



WRC Water Research, Development and Innovation Symposium

25-27 September 2013

In celebration of the 2013 UNESCO International Year of Water Cooperation

CSIR International Convention Centre
Pretoria, South Africa

BACKGROUND

Following a very successful 40th anniversary conference held in 2011 and the WRC Technology Exhibition in 2012, the Water Research Commission (WRC) has partnered with the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and the Department of Water Affairs (DWA) to host the 2013 WRC Water Research, Development and Innovation (RDI) Symposium to acknowledge local scientific solutions that have had a global impact. The focal point of this symposium, as expressed in the opening plenary topic, is "The Struggle to Market: The fate of Water Innovation in a Risk Averse Environment," and combines a symposium and technology exhibition into one event.

SYMPOSIUM OBJECTIVES

The aim of the symposium is to showcase and celebrate excellence in the South African water research and development domain and to link various institutions operating at different stages of the water innovation value chain. Various WRC-funded research projects will be showcased by the project teams involved. Additionally, given that in 2013 we celebrate the United Nations International Year of Water Cooperation, the symposium will also seek to further the scientific dialogue on the development imperatives for South Africa from a water perspective and the innovations that address this agenda.

REGISTRATION FEES

The registration fee will be R800.00 for all delegates. A discounted student rate of R500.00 will also be provided. The registration fee includes access to the full symposium programme, a symposium participant bag containing a symposium handbook and other materials, teas and lunches, a welcome cocktail on 25 September, a gala dinner on 26 September as well as an awards lunch on 27 September.

EXHIBITIONS AND SPONSORSHIP

Organisations in the 'water field' are invited to participate in the exhibition as a product / service exhibitor. A sponsorship and exhibition package brochure is attached outlining the exhibition cost (R16 500). Additionally, should your organisation be interested in being a sponsor, various sponsorship packages are also outlined in the attached brochure.

SYMPOSIUM FORMAT

The symposium will include invited plenary and keynote presentations; parallel sessions of invited papers on case studies and research; posters; innovative and fun social functions. Additionally, a photographic competition will also be conducted as well as a water research awards ceremony for WRC-funded projects that have made an impact in their field.

SYMPOSIUM SESSION TOPICS

- A Public Engagement Session with Parliamentarians
- Plenary Session on the Struggle to the Market: The Fate of Innovation in a Risk-Averse Environment
- Product and Service Solutions for Economic Development
- Scientific Solutions for Community Empowerment
- Human Capital Development (HCD) Solutions
- Sustainable Development Solutions
- Transformation Through Skills Development
- Water-Sensitive Urban Design
- The Green Village
- Climate Change
- Water Science Solutions for Informed Policy and Decision-Making
- Wastewater and Water Reuse for Industries
- The Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus
- Plenary Session on Water Cooperation: Water-Related Collective Action between Industries and Government

THE TECHNOLOGY MARKETPLACE

The technology market place will take the form of an interactive exhibition. Here, water technology products will be demonstrated to the audience, invited students and school children. Key commercialisation partners will also be invited to engage with the symposium's technology market place. The Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Water Affairs (DWA), venture capitalists, municipalities and others will be key participants in the market place.





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PROGRAMME

Please note: The programme below is a summary of the Symposium Programme and is subject to change.

Day 1: Wednesday, 25th September

14:00 - 17:00	Registration and Opening of the Exhibition
14:30 - 16:30	Public Engagement with Parliamentarians
17:00 - 17:10	Welcome by Mr Dhesigen Naidoo, WRC CEO
17:10 - 17:20	Introduction by Advocate Johnny de Lange, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Water
17:20 - 17:50	Opening Address by Mr Derek Hanekom, Minister of the Department of Science and Technology
17:50 - 18:20	Plenary Address
18:20 - 18:30	Closing Remarks: Mr Dhesigen Naidoo, WRC CEO
18:30 - 19:00	Media Briefing
18:30 - 20:00	Cocktail Dinner

