

## SESSION 2:

# INNOVATION NEXUS THINKING

**Chair: Sylvester Mpandeli (WRC) | Venue: Ballroom 3**

The water-energy-food (WEF) nexus is gaining recognition internationally as an intersectoral approach to resource management and sustainable development. The WRC has identified the WEF nexus as one of its focus 'lighthouse' areas of research. Since 2012, the WRC has conducted several research studies focusing on the WEF nexus nationally as well as in the southern African region. Various factors are spurring on the WRC to champion WEF nexus initiatives, including population increases; the water and energy sectors continuing to operate in silos; threats posed by both the climate variability and change; changing diet requirements; depletion of natural resources; lack of policy harmonisation and coordination amongst countries in the region; and pollution. The WEF nexus activities are directly linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

### PROGRAMME

Welcome and introduction		Sylvester Mpandeli (WRC)
11:00 – 11:20	Nexus thinking: dealing with complexity and transformation	Nafisa Sobratee (UKZN)
11:20 – 11:40	Data requirements, spatial and temporal scales for the WEF nexus	Aidan Senzanje (UKZN)
11:40 – 12:00	Research methods for the WEF nexus	Luxon Nhamo (IWMI)
12:00 – 12:20	Applications for the WEF nexus	Gareth Simpson (Jones and Wagener)
12:20 – 12:40	Moving away from theory to practice	Tafadzwa Mabhaudhi (UKZN)
12:40 – 13:00	Discussion and closing remarks	Facilitated by Nafisa Sobratee