

SESSION 3:

DESIGN THINKING: WATER SENSITIVE DESIGN

Venue: Ballroom 4 | Chair: Jay Bhagwan (WRC)

The adequate provision of water services – including basic services – to South Africa’s citizens is one of the most significant challenges facing the country, and is felt most strongly in the rapidly growing urban areas. It is estimated that the proportion of urban dwellers will increase to over 70% by 2030. In this context, water security is a major concern, particularly since climate change has the potential to worsen systemic water shortages and flooding over the medium to long term. Thus, new models of water capture, provision, treatment and water services governance must be developed to improve and enhance the effectiveness of interaction between the multiple actors who determine water use. The influence of the planning and design of smart human settlements and environments that is sensitive to the issues of water sustainability and environmental protection, while ensuring the efficient functioning of water service institutions and their viability are key to sustaining water services in rural and urban areas. Promoting a holistic management of sewerage, stormwater and drinking water to achieve the goal and a water supply mix, associated with adequate behaviour change are the elements required to mitigate future water security issues. This session will therefore focus on showcasing current and past WRC-supported research, development and innovation products that align to the supporting water sensitive design and planning solutions paradigm.

PROGRAMME

Welcome and introduction		Jay Bhagwan (WRC)
11:00 – 11:20	Progress with WSD in South Africa	Kirsty Carden (UCT)
11:20 – 11:40	Spatial planning and WSD	Hildegard Rohr (NWU)
11:40 – 12:00	Behavioural nudges – from research to application	Martine Visser (UCT)
12:00 – 12:20	Water supply and demand management – decision support for informed prioritisations	Karin Sjostrand (RISE)
12:20 – 12:40	Sharing WSD developments in India	Bhitush Luthra and Shivali Jainar (CSE)
12:40 – 13:00	Discussion and closing remarks	