



Profile of Key Note Speaker: Aunkh H Chabalala, PhD, MPH

Dr Chabalala is the Director of the Indigenous Knowledge-Based Technology Innovation Unit of the South African Department of Science and Innovation. He is a Medical Scientist with special interest in research, development and innovation of African Natural Medicines, Cosmeceuticals, Nutraceuticals, Health Infusions and Technology Transfer for socioeconomic development. He is an Applied Epidemiologist and African Medicine Practitioner with a passion for ancient scientific African and Afro-Asian Healing Arts. He holds a Master of Science (University of Pretoria), Master of Public Health (Tsinghua University) and PhD in Technology Innovation (Da Vinci Institute of Technology). His special craft is in systematization and interfacing ancient, yet global knowledge systems with emerging sciences. These include quantum mechanics, pharmacology, epigenetics, biotechnology, astrophysics among others. He serves on the South African Health Products Regulatory Authority (SAHPRA) and the Ministerial Advisory and Presidential Master-Plan Committees on Medical Cannabis. He has formerly worked as Deputy-Director and Medical Scientist, heading the Emerging and Re-Emerging Infectious Diseases Unit of the National Department of Health. He was also the World Health Organization Focal Point for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response in South Africa

