19-21 MAY 2026, CTICC, Cape Town, South Africa

WATER SECURITY AFRICA

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PROGRAMME 2026



60+ EXPERT SPEAKERS | 2 SPECIALISED TRACKS
CPD ACCREDITED SESSIONS | TECHNICAL SITE VISITS

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KEYNOTE

19 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE SESSION
AFRICA IN THE AI AGE
Ballroom, 1st Floor

Master of Ceremonies: *Enkromelle Andrew*

The digital renaissance in Africa's power sector is a rapid, technology-driven transformation aimed at addressing chronic energy access issues, high operational losses, and the need for sustainable energy integration. By utilizing smart grids, artificial intelligence (AI), Internet of Things (IoT) sensors, and digital payment systems, African utilities are transitioning from traditional, centralised models to modern, efficient, and consumer-centric networks.

10:30-10:40	**WELCOME BY THE ORGANISERS** *Chanelle Hingston, Group Director, Power, Energy & Water, VUKA Group*
10:40-10:55	**MINISTERIAL ADDRESS** *Thabo Kekane, Acting Director General, Minister of Energy and Electricity, Ministry of Energy and Electricity*
10:55-11:10	**ADDRESS: EVOLUTION OF DIGITAL POWER: STORAGE, DIGITALISATION AND AI** *Jacky Wang, Vice President, Huawei Electric Power Digitalization BU*
11:10-11:50	**PANEL DISCUSSION: THE ROLE OF AI AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES IN AFRICA'S ENERGY EVOLUTION** This panel will unpack how AI and digital technologies are reshaping Africa's energy systems and where the risks sit beneath the hype. Panellists will explore real-world use cases across grid operations, customer management and infrastructure, while interrogating unintended consequences and unexplored benefits. **Discussion points:** • System value vs system risk • Trust, security and sovereignty • AI's own energy footprint **Panellists:** - *Angus Hay, Group Executive: Data Centres, Cassava Technologies* - *Jacky Wang, Vice President, Huawei Electric Power Digitalization BU* - *Carol Koech, VP, Africa, Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet, Kenya*
11:50-12:45	**IN CONVERSATION WITH…** • *James Mackay, CEO, Energy Council of South Africa* • *Nontokozo Hadebe,* ***Group Executive: Strategy and Sustainability,*** • *Subesh Pillay, Chief of Staff to the Minister, Department of Energy and Electricity*
12:45-14:00	**RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

KEYNOTE

20 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE SESSION

How a coordinated energy/water plan could change African resilience

Ballroom, 1st Floor

Master of Ceremonies: *Enkromelle Andrew*

Coordinated approaches to the water-energy nexus involve managing water resources and energy production together to maximize efficiency, reduce consumption and lower environmental impacts. During this session, we will explore why climate finance isn't being extended to developing joint projects, how technology can support water and energy sustainability goals and lower emissions and where coordinated energy and water policies are driving positive change.

09:30-09:45	**RECAP OF DAY 1** *Enkromelle Andrew, Master of Ceremonies*
09:45-10:00	**WHY ADDRESSING THE WATER/ENERGY NEXUS IS NO LONGER OPTIONAL** *Sabine Dall'Omo, CEO, Siemens South Africa*
10:00-10:10	**ADDRESS FROM INDUSTRY** *Ramateu Monyokolo, Chairperson Association of Water and Sanitation Institutions of South Africa and Chairperson, Rand Water*
10:10-11:00	**IN CONVERSATION: THE WATER-ENERGY NEXUS – TAKING COORDINATION BEYOND THEORY** Africa's energy transition and water security crises are interlinked, yet institutional responses remain siloed. This session examines the structural barriers preventing integrated planning and financing and how these approaches can set the framework for development and sustainability. **Discussion points:** • Moving beyond policy and planning silos • Technology leaps and bounds • Finance and investment • In it for the long term **Panellists:** • *Sabine Dall'Omo, CEO, Siemens South Africa* • *Darshana Myronidis, Global Sustainability Leader, UK* • *Deerosh Maharaj, Executive Head: Energy, Infrastructure & Mining, Standard Bank Business & Commercial Banking* • *JP van der Merwe, Chief Foreign Direct Investment Officer, Wesgro* • *Ramateu Monyokolo, Chairperson Association of Water and Sanitation Institutions of South Africa and Chairperson, Rand Water*
11:10-12:00	**REFRESH AND CONNECT**

WATER SECURITY AFRICA STRATEGIC

19 MAY 2026

WATER CONNECTIONS & COLLABORATION LAB
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUG, HALL 4

This facilitated session connects municipal utilities, engineers and technology providers to identify the most urgent operational challenges facing African water utilities

09:30-09:35 **SCENE SETTER**
The State of African Water Utilities – From Crisis to Action

09:35-10:30 **JOINT SESSION: BOMA VILLAGE: WATER CONNECTIONS EXCHANGE**
A facilitated, high-energy peer exchange where utilities and solution providers co-define priorities.

