

OATH OF CONFIDENTIALITY: STATISTICS ACT (NO. 6 OF 1999)

Preamble

The Centre for Science, Technology and Innovation Indicators (CeSTII) of the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) performs regular national R&D, innovation and other surveys on behalf of the Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) within the Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology (MHEST). The DSI, formerly called the Department of Science and Technology (DST), is a member of the National Statistics System (NSS) and works with Statistics South Africa according to their Memorandum of Agreement of July 2004. All parties are bound by the provisions of the Statistics Act (No. 6 of 1999), insofar as the collection of official statistics is concerned. Survey respondents have the right to expect that information given will be used for the purpose it was intended for, and that it will not be disclosed to others without respondents' permission.

A formal request to the Chairperson of the Data Committee to use CeSTII data, including information relating to how it will be used and/or disseminated, is required to be approved prior to the release of data by CeSTII to data requesters. All reports, scientific publications, conference presentations, fact sheets, policy briefs, web-based platforms, or other outputs, emanating from R&D, innovation and other surveys performed by CeSTII for DSI, must only contain data that is aggregated so that no individual entities are recognisable. Where the identity of the entity/ies concerned might be speculated from aggregate data (e.g. a few companies with large R&D budgets in a business sub-sector), the person(s) accessing the data must first consult with the CeSTII Deputy-Executive Director and the Chair of the CeSTII Data Committee to ensure anonymity of data. To preserve respondent confidentiality, CeSTII reserves the right to further anonymise data.

Oath of Confidentiality

As a person accessing CeSTII data, sensitive matters or material might come to your knowledge, which you will be bound not to disclose without authority. Therefore, you are required to take and subscribe the following oath or solemn affirmation as appropriate:

I, _____ ID/Passport No.: _____
do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully and honestly fulfill my duties as a person accessing CeSTII data in conformity with the requirements of the Statistics Act (No. 6 of 1999), and of all rules and instructions thereunder and that I will not without due authority disclose or make known any matter, data or information that comes to my knowledge by reason of my access to the data.

Signed: _____

At: _____

Date: _____