Scientists march for sustained funding

LEADING scientists in KwaZulu-Natal from a range of scientific disciplines joined civil societies and local people in a March for Science in Durban to highlight the critical importance of sustained and strategic support by governments and funding agencies to advance and promote scientific research and innovation.

"South Africa and indeed scientists from Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, have made remarkable contributions in all spheres of science that have contributed to discoveries and saving and improving lives on the African continent and abroad," said Professor Quarraisha Abdool Karim, associate scientific director of Caprisa.

"We all benefit in some way or the other from the products of science, innovation and technology, but don’t often stop to reflect on how these come to be in society.

The march formed part of an international March for Science aimed at increasing awareness about the importance of science in addressing challenges such as climate change, food security and opportunistic diseases.

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