

SANITATION SELECTION TOOL WORKSHOP FOR MUNICIPALITIES, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS, ENTITIES, AGENCIES, CONSULTING ENGINEERS, IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES, AND OTHER SANITATION PROFESSIONALS/STAKEHOLDERS

Date: 06 March 2023 Time: 10:00– 12:00 Registration link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_KbJgvXY4SAO5tOkjE8Ir_w</u>

Local governments in South Africa are mandated by the Constitution to provide basic water and sanitation services limited to homes and communities. The service deliveries have been well documented and evident from the incessant service delivery protests across the country. Municipal engineers and other technical personnel are often at the coalface of addressing these challenges and are often not well equipped to address these challenges.

Alternative solutions have been developed in recent years with the aim of improving sanitation services without the high capital investment and water usage required for large reticulation services. Sanitation package plants for decentralised waterborne sanitation are also continuously developing. These systems have the potential to bridge the gap between basic and improved sanitation and allow municipalities to achieve hygiene and sanitation for all.

The adoption of these solutions is hampered by numerous barriers, such as lack of standardization and guidance in the selection of appropriate technology/solutions; lack of understanding of the systems; unscrupulous service providers who sell substandard or inappropriate solutions; lack of applicable standards; conflicting sanitation policies and regulations; lack of willingness to try new technologies; mistrust of new technologies due to bad experiences in the past; and lack of clear tender specifications and guidelines concerning procuring non-traditional sanitation technologies. Without clear guidelines, municipalities are unlikely to pursue any new technologies.

Further, many municipalities lack the technical capacity to understand the new systems being proposed, which can either lead to the implementation of inappropriate solutions or the refusal to consider any alternatives. Manufacturers of innovative sanitation systems are frequently unable to tender for municipal sanitation contracts because tender specifications are not written with an understanding of these new systems.

To address the above challenges, a research study was undertaken under the WRC's South African Sanitation Technology Enterprise Programme (SASTEP) to evaluate the specific barriers to the uptake of alternative sanitation systems and to develop guidelines for the selection and implementation of appropriate sanitation solutions.

A suite of tools was produced to improve understanding of the sanitation value chain and the options available to municipalities and other government entities. The tools aim to empower municipalities, WSAs, and WSPs to deploy alternative sanitation solutions in addition to traditional approaches. While a tool can never replace critical thinking and technical expertise, decision-making tools can help open the possibilities for the implementation of alternative sanitation solutions where necessary and appropriate. This will introduce a wider range of technology solutions that can be used in addressing sanitation service delivery challenges, ideally leading to increased access to improved sanitation for more South Africans.

A decision-making tool, called **SaniSelect** has been developed along with other knowledge products such as a selection guideline, a guide for writing a sanitation policy, approaches to procuring alternative sanitation systems, and a simple list of pointers for those advocating for an innovative solution.

SaniSelect is currently excel based and there are plans to develop it into a web-based tool available as both PC and mobile phone applications. SASTEP will make the application available to municipal engineers and decision-makers at **no cost**. As part of the development, testing, and debugging of the tool, the WRC is inviting the engineers in municipalities, government departments, entities, agencies, consulting engineers, implementing agents, and other sanitation professionals/stakeholders to attend an online workshop where you will be taught how to use the tool. The workshop will use an example and take you step by step on using the tool. Post the workshop and you will be asked to use the tool to solve a pre-design sanitation selection challenge.

If you are interested in participating in the workshop, kindly register using this Link. You will receive a workshop pack that will include the **SaniSelect** tool and other workshop literature.

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Facilitator – Phillip Majeke		
Time	Торіс	Speaker
10:00 - 10:05	Welcome and setting	Phillip Majeke – SASTEP Commercialisation Manager
10:05-10:15	SALGA on Tech and Innovation	William Moraka - SALGA
10:15-10:30	Challenges of sanitation innovation adoption in Municipalities	Teddy Gounden - UKZN
10:30 - 10:40	Overview of the sanitation technology selection project	Jeanette Neethling – Project Leader, PID
10:40 - 11:40	 Introduction to the SaniSelect Tool Solving a sanitation selection example 	Jeanette Neethling – Project Leader, PID
11:40 - 11:50	Questions and Discussions	Facilitator – Phillip Majeke
11:50 - 11:55	Overview of take-home assignment	Jeanette Neethling
11:55 – 12:00	Vote of thanks	Phillip Majeke