



Dr Maneshree Jugmohan-Naidu is the Director: Agricultural Biotechnology at the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI). Maneshree is responsible for the implementation of the Agricultural Pillar of the National Bio-economy Strategy. This involves the prioritisation, coordination and implementation of key strategic Agricultural Bio-economy Innovation Partnership Programmes (ABIPP), including international/bilateral cooperation, and the development of an enabling and conducive environment for responsible biotechnology in South Africa.

Prior to joining the DSI, Maneshree worked for the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (National), the National Health Laboratory Service (NHLS) and the Nelson Mandela School of Medicine (UKZN). She has been involved in management of research including policy and governance at the national level for the past 15 years. Maneshree graduated with a PhD in Microbiology from the University of Kwazulu Natal in 2002 and also holds a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Witwatersrand. Her knowledge and experience extends to biotechnology in the agricultural and health sectors as well as a demonstrated history of working in government administration.

She serves on various committees including the Executive Council of the GMO Act, the Chair of the ABIPP Steering Committee, the National Agricultural Research Forum, the International Bio-economy Forum Plant Health Working Group, the Southern Africa Network for Biosciences (SANBIO), board member of the Grain Research Programme, the Intra-departmental Forum on Science Engagement and the Women in Management Committee.