

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A SOLICITED WRC PROJECT

KEY STRATEGIC AREA KSA 7 (CORPORATE SERVICES)

THRUST SUSTAINABLE CAPACITY BUILDING OF THE WATER SECTOR

PROGRAMME WRC WATER ACADEMY

TITLE INVESTIGATING, DEVELOPING, AND IMPLEMENTING A

WRC ACADEMY FROM CONCEPTUALISATION TO PILOT

PHASE

Background and Rationale

The Water Research Commission established through the Water Research Act, has the primary function of achieving highly informed water decision-making through science and technology at all levels in all stakeholders' groups and innovative water solutions through research and development for South Africa and the world. This purpose is envisioned to be implemented through the following key activities:

- Promote coordination, cooperation and communication in the area of water research and development.
- Establish water research needs and priorities.
- Stimulate and fund water research according to priority.
- Promote the effective transfer of information and technology.
- Enhance knowledge and capacity building within the water sector.

Whilst these activities have gradually evolved and expanded into different levels of maturity, the 2021 financial year, seeks to direct its focus towards the expansion of the last activity through developing WRC Academy as a vehicle through which knowledge and capacity building in the water sector would be enhanced. The WRC academy is envisioned to primarily, translate research material into learning outcomes and qualifications respectively with the academy becoming the vehicle through which these learning programmes are delivered.

Ultimately the aim of the academy is to provide a sustainable capacity building solutions on both a technical and practical level, in the following ways:

- Training and knowledge sharing aimed at the "field workers, from communities, which includes farmers and municipal workers
- Provide content and development programmes as art of the continuous professional development of water professionals in the Sector.
- Enable stakeholders through providing training solutions, linked to their training needs, by

providing customised courses

- Enabling future water professionals through programmes such as Summer Schools, Learnerships and Internships, introducing students to concepts around water innovation and solutions.
- Enabling Youth development through the provision of bursaries.

We believe that these activities will enable the WRC to use the resources available to them in terms of knowledge, to sustainably close the knowledge gaps that exist within he Water Sector.

The Project Objective

Project Purpose

The overarching objective of this project is to investigate, develop a concept note, business case and pilot the establishment of a WRC Academy.

Project Deliverables/Outcomes

Conduct an external landscape scan of training institutions and departments providing training within the water and related sectors to develop best practice guidelines for the approach to establishing an academy.

Investigate the internal research and resources available that could be integrated and delivered

through the WRC academy.

Develop a WRC Academy concept note that conceptualises the WRC Academy to align to the

strategic context created above.

Develop a fully integrated business case, through which the concept can be operationalised, covering a competitor analysis, target market analysis, proposed pricing models, key capabilities and resource requirements.

Develop an Operational plan to implement the business case upon approval of the business case

through a pilot.

Identify and Appoint a strategic partner to implement the Operational plan through the pilot of the

WRC Water Academy through a 1-year cycle.

Develop a platform and all operational processes to ensure the efficiency of the WRC academy. The platform should enable agile learning modes as well as enable the effective and integrated management of learning outcomes and the academy.

Knowledge Tree

Capacity Building

Time Frame: 1 Years

Total Funds Available:

Allerid

R1 200 000

19/04/2021