

Line-up of Guests for the First BBC Science Festival in Uganda – Makerere University

From Sunday

Prof Justin Jonas, Project Scientist - SKA-SA,

Department of Physics & Electronics, Rhodes University

The Square Kilometre Array is Africa's largest space project, the series of radio telescopes works as a collaborative project with Australia, putting Africa on the map in terms of space research.

Days available on air: all

Professor Monica Grady, leading authority on the composition of Meteorites and planets, Happy to engage with subjects such as the potential of other planets to sustain life and space travel.

Days available on air: all

TejinderVerdee former director of CMS at CERN. Leading physicist now looking to improve science education in the Region.

Days available on air: All

Dr.AshiteyTrebi-Ollennu, a senior robotics engineer from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Jet Propulsion Laboratory. NASA scientist who uses Lego to teach robotics to secondary school students.

And can talk about his day job - the missions by Curiosity, Spirit and Opportunity rovers, as well as Phoenix Mars Lander, from their conception, launch, landing and operations on the surface of Mars.

Days available on air: all

Jimmy Pitcharr, research scientist with the International Centre of Insect Physiology and Ecology in Kenya, leading the push pull project – a sustainable NO cost farming system which increases yields for small holders, now growing in popularity across the region , but with potential to work in any country with small scale farmers. A good contrast with GM etc.

Days available on air: all especially Weds - agriculture

Professor Nelson Sewankambo – Principal, College of Health Sciences (CHS), Makerere University, on a different campus linked to a hospital.

Credited with making the link between Slim and AIDS in the 1980s.

Days available on air: TBC

David Kabasa – Acting Principal, College of Veterinary Medicine, Animal Resources and Biosecurity (CoVAB), Makerere University. Has a wide overview of agricultural issues including GM and urban farming – but also a good sense of wider links between the development, science and cultural agenda.

Days available on air: TBC

For Tuesday (but available from Monday)

Peter Piot, Director of London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), former UN AIDS chief discovered Ebola in 1976. Believes the model of global health provision needs to change – far more targeted to the needs of the end users rather than the wishes of big business or international donors.

Days available on air: [Monday to Friday](#)

Pontino Kaleebu- Head of the Medical Research Council (MRC), Uganda Virus Research Institute at Entebbe, the foremost research institute in Africa for HIV, current work includes the negative effects of Anti retrovirals – people live longer but develop obesity and heart disease as a side effect of taking the drugs. Also fishing communities around Lake Victoria, they have a high incidence of HIV as they're more worried about drowning than STDs.

In addition John Savill, the Chief Executive of Britain's Medical Research Council will be in attendance, while not officially one of our invited guests he is more than happy to be interviewed by programmes. The MRC funds the Entebbe institute and others in Africa.

Agriculture guests as above will take part in the science special on Wednesday. Together with a representative of National Agricultural Research Organisation (NARO), the Government Agency developing GM bananas.

For Thursday

Thierry Zomahoun, Executive Director of the Next Einstein Initiative, international project setting up new maths and physics institutes across Africa.

Days available on air: [Thursday](#)

Tejinder Verdee former Director of CMS at CERN. Leading physicist now looking to improve science education in the Region.

Days available on air: [All](#)

Katch Karume Volcanologist from Goma Research Institute.