SANSA EXHIBITION CONCEPT

PROJECT AAD 2026

A 300m² "Moon Village" design mockup proposal mapping the South African Space Ecosystem, connecting key institutional, public, academic, and private industry nodes.

SANSA is an Entity of the Department of Science, Technology and Innovation

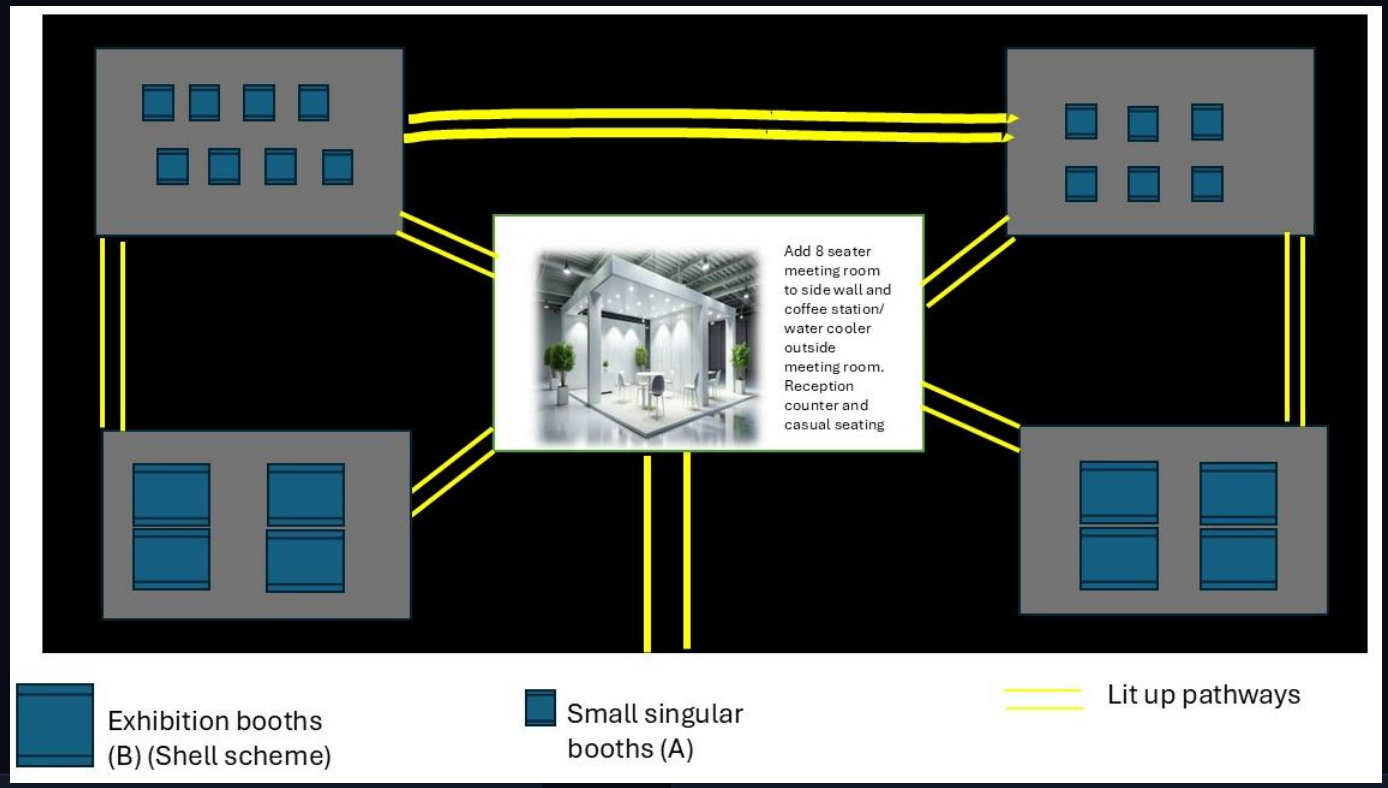
THE MOON VILLAGE VISION

Organic Ecosystem Structure

Designed around the concept of a lunar outpost, the exhibition breaks away from traditional rectangular grid-style pavilions but does include some aspects familiar to exhibition stands.
The layout demonstrates how the South African Space Agency (SANSA) anchors, seeds, and collaborates across the upstream and downstream sectors.

