

***Short biographical note: Daan du Toit***

Daan du Toit started his career in the South African Government with the then Department of Foreign Affairs where he trained as a diplomat. Since 2002 he has been attached to the Department of Science and Technology (now the Department of Science, Technology and Innovation), where he has notably served as the Department's representative in Europe, based in Brussels. In 2014 he was appointed as Deputy Director-General responsible for the portfolio International Cooperation and Resources.

Over the years he contributed to multiple initiatives in support of a diverse and rich international partnership portfolio for South African science diplomacy. He represented South Africa in diverse multilateral forums, including the OECD, BRICS and United Nations, and various structures related to African regional and continental cooperation. In February 2021, the Square Kilometer Array Observatory, the global radio telescope project, elected him as the Vice Chair of its Council.