



Biography

Kevin Govender began work at the OAD on 1st March 2011 as its first Director, a position he still holds. He has extensive experience in using astronomy for development during his previous position as the Manager of the SALT Collateral Benefits Programme at the South African Astronomical Observatory. He chaired the Developing Astronomy Globally Cornerstone Project of the International Year of Astronomy (IYA2009), was involved in the development of two of the IAU Decadal Strategic Plans, and played a key role in facilitating the establishment of the African Astronomical Society. Kevin is the first South African to be awarded the prestigious Edinburgh Medal for Science, jointly with the International Astronomical Union (IAU). He currently chairs the National Organising Committee for the first IAU General Assembly to be held on the African continent in August 2024.