- Integrated central core with extending radial access paths.
- Sleek dark-void aesthetic replicating cosmic geometry.
- Seamless physical walkways mirroring data streams and orbits.

AERIAL FLOORPLAN DESIGN



Central Anchor Core

The geographic center of the 300m² space features a central node dedicated to SANSA/ DSTI. Acting as the heart of the village, it represents central system control.

From this core, four (or more) distinct high-luminescence LED paths extend outwards like solar rays to the peripheral stakeholder nodes.

Peripheral Stakeholder Nodes

A circle of four(or more) surrounding exhibition nodes sits at the boundary, interconnected by a ring-shaped pathway.

The perimeter features specific nodes for Government, Academia, NGOs, Upstream Manufacturers, and Downstream spatial analysts.

INTERACTIVE VISITOR JOURNEY

1. Arrival

Enter into the deep charcoal perimeter of the space exhibition hall.

2. SANSA Core

Follow the ambient light directly to the central SANSA dome for orientation.

3. Sector Dives

Travel along the radial pathways out to the stakeholder nodes of interest.

4. Collaboration

Walk the outer loop, discovering how researchers, industry, and NGOs integrate.

CENTRAL HUB: SANSA

The Central Command Node

The SANSA hub is configured as a sleek, white semi-translucent structure standing with a meeting room and coffee station

Lit with a warm glowing ambient core, it serves as the prime reception desk, Keep elements clean and simple with bold logos of SANSA and DSTI

This design serves as a welcoming focal point, pulling visitors from the surrounding hallways directly into the center of the South African space story.

There will also be 8- seater meeting room to accommodate stakeholder meetings.

At the side wall of the meeting room – our space weather forecasters will provide live forecasts using a large 50” screen (think weather forecasters on the TV News) in a ‘Speakers space’ that can also be used by other stakeholders to host speeches/ presentations

A simple coffee station and water cooler are will be set-up for the exhibitiors

STAKEHOLDER NODES

NEO

NEOFrontiers

NEOFrontiers recipients display their business offerings

Technology and Applications (not direct space)

Technology and applications that sit outside or alongside the space value chain like Apps, 3D printing, etc

Space Industry

Upstream & Downstream: Features satellite manufacturers, sensor designers, and geographical intelligence consultancies

NGOs & Community

Youth Outreach & NGOs: Highlighting space sciences community projects, Human capacity development programmes e.g. Girlfly SA, WIS.

DETAIL OF STRUCTURES

Entrance from Hanger door: The central node faces the audience/ entrance and has a blue carpet leading directly to the centre – from there public may access the connected pathways

Vertical LED Entrance Rails: Each peripheral node's entrance is flanked by minimalist vertical LED light poles, clearly marking the entrance thresholds.

Organic Walls: Side partitions at each node are built with high-quality laser-cut organic cellular patterns, ensuring open visual sightlines across the space.

Floating Monitor Facades: Inside the nodes, technical displays and dashboards are integrated into modern floating structures, keeping the ground space clean and open.

LED CONNECTED PATHWAYS

Dual-Loop Light Navigation

The floor space is defined by integrated pathways lit by embedded low-profile flexible neon LED strip borders.

Ecosystem Radial Paths: Emit a warm golden amber light, directing traffic from the central SANSA node outwards to stakeholders.

The Collaboration Ring: Can be a different colour light or the same warm white, connecting peripheral nodes to show inter-stakeholder collaboration.

PARTITION WALLS

Cellular Geometric Engineering

The backdrop/ corner walls of each stakeholder node are built using wall dividers in patterns mimicking organic lunar structures.

Constructed from lightweight wood, they balance solid surface space with open cut-outs.

These cutouts keep the 300m² space feeling open, allowing guests to glimpse adjacent nodes through the pattern, emphasizing the highly connected nature of the space ecosystem.