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## PRESS RELEASE

### The Goethe-Institut's Girls' Day returns with Superstars of STEM

The Goethe-Institut in Australia is pleased to announce the return of the STEM career orientation event **Girls' Day** on **June 19<sup>th</sup> 2019**. Australia-wide, over 300 female high-school students will visit companies and universities to find out more about professions in fields such as science, technology, engineering and research.

**Sonja Pluess**, STEM Project Coordinator at the Goethe-Institut, is excited that Australia has once again joined Germany and over 20 other countries worldwide who have organised Girls' Day programs in 2019.

"The response this year has been fantastic. It's enabled us to organise an extended program that now includes agricultural science, biology, astronomy and veterinary science. We are also very pleased to have three **2019 Superstars of STEM** as hosts - **Dr Sonja Dominik** from CSIRO Agriculture and Food, **Dr Deborah Bower** from the University of New England and **Dr Jennie Mallela** from ANU Research School of Biology" she said.

**Eva Baker**, the Goethe-Institut Deputy Director and Head of Language, is hoping the day will inspire more Australian young girls to pursue a career in STEM.

"Since Girls' Day started in Germany in 2000, there has been strong growth in the employment of women in scientific and technical professions. For many German companies, Girls' Day has evolved as an important part of their recruitment strategy. The Goethe-Institut will continue to support Girls' Day as part of our commitment to promoting STEM and CLIL (Content and Language Integrated Learning) in Australia" she said.

#### Our 2019 Girls' Day hosting partners:

- CSIRO Agriculture and Food (Armidale NSW)
- University of New England (Armidale NSW)
- ANU Research School of Astronomy & Astrophysics (Canberra)
- ANU Research School of Biology (Canberra)
- ANU Research School of Earth Sciences (Canberra)
- CSIRO (Clayton Campus - Melbourne)
- Monash University Materials Science and Engineering (Melbourne) Gruen Eco Design (Melbourne)
- The Centre for Advanced Imaging - University of Queensland (Brisbane)
- University of Sydney School of Veterinary Science (Sydney).

Interviews or media opportunities with our Girls' Day hosts can be arranged on request.

#### More information

To find out more information, visit our Girls' Day online portal at [goethe.de/australia/girlsday](http://goethe.de/australia/girlsday)

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Watch our [Girls' Day Promo video](#)

[Dr Sonja Dominik's Superstars of STEM profile](#)  
[Dr Deborah Bower's Superstars of STEM profile](#)  
[Dr Jennie Mallela's Superstars of STEM profile](#)

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**About the Goethe-Institut**

The Goethe-Institut is the cultural liaison between Germany and Australia. We are a not-for-profit, independent cultural organisation with a global reach. Our mandate is to promote the study of the German language abroad, and to encourage and facilitate international cultural exchange. The Goethe-Institut has 159 branches in 98 countries. Our branch in Melbourne was founded in 1972, followed by the Sydney branch in 1974. We work with partners and networks across Australia.

[www.goethe.de](http://www.goethe.de)

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