

WATER RESEARCH COMMISSION PROVINCIAL WORKSHOP IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND SANITATION, UNIVERSITY OF MPUMALANGA AND INKOMATI-USUTHU CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DATE: 07 September 2023

Time: 10h00 – 13h30

Venue: University of Mpumalanga, Mbombela Main Campus

Background

The Water Research Commission's (WRC) mandate is to conduct and manage research in the water and sanitation sector. This includes moving research to practical innovations and solutions aimed at solving the country's key water and sanitation challenges and inform decision-making. More recently, the WRC has concluded its strategy for the next five years, 2023 to 2028 with a shift towards measuring outcomes and the impacts of those. One of the key outcomes on the WRC strategy is that of ensuring a technology driven water sector, an empowered and influenced stakeholder as well as water security through adaption and resilience. The WRC has embarked on a stakeholder centric approach which will be ensuring that water and sanitation research and innovations done through the Commission benefit and address the identified stakeholder challenges. A WRC team has been delegated to do pre-engagement sessions in Mpumalanga Province to establish the required research-based solutions and interventions to address the identified key challenges.

The purpose of the workshop is to meet with stakeholders responsible for managing water and sanitation related projects and researchers and discuss broadly and explore joint interventions based on current and past WRC projects.

Programme Director: University of Mpumalanga (tbc)

09h30-10h00	Registration and refreshments	All
10h00 -10h05	Opening, Introductions	Programme Director
10h05-11h15	Welcome and opening remarks (presentation on water related research programmes)	University of Mpumalanga
11h15-11h30	Remarks and purpose of the Workshop	Water Research Commission
11h30-11h45	The State of Water and Sanitation in the Province	DWS Regional Office
11h45 -12h00	Presentation on Water Resource Management and related projects in the district	Inkomati-Usuthu CMA
12h00 -12:05	Q and A	All
12h05 -12h30	Overview - WRC Mandate, Strategy and Research themes, potential interventions etc.)	Executive Manager/Research Manager, WRC
12h30 -12h35	Q&A	All
12h35 -12h45	Discussion Potential areas of collaboration,	Ms Virginia Molose, and Hlengiwe Cele & Thobile Gebashe, WRC
12h45-12h00	Key Action points for further engagements and stakeholder survey	

		Stakeholder and Impact Team
13h00-13h15	Closure and way forward	IUCMA University of Mpumalanga DWS Regional Office
13h30	Lunch	