



OUTSTANDING SOUTH AFRICAN WOMEN SCIENTISTS

Generous grants from cosmetic giant

Six outstanding South African women scientists have once again received generous grants from cosmetic giant L'Oréal's *Fondation L'Oréal* and UNESCO, to facilitate and enhance their vital, groundbreaking research projects.

Women scientists are leading ground-breaking research across the world. But despite their remarkable discoveries, women still represent just 33,3 % of researchers globally*, and their work rarely gains the recognition it deserves. Less than 4 % of Nobel Prizes for science have ever been awarded to women and they hold disproportionately few senior positions in science, worldwide.

The L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science international program functions at multiple levels in order to reach women at all stages of their scientific careers and support them in overcoming the obstacles that too often prevent women from reaching the heights of which they are capable.

Through these awards, *L'Oréal* empowers women scientists and inspires the next generation of women to enter science and collaborate to transform the world of science from within.

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“Our *L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Programme* is underpinned by the philosophy that the world needs science and science needs women,” explains Serge Sacre, Country Manager for L'Oréal South Africa. “In a time when women are not acknowledged for their contributions to science as much as they should be, let me start by reminding you that many of the inventions we take for granted today can be attributed to the work done by women. Women have a vital role to play in science, which is why our programme is so significant. It encourages the vocations of girls in high school, supports women in research, and recognises excellence in a field where women are underrepresented.”

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*UNESCO Science Report: towards 2030 (2021)

This year's recipients join the long list of women scientists previously celebrated by *Fondation L'Oréal and UNESCO*:



DR. THILONA ARUMUGAM

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Innovative remote sensing
for the exploration of
critical raw materials.



DR RENÉ BOOYSEN

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Innovative remote sensing
for the exploration of
critical raw materials.



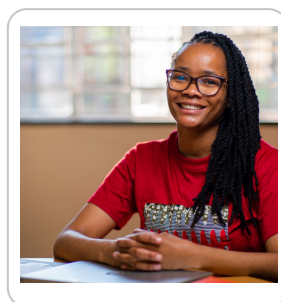
BOITUMELO MABAKACHABA

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Investigation and
development of 1-dimension
VO₂ nano-sensor which
exhibits high detection
capabilities for hydrogen gas
at ambient temperature



DR FARZAHNA MOHAMED

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Glucose and lipid
metabolism in severe
acute respiratory distress
syndrome (SARS-CoV-2)



DR ASANDA MTINTSILANA

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Delineating the role of
social vulnerability in the
pathophysiology of non-
communicable diseases
(NCDs) and their prominent
risk factors in middle-aged
Black South African women.



JESSICA THIBAUD

RESEARCH PROJECT:
Targeting *Plasmodium*
falciparum cGMP-
dependent Protein
Kinase: Machine
learning and Medicinal
Chemistry Approaches.

SCAN ME



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MEDIA INFORMATION

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