

SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Enabling the Future - Developing the Space Workforce (5)

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THE IMPACT OF THE AFRICAN REGIONAL CENTRE FOR SPACE SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION IN ENGLISH'S POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME

Abstract

The African Regional Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in English (ARCSSTE-E), which was inaugurated in November 1998, has the responsibility of developing indigenous skills, knowledge and capacity through rigorous theory, research, applications, field exercises and pilot projects that can enhance socio-economic development. The Center runs a 9-month Postgraduate Diploma (PGD) program in the core areas of Remote Sensing/Geographic Information System, Satellite Communication, Satellite Meteorology, Global Climate/Basic Atmospheric Physics and Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS). Over the past fifteen years, the centre has demonstrated her capabilities in the areas aforementioned. Based on a survey of past participants of the program, the paper highlights the impact of the space PGD program in the African Region and the future plans in harnessing the human potential available for the next generation in this part of the globe. It also shows the challenges of the Center (which in turn impact on the local space workforce) and makes recommendations to this end.