

SESSION 23:

SECURING RESOURCES FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Chair: Shanna Nienaber (WRC) | Venue: Boardroom 3

Access to, management and optimisation of water is becoming increasingly challenging for South Africa. Research and Innovation is pivotal in optimally dealing with these challenges. Yet, investments in water research, development and innovation have not changed. For South Africa to be a leading middle-income country in the development and deployment of water management practices and technologies, requires an investment of R8 billion into research and innovation by 2025 (Water RDI Roadmap, 2015). The Department of Trade and Industry's (the dti) Industrial Policy and Action Plan (IPAP) highlights the critical role of water and sanitation as emerging industries and a critical enabler for economic and inclusive growth. Despite the funding gaps and low investments in innovation to support a pipeline of solutions that act as the foundation for inclusive economic growth, there are a number of institutions and mechanisms that are being created to align and co-create for water security.

Opportunities to focus and pool resources, incentives and ensure collaborative approaches has never been more important than at this point in preparing for South Africa's water secure future. The purpose of the session is to:

- Share insights from recent WRC research studies;
- Discuss and share the possibilities of alternate business models and mechanisms;
- Identify possible opportunities to align and project funding linkages

PROGRAMME

13:45 – 14:00	Welcome and opening remarks – Moving to action on financing for water security	Henry Roman (DST)
14:00 – 14:15	Are our water RDI investments running hot or cold?	Rajiv Paladh (Bosch Capital)
14:15 – 14:35	Planning and resourcing for alternate business models	Johann Lubbe (DBSA) & Chantal Ramcharan-Kotze (WRC)
14:35 – 14:50	Collaborating for growth	Benoit le Roy (PPGI)
14:50 – 15:05	Incentives for water research and innovation investment	Godfrey Mashamba (DST)
15:05 – 15:45	Panel Discussion – Creating bridges for water research and innovation for ensuring water security	Facilitated by Shanna Nienaber (WRC) Henry Roman (DST) Chris Baloyi (Bosch Capital) Chantal Ramcharan-Kotze (WRC) Johann Lubbe (DBSA) Benoit le Roy (PPGI) Godfrey Mashamba (DST)