

of South African coastline

~ **2200 km**

False Bay → Ponta do Ouro

AIM | Provide a platform for researchers to understand movements and migrations of aquatic animals

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
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DECEMBER 2024

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PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

1 January	New Year's Day
21 March	Human Rights Day
18 April	Good Friday
21 April	Family Day
27 April	Freedom Day
28 April	'Freedom Day' Observed

1 May	Workers' Day
16 June	Youth Day
9 August	National Women's Day
24 September	Heritage Day
16 December	Day of Reconciliation
25 December	Christmas Day
26 December	Day of Goodwill

FEBRUARY

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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MAKES USE OF remote underwater stereo-video & remotely operated vehicle

AIMS | • To provide standardised sampling tools and protocols to the research community • To provide a BRUVs data repository • To collect a complete dataset for benthic fish and invertebrate populations across the continental shelf.

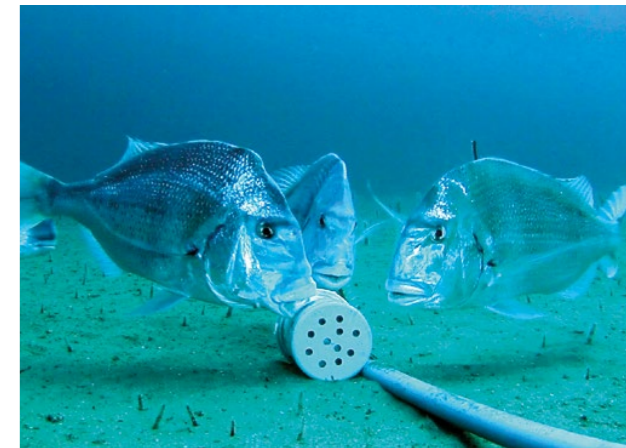
43 researchers
19 institutions



Money invested
> R30 million



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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JANUARY

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1 May

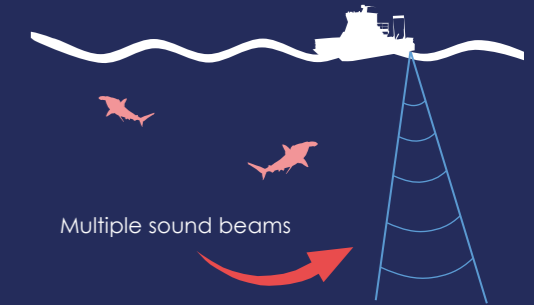
1 May	Workers' Day
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MARCH

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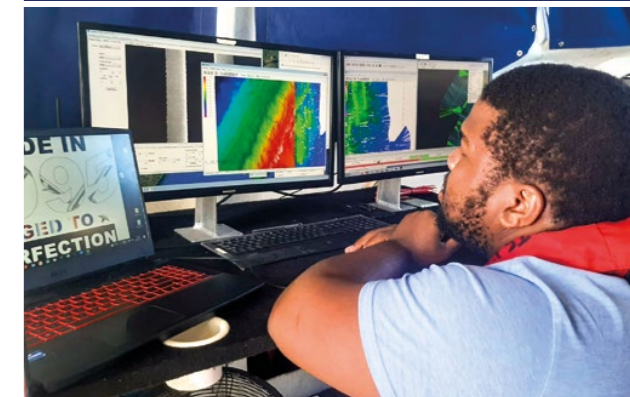


Multibeam echosounders, advanced navigation systems and specialist software



AIM | Collect data to create high-resolution 3D terrain models in order to classify and quantify marine and estuarine habitats

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17	18	19	20	21 Human Rights Day	22	23
24 / 31	25	26	27	28	29	30



GeMaP
sounding the depths

FEBRUARY

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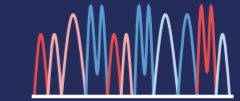
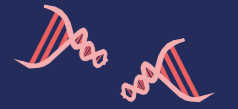
APRIL

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for

DNA extraction



Sanger sequencing

Next-generation sequencing



AIM | Provide technical support to all platform users so that anyone can pursue a career in molecular work

