

Namaqualand Diamond Centenary Conference (Vanrhynsdorp (11-20 March 2025))

Programme

Topic	Speaker	Company
DAY 1		
Formal Welcome Address	Tania Marshall	GSSA
Keynote Address: Towards a framework for the formation of the Namaqualand Diamond Mega-Placer, South Africa	John Ward & Mike de Wit	Private and University of Stellenbosch
Discoverers and Discoveries on State Land, West Coast 1924 -1929	Nic Dinham	Private
The first diamond finds in Namaqualand: towards uncovering a myth	Anthony de la Harpe	University of Cape Town
Bredasdorp Group south coast analogy to West Coast deposits and sea levels	Jean Malan	Overberg GeoConsulting (Pty) Ltd
History, current trends, and future of diamond mining in Namaqualand	Ashok Damarapurshad	SADPMR
Dwyka contribution towards the dispersion of alluvial adiamonds in southern Africa - a tribute to Assie van der Westhuizen -	Mike de Wit	University of Stellenbosch
The eruption ages of the Namaqualand and Namibian diamonds	Jeff Harris & Dave Phillips & Mike de Wit	U Glasgow & U Melbourne & University of Stellenbosch
What was the Discovery of the Namaqualand Diamond Deposits Worth?	Andre van der Merwe & Norman Lock	ABAGlobal & Private
Keynote Address: The Namibian Megaplayer –117 Years on and Still Going Strong: Mining for Good	JJ Jacob	NAMDEB
Late Cretaceous and Early Tertiary marine high stands along the west coast of southern Africa: their signatures and implications for Namaqualand diamond placers	Roger Swart & John Ward	Blackgold Geoscience
The gift that keeps on giving – diamondiferous beach deposits – Namaqualand, southwestern Africa	Jana Jacob, Lynette Kirkpatrick and Deone Strauss	Namdeb
Panel Discussion (then open to the floor): On the future of alluvial/marine diamond mining in Southern Africa	Lyndon de Meillon	JJ Jacob, KabeloM, Gert vN
Poster Session and finger dinner		
<i>Diamond growth and destruction constrained using diamond morphology and surface etch features, Roberts Victor Kaapvaal lamproite, and comparison with kimberlitic diamonds</i>	<i>Michelle Brits</i>	<i>UCT</i>
<i>Probing the northern Kaapvaal craton root with mantle-derived xenocrysts from the Marsfontein orangeite diatreme, South Africa</i>	<i>Ntando Ngwenya</i>	<i>UJ</i>
<i>Namaqualand-Bushmanland melilitite and breccia pipes</i>	<i>Phil Janney</i>	<i>UCT</i>

<i>Testing the use of olivine as a diamond indicator mineral</i>	<i>Merrily Tau</i>	<i>UCT</i>
<i>The use of pyrope garnet in inferring diamond potential from a kimberlite source in Butha-Buthe, Lesotho</i>	<i>Nkopane Tohlang</i>	<i>UOFS</i>
<i>Sedimentary provenance of the Orange River Basin: Preliminary integration of learnings from diamond and hydrocarbon exploration in South Africa and Namibia</i>	<i>Tim Goodwin</i>	<i>TJGX</i>
<i>The Orange Basin - stepping past the Namaqualand diamonds</i>	<i>Jean Malan</i>	<i>Overberg Geo-Consulting (Pty) Ltd</i>
DAY 2		
Welcome	Craig Smith	GSSA
Keynote Address: The Buffels River Complex	Deon Bowers	Private
The diamond-bearing Quaggas Kop gravels along the Sout River, Knersvlakte region, Vanrhynsdorp.	Mike de Wit	University of Stellenbosch
Not the last bend in the river – Namibian Orange River Deposits – Daberas case study	Lizel Jordan & Gottfried Grobbelaar	Namdeb
Shelf architecture and stratigraphy offshore of the Chameis Bay area, southern Namibia	Heike Fourie, Bjorn von der Heyden, Kegan Strydom	University of Stellenbosch
DAY 3		
The Classification of the Middle Orange River Rooikoppie Gravels: A Comparison Between the Wouterspan and Remhoogte Diamond Projects	Richard Horn, Tania Marshall and Glenn Norton	Various
The use of heavy minerals to map diamond transport pathways on the Namaqualand Coast	Urban Burger	De Beers Marine
A reinterpretation of the courses of both the Molopo and Lower Orange Rivers and the conveyance of diamond 'styles' to the West Coast of South Africa	Robin Baxter-Brown	Private
Valuation of Angolan early stage alluvial diamond deposits	Nair Ganda	Endiama
DAY 4		
Keynote Address: Treasure Hunting on the West Coast – Where Science & Grit Meet	Brett van Collier	RES
Moving along and staying behind – Diamondiferous aeolian and deflation deposits - southwestern Namibia	Cindy Andrews & Jana Jacob	Namdeb
Developments in west coast geophysics for diamond exploration	Lynette Kirkpatrick	Namdeb
The use of geophysical data coupled with 1:50 000 mapping in delineating alluvial diamonds trap sites highlights the potential of South Africa's diamondiferous gravel deposits in the Northwest and Northern Cape provinces.	Simon Sebothoma; Emmanuel Chirenje; Neo Moabi; Debbie Kilian; Adrian Williams	Council for Geoscience
Photo Competition winners & CLOSING (Fieldtrip arrangements)	Baxter-Brown & Tania Marshall	GSSA