor of science education in Botswana and South Africa, Executive Director of the Human Sciences Research Council and is now Research Fellow in the Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology at Stellenbosch University. He is Extraordinary Professor at the University of the Western Cape, and Professor of Practice of the University of Johannesburg.

Michael is skilled in policy analysis, strategic planning, measurement, monitoring and evaluation, foresight and facilitation. His training draws on engineering, physics and education policy, including a PhD in Theoretical Physics, MA in Education Policy, Planning and Management and BSc (Honours). He consults to governments, multilateral agencies and the donor community.

**Programme**

11:00 – 11:05

**Welcome, Background and Introduction**

Prof Himla Soodyall, ASSAf Executive Officer

11:05 – 11:45

**Origins and Destinations Known: Learning from the Tracer Study of International African Doctoral Graduates**

Prof Michael Kahn, Centre for Research on Evaluation, Science and Technology (CREST), Stellenbosch University

11:45 – 11:55

**Q&A**

Facilitator: Prof Himla Soodyall

11:55 – 12:00

**Closing**

Prof Himla Soodyall