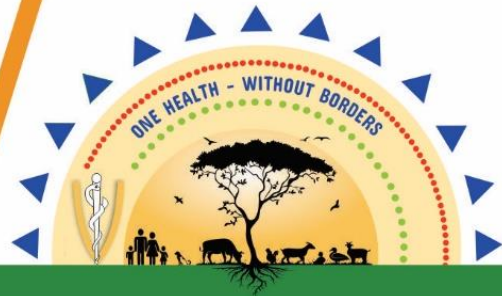


20
ANNUAL
CONGRESS



23-25 August 2023 | Gaborone, Botswana

The Southern African Society for Veterinary Epidemiology and Preventive Medicine successfully hosted its 20th Annual Congress in Gaborone, Botswana. The event adopted a hybrid format to accommodate both in-person and online participants. The event centered around the theme “One Health – Without Borders “ and featured three distinguished keynote speakers.

Pre-congress

The pre-congress workshop titled “Basic Epidemiology and Outbreak Investigations” was conducted from the 21st to 22nd of August 2023 at Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Sciences. The workshop, attended by 20 participants from Botswana and 10 from membership countries was highly successful, particularly the hands-on exercises on the second day. Professor Fosgate delivered the best workshop on outbreak investigations which was exceptionally well received.

Congress

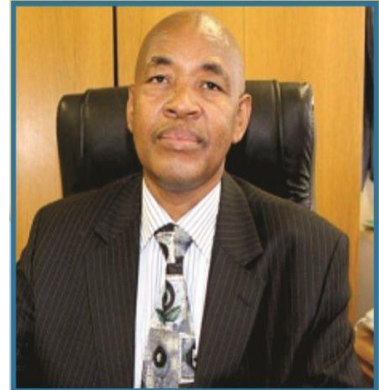
Keynote speakers



Prof Bruce Gummow



Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo



Prof Julius R. Athlopheng

Keynote address

Prof Bruce Gummow: Making One Health Work: A personal journey.

Dr Moetapele Letshwenyo: One Health as a tool for disease control.

Prof Julius R. Athlopheng: One Welfare - research and development for holistic and transformative interventions in livestock production.

A total of 330 individuals registered, with 163 attending in person and 167 participating on-line. Participants represented diverse countries including Belgium, Botswana, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, USA, and Zambia respectively. The proceedings can be accessed on the SASVEPM website.

AWARDS

- The Lifetime Achievement Award was given to **Prof. Bruce Gummow**
- The Willie Ungerer Award was presented to **Dr Misheck Mulumba**
- Gavin Thomson Award for Best Oral Presentation was awarded to **Prof Munyaradzi C Marufu**, for his presentation titled “Determination of the prevalence of bovine cysticercosis in slaughter beef cattle in Matabeleland region of Zimbabwe using B158/B60 antigen ELISA”
- The Post-Graduate Award was given to **Dr Oluyemisi A. Akerele** for Best Oral Presentation titled “Spatial distribution of dog rabies, rabies vaccination coverage for dog rabies and the prevalence of dog bite in three selected regions in Gauteng Province, South Africa”
- Best Poster Presentation Award was given to **Miss Tendai A.M Mlingo** for presenting on “Reverse genetics as a platform for manufacturing of Bluetongue Vaccine”
- OBP Award for Best Animal Health Technician was given to **Miss Katleho Mosikidi**.

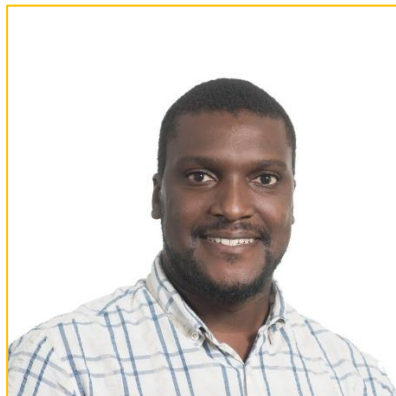
Annual General Meeting

The AGM meeting addressed key issues such as obtaining physical address for tax purposes and for the registration on the NPC, amendment of membership section in SASVEPM constitution, expenditure for SASVEPM members to attend ISVEE17. Members re-elected Mohamed Sirdar and Wonderful Shumba to the Executive Committee (ExCO) and voted in four new members: Oonagh Pretorius, Itumeleng Matle, Tandile Ndobeni, Chris Marufu. The AGM approved rotating the congress among South African Provinces and holding it outside South Africa every 3-5 years. The members voted to have the 2024 annual congress in Western Cape.

SASVEPM Executive Committee



Dr Mohamed Sirdar



Prof Chris Marufu



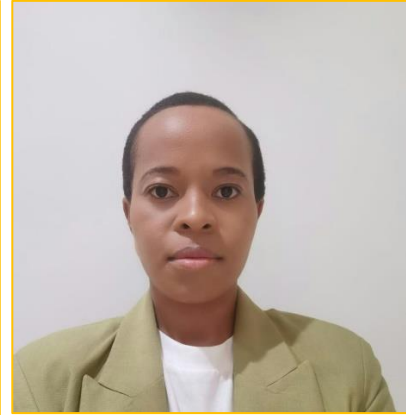
Dr Itumeleng Matle



Dr Oonagh Pretorius



Dr Wonderful Shumba



Dr Tandile Ndobeni

Vote of Thanks

SASVEPM is very grateful to all the participants in the congress, both online and in person. Your contributions created a truly special and valuable experience. The organization also acknowledges the generous support of its sponsors: US Defence Threat Reduction Agency, Onderstepoort Biological Products, Botswana Veterinary Institute, Botswana University of Agriculture and Natural Resources, MSD Animal Health, Sylike Medicals and partners DVS (Botswana), Botswana Veterinary Association, National Agricultural Research and Development Institute, Food and Agriculture Organization and World Organization and Animal Health.