DAY 2: Thursday, 26th September

07:00 - 08:30	Registration and Morning Tea and Coffee			
08:30 - 08:45	Session 1 Plenary: The Struggle to Market and the Fate of Innovation			
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome by the Organising Committee Chairman			
09:10 - 09:20	Opening Plenary Address			
09:20 - 09:40	Plenary Address			
09:40 - 10:30	Panel Discussion			
10:30 - 11:00	Tea and Coffee Break			
11:00 - 13:00	Session 2: Product and Service Solutions for Economic Development	Session 3: Solutions for Community Empowerment	Session 4: HCD Solutions	The Market Place: Interactive Discussions and Demonstration on Sanitation. Venue: Exhibition Arena
13:00 - 14:00	Lunch, Exhibition and Young Professional Debates			
14:00 - 15:30	Session 5: Product and Service Solutions for Economic Development	Session 6: Sustainable Development Solutions	Session 7: Transformation through Skills Development	
15:30 - 16:00	Tea and Coffee Break			
16:00 - 18:00	The Market Place: The Green World of Science			
18:30 - 22:30	Gala Dinner and Awards Ceremony			

DAY 3: Friday, 27th September

08:15 - 08:30	Arrival Tea and Coffee		
08:35 - 09:00	Session 8: Keynote Address		
09:00 - 09:30	Panel Discussion		
09:30 - 09:50	Tea and Coffee Break		
10:30 - 11:15 Parallel sessions	Session 9: Water-Sensitive Urban Design	Session 10: The Green Village	Session 11: Climate Change
11:15 - 11:45	Tea and Coffee Break		
11:45 - 13:00 Sessions	Session 12: Water Science Solutions for Informed Policy & Decision Making	Session 13: Wastewater and Water Reuse for Industries	Session 14: The Water - Energy Parallel - Food Security Nexus
13:00 - 14:00	Session 15: Closing Plenary Cooperation for Water (Water related collective action - industries and government)		
14:00 - 15:00	Lunch, Exhibition and Young Professional Debates		

ACCOMMODATION

Should you wish to book accommodation, please visit the WRC website, www.wrc.org.za.

ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM PARTNERS

The Water Research Commission (WRC) is South Africa's premier funding agency dedicated to water research. The strategic approach of the WRC focuses on promoting integrated approaches to meeting South Africa's societal and water-sector R&D needs; providing integrated solutions to the complex, inter-disciplinary problems facing the water sector, encouraging strategic identification of needs in the water sector and investing in knowledge creation, transfer and dissemination in strategic research areas. By delivering on these strategic goals, the WRC has emerged as one of the key research, development and innovation leaders in the South African water sector. In order to showcase the research and technologies being produced by the WRC and its network of experts in the water sector, this symposium has a

particular focus on the innovation chasm in the water sector, combined with an innovative technology showcase.

The Department of Science and Technology's (DST's) ten-year plan of "Innovation towards a knowledge-based economy," recognises the importance of science and technology in improving the country's competitiveness and economic growth. Within the above-mentioned plan, Global Change is identified as one of the Grand Challenges. Water security is expressed as a crucial part of the Global Change Knowledge Challenges. This is particularly emphasised in Knowledge Area 3 (Adapting the way we live) which notes the importance of RDI when dealing with water security issues. The importance of technological innovation for supporting sustainable water-related social ecological systems is emphasised in Knowledge Area 4 (Innovation for Sustainability). Thus, DST clearly recognises the water sector as being strategically important and also one that provides opportunities for job creation and economic development.

The Department of Water Affairs (DWA), as the WRC's shareholder, works closely with the WRC to provide the sector with knowledge and capacity to ensure sustainable management of water resources and enhance water services.



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HOSTED BY



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



**science
& technology**

Department:
Science and Technology
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

CORRESPONDENCE AND ENQUIRIES

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