



WATER  
RESEARCH  
COMMISSION

# Water Equity Forum

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# The aims of the WRC Lighthouses

- Concentrate research, scan horizons and create subject connections for multidisciplinary problem definition and solving
- Raise the level of engagements and discussions between researchers at the local and international levels with more disciplines
- Mobilise research partnerships to develop a comprehensive research programme
- Create robust Community of Practice including researchers, decision makers and civil society
- Mobilise additional resources through partnerships for short, medium and longterm programmes spanning research to implementation
- Facilitate capacity building in the process



# Research Concentration : LIGHTHOUSES



**Water Sensitive  
Design**



**Climate Change**



**Green Village**

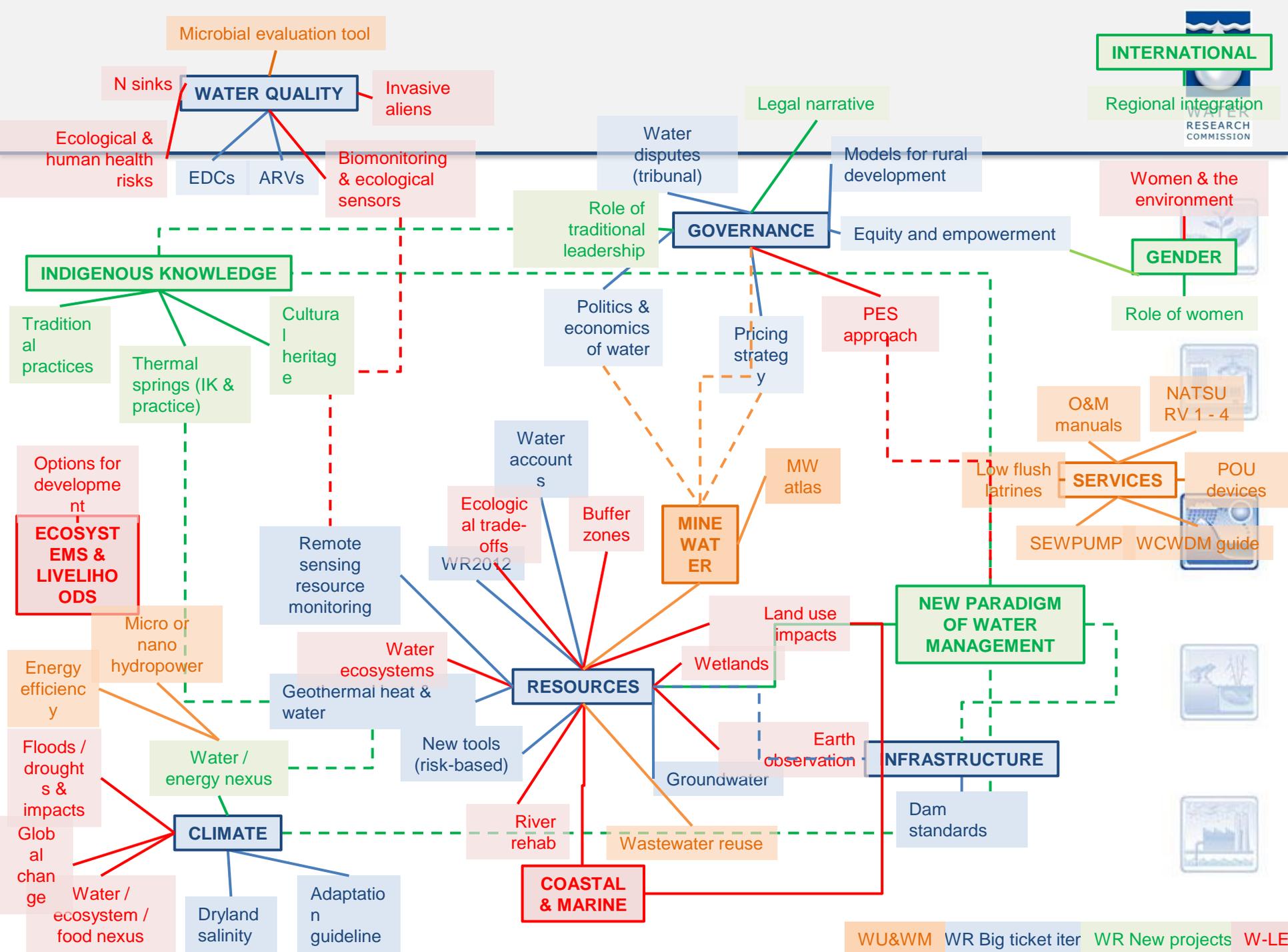


**Water/Energy/  
Food**



**Water  
Governance**





# Water Governance Research Gap Analysis 1993-2013



Focus Areas	Organisational Reforms	Finance and Economics	Legal	Regulation and Enforcement
Water Resources	Around CMA, WAR, traditional leadership, data management and information systems	Water equity and its definition and implementation mechanisms, CMA financial viability, water pricing implications, water accounts, political economy of water	Trusteeship, Documentation of law cases, documenting the NWA process	Role of CMA and citizens in monitoring; trust, empowerment indicators
Water and Ecosystems	Property rights paradigm	Ecosystem valuations (-)	HCD	Standards and role of citizens
Water Use and Waste	Around water boards; corporatisation, franchising	Drinking water pricing	Right to water	Drinking water standards and WB corporate compliance, unaccounted for water
Water Use in Agriculture	Enhanced food gardens, emerging farmers and small infrastructure	Around water trading	Agrarian reforms	Water use efficiency

# Establishment of the Water Equity Think Tank

The main purpose envisaged for this think tank is to broaden the understanding of equity in water and to redefine the equity deliberations focusing on the 20 years of democracy. The outcome could be targeted discussion platforms and papers that can inform and influence policy and processes in the South African water sector.



# Rational

Equitable access to water or to the benefits derived from using water is critical to eradicating poverty and promoting equitable economic growth. Little substantive progress on the National Water Act's pillar of equity (redress of race and gender water allocations for productive economic use) has been achieved since its promulgation. Proactive steps are required to meet the water needs of historically disadvantaged individuals (HDIs) and the poor and ensure their participation in productive use of water.

Source: National Water Resource Strategy (2013)



1. Do we have a common understanding of water equity
2. Should we be talking about equality instead
3. Do we need such a platform
4. What should it look like
5. Who is interested in being part of this
6. How do we move forward



# Moving forward



Thank you