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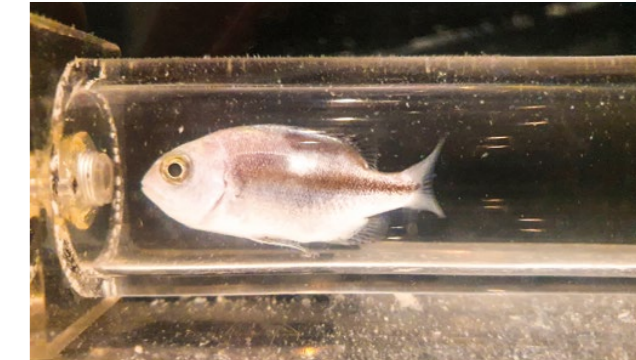
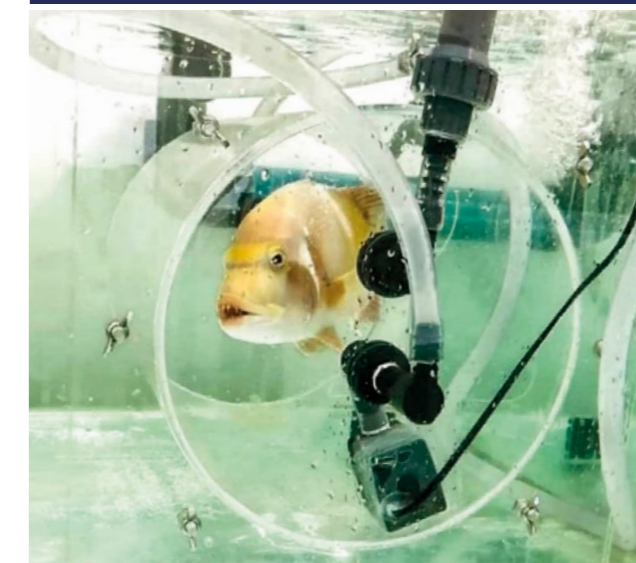
MAY

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AIM | Enables research on physiology and behaviour using respirometric and cardiac instruments

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			1 Workers' Day	2	3	4
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JUNE

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HOLDS FISHES FROM

Southern Africa | Western Indian Ocean | Southern Atlantic and Southern Oceans

AIM | Provide access to specimens and tissues, collection objects and data through loans and visits

1+ million specimens
7402 species



Money invested
R30+ million

But this collection is: **PRICELESS**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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16 Youth Day	17	18	19	20	21	22
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MAY

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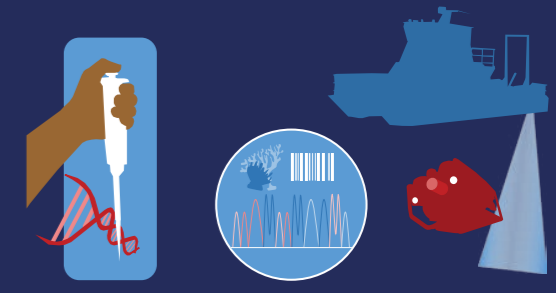
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JULY

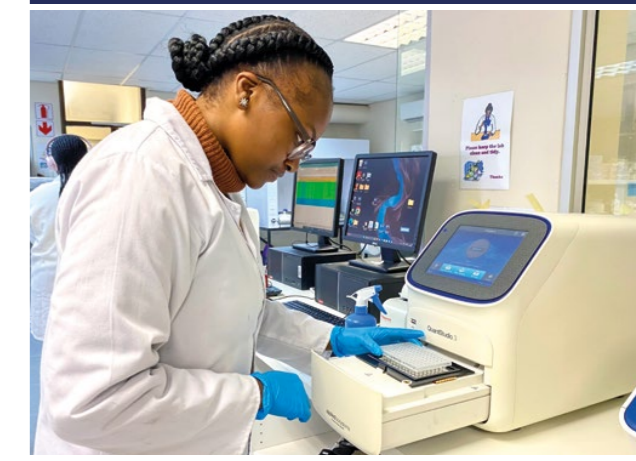
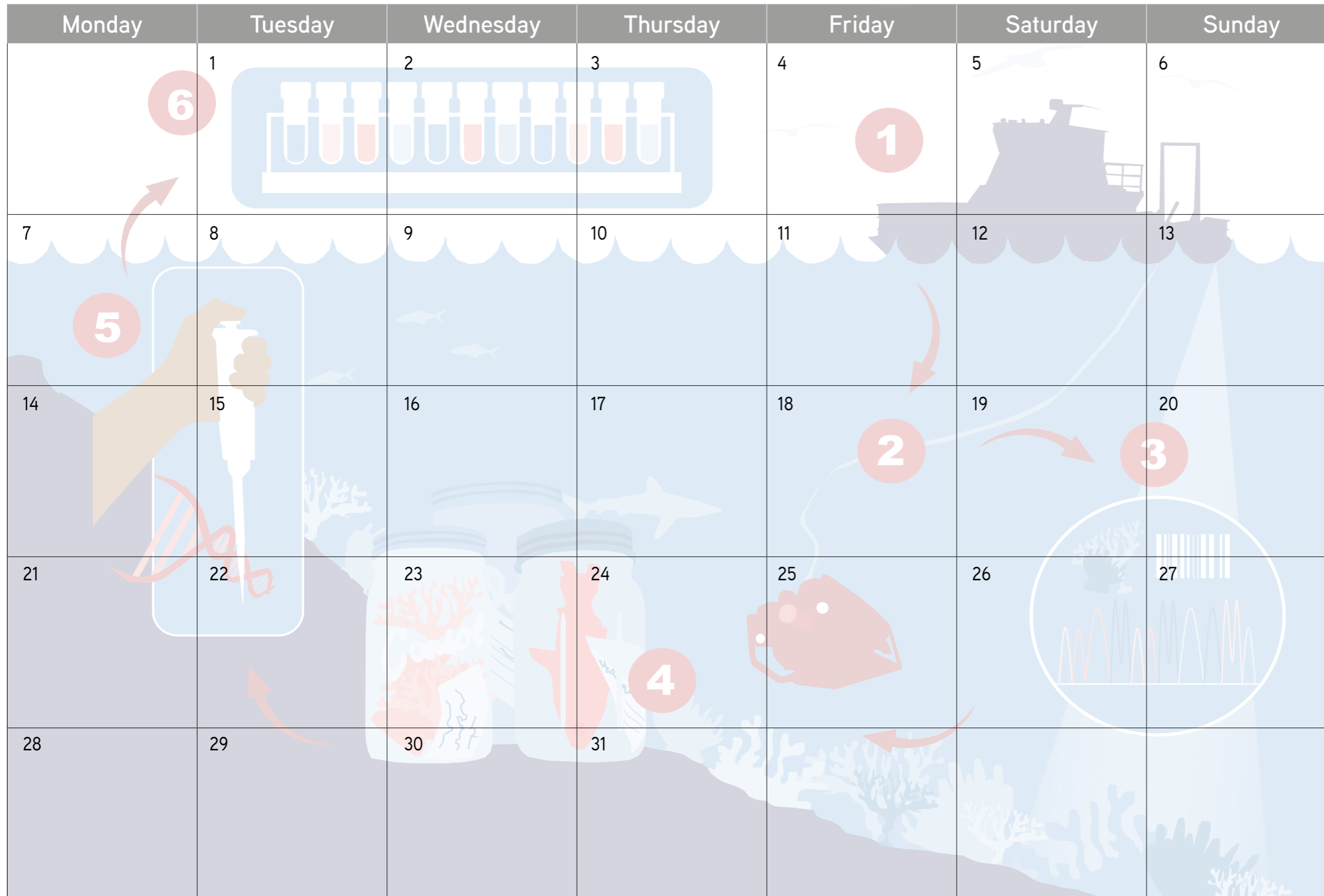
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Algoa Bay is a marine biodiversity hotspot with rich invertebrate diversity



