Sasol and the Solar Challenge

Our mission and vision - why we do this

The Sasol Solar Challenge is about technology, education, inspiration and hope.

Every second year we host some of the best teams from across the world, exposing our local students to an invaluable variety of experts, sponsors, technologies and innovations.

The Sasol Solar Challenge goes through big cities, small towns and remote rural regions – inspiring young children and students from different backgrounds.

Sasol sponsors the Solar Challenge as a commitment to science, technology, engineering and maths education, giving young people the opportunity to practically engage with these subjects either as participants or spectators.

The Challenge creates an ideal space for the future engineers and scientists of South Africa to develop their skills. Students from different disciplines work together – giving them exposure to real-world, multi-disciplinary skills including engineering, business planning, logistics, marketing and communication.

South African students and teams also get a chance to test their engineering skills against some of the best solar car teams in the world, broadening horizons and forming new connections.

Competitive events also have a significant impact on research and development.

The Sasol Solar Challenge helps to improve the South African industry's knowledge of technologies like photovoltaic cells, electric motors, battery systems and vehicle aerodynamics. It drives local research and development of technologies that go into building a successful, competitive solar car.

The event stimulates South African teams to innovate in technologies that are relevant all over the world.

The Sasol Solar Challenge also promotes environmental consciousness and awareness.