

THE RHISOTOPE PROJECT

A novel use of radiation to deter poaching of rhinos

South Africa is home to the majority of the world's black and white rhino populations. But, the rate of rhino poaching in South Africa shows little sign of slowing. Even though the numbers are down, one should remember that the rate of poaching is proportional to the number of animals to be poached. The conventional methods of preventing poaching are proving barely adequate, whilst at the same time, risking the lives of antipoaching patrols. But what if science could provide a solution that deters rhino poaching and improves the detection of smuggling across borders? Join us as Dr James Larkin unpacks The Rhisotope Project that utilises nuclear science in a novel manner to protect these megaherbivores and give them the chance to survive and thrive.

NRF-iThemba LABS will be hosting a
PUBLIC LECTURE on Wednesday, 20 May 2026
at 18h00 in the auditorium in Faure, Cape Town

*The presenter is **Dr James Larkin**
(Director: Radiation and Health Physics,
University of the Witwatersrand).*