AIM | Collaborative research using SAIAB's marine platforms to address skills shortages and support future growth in South Africa's bio-economy



JUNE

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AUGUST

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Research on INLAND FISHERIES and FRESHWATER ECOLOGY

Makes use of specialised sampling equipment including electrofishers, boats and off-road vehicles

AIM | To develop expertise and leadership in freshwater aquatic biodiversity to support evidence-based decision-making

>100 users

25 institutions



Money invested
> R5 million



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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4	5	6	7	8	9 National Women's Day	10
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JULY

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SEPTEMBER

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Library named in honour of
PROFESSOR MARGARET SMITH

building on a heritage of



research and teaching in aquatic sciences

AIM | Be a key reference source for the ichthyological community in South Africa

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
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SEPTEMBER

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NOVEMBER

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Coastal craft fleet consists of **THREE VESSELS**



and is a shared platform

Vessels can do trips of up to **36 – 48 hours** & accommodate **12 researchers**



AIM | Serve the South African research community to support sustainable growth of the **Blue Economy** by providing sound research outputs



OCTOBER

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Workers' Day

16 June

Youth Day

9 August

National Women's Day

24 September

Heritage Day

16 December

Day of Reconciliation

25 December

Christmas Day

26 December






Day of Goodwill

DECEMBER

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
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11 WORLD-CLASS PLATFORMS

-  ATAP
-  Coastal craft
-  GeMaP
-  NFC
-  MARIP
-  Biobank
-  AERP
-  FFU
-  AGRP
-  MSL
-  Bioprospecting

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1 Coastal Craft R40 million	2	3	4	5	6 Aquatic Ecophysiology Research Platform R7 million	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 Marine Remote Imagery Platform R30 million	16 Day of Reconciliation	17 Acoustic Tracking and Monitoring Platform R15 million	18	19	20	21 Aquatic Genomics Research Platform R10 million
22	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Day of Goodwill	27	28
29	30	31	Geophysical Mapping Platform R6.5 million		Biobank R1 million	



NOVEMBER

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JANUARY 2026

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2025

JANUARY

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1 May	Workers' Day		

JANUARY 2026

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VISION 2030

Aquatic Biodiversity Science and Research that works for Society.

MISSION 2030

To improve the quality of life of all South Africans through advancing aquatic research, science, technology and innovation.

SAIAB's mandate for the next decade is to provide a transformed national institutional platform to develop human skills and capacity to conduct and promote world-class research on the biodiversity of South African aquatic ecosystems.

The South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity (SAIAB) is a Research Facility of the National Research Foundation (NRF), an agency of the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI).

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