



# Wetskills-South Africa 2024 (Durban)

## Announcement for participants

### *Welcome to the 9<sup>th</sup> Wetskills Challenge in South Africa*

We are excited to invite case owners and participants to apply for a spot in the Wetskills-South Africa 2024 event, which will take place in Durban for the second consecutive year. The program is scheduled to commence on 2 June 2024 in Durban, and will culminate in a grand finale featuring pitches and a poster market on June 13. This event's final will be held during the [Water Institute of Southern Africa \(WISA\) Biennial Conference](#) at the Durban International Conference Centre.



Over a two-week program, participants will collaborate in diverse, multidisciplinary teams comprising four to five individuals. Their primary objective is to craft innovative concepts for real-life case studies provided by the water sector, encompassing a blend of industry, government, non-profit organisations, and knowledge institutes. The program kicks off with two days dedicated to team-building activities, fostering connections among participants. This initiation phase includes field trips to water-related and cultural sites in and around Durban. An intensive period ensues, focusing on an in-depth exploration of the study case. Throughout this process, South African and international supervisors will provide guidance, steering the teams towards the development of their innovative concepts.

Since 2010, over 1300 international students and young water professionals, including approximately 160 from Southern Africa, have participated in 69 Wetskills Challenges organised across Asia, North Africa & the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, Europe, Middle America and Latin America.

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Concluding the program, teams will showcase their outcomes through a dedicated session at the [Water Institute of Southern Africa \(WISA\) Biennial Conference](#) in **Durban on 13 June**. The winning team will be announced during this session.

The Wetskills Foundation collaborates closely with esteemed partners, including the Department of Water and Sanitation of South Africa (DWS), the Water Research Commission, Young Water Professionals (WISA YWP-ZA), Rand Water Academy, Blue Deal South Africa program by Dutch Water Authorities, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to South Africa, and various other organisations in South(ern) Africa and beyond.

## Application deadline: 20 April 2024

(First Come, First Served)

**Who can apply?** Any Young Water Professionals (less than 5 years of working experience) and Bachelor (last year), Master or PhD students and recent graduates with a passion for water and intercultural teamwork from South(ern) Africa and beyond.

**How can I apply?** Prepare a motivation letter and resume, go to [www.wetskills.com](http://www.wetskills.com), fill in the online application form, and submit it.

**Selection criteria:** The Wetskills organisation will make a final selection among applications based on the quality of motivation and resume.

**What are the costs?** The participation fee for the Wetskills program is €395\* (excluding VAT, which is applicable only in Europe). This fee covers accommodation (in a hostel with shared rooms), team-building activities, some, **but not all**, lunches and dinners, field trips, workshops, and working facilities. Participants are also responsible for travel expenses (such as plane tickets and local transportation), meals on working days, and other personal costs. **NOTE: This does NOT include WISA entrance, which is estimated to be €250**

The **WATER RESEARCH COMMISSION** will fully fund **FIVE** Participants (Registered at South African Institutions), covering travel, allowances, and event participation, including WISA registration

**Additional information:** For additional information regarding participation and other details, contact Craig Tinashe Tanyanyiya at [craig.tinashe@wetskills.com](mailto:craig.tinashe@wetskills.com) and Johan Oost at [johan.oost@wetskills.com](mailto:johan.oost@wetskills.com).