- Top 3 infrastructure risks utilities cannot ignore in 2026
- Breaking the cycle of non-revenue water
- What technologies are actually deployable now - not just promising
- Where pilots are failing, and why?
- What makes partnerships work in practice

Speakers:
- *Dr Petrus Matji, Executive Chairman, Morwakoma Matji Investment Holdings*
- *Senior Representative, uMgeni-uThukela Water*
- *Gilbert Muhwezi, Senior Manager – Non-Revenue Water Management, Kampala, NWSC, Uganda*

KEYNOTE SESSION
BALLROOM, FIRST FLOOR

10:30-13:00 **AFRICA IN THE AI AGE**

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

MOBILISING CLIMATE FINANCE FOR WATER RESILIENCE
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Moderator: *Zaid Railoun, Specialist: Power & Sustainable Solutions, Standard Bank Business & Commercial Banking*

Water is central to climate adaptation, yet less than 3% of global climate finance reaches water security in emerging markets. With new tools like blended finance, water credits, and outcome-based payments gaining traction, the question is no longer whether capital exists, but how to unlock it at scale. This session brings together DFIs, climate funds, investors, and corporates to turn commitments into bankable pipelines.

14:00-14:05 **Scene setter**

14:05-15:15 *Panel discussion points: Mobilising climate finance for water resilience*

- *Why only 3% of climate finance reaches water – what's really blocking adaptation projects?*
- *From COP pledges to actual cash: which new funds (loss & damage, GCF, AfDB water window) are disbursing today?*
- *Blended finance & water credits in action: live African case studies that already work.*
- *How to de-risk water projects fast: guarantees, first-loss capital, FX hedging – what moves the needle for private investors?*
- *Corporates as anchor investors: using internal water/carbon pricing to crowd-in external capital*

Speakers:
- *Bothwell Manikai, Head: Coverage – Transport, Logistics & Bulk Water; and Principal – Infrastructure Financing, South Africa & International, Investment Division, Development Bank of South Africa*
- *Dr Faycel Chenini, Senior Water Resources Management Expert and WEFE Nexus Advisor, INRGREF, Tunisia*
- *Zakhele Mayisa, Senior Consultant, Private Sector Engagement and Business Development, Water Security and Sanitation Division, The African Development Bank Group*
- *Amgad Elmahdi, Regional Manager for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, Green Climate Fund (GCF)*
- *Joel Buatre, Head: Emerging Sectors, Business Ecosystems & Sustainability, Standard Bank*

15:20-16:00 **Moderator:** *Justin Smith, Chief Strategy Officer, Sustainable Finance Coalition*

Panel: When Finance Meets Impact: Unpack Africa's South Africa's First Outcomes-Based Water Bond

- *A Global First, and why that matters*
- *The problem this instrument was built to solve, South Africa invisible water crisis*
- *The legal architecture, building something that had never been done before*
- *How the structure actually works, aligning capital with verified outcomes*
- *The platform this creates- What comes Next*

Led by Webber Wentzel

- *Khurshid Fazel, Partner, Webber Wentzel*
- *Louise Stafford, Country Director, The Nature Conservancy*
- *Deo Onyango, Senior Industry Specialist, Sustainable Finance, International Finance Corporation*

16:00-16:15 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

POLICY ALIGNMENT AND REGULATORY INTERVENTIONS
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Moderator: *Mmaphefo Thwala, Water Sector Manager, EWSETA*

South Africa has the policies, strategies, and funding mechanisms in place, yet water resilience projects remain stuck in regulatory limbo. Tariff uncertainty, slow licensing, and the gap between national policy and local implementation continue to deter private capital. This session tackles these bottlenecks head-on, asking what regulatory changes are needed to turn intent into bankable reality.

16:15-16:20 **SCENE SETTER**

16:20-17:30 **COUNTRY SPOTLIGHT: SOUTH AFRICA: POLICY ALIGNMENT AND REGULATORY INTERVENTIONS**

Discussion points:

- National vs local reality: why most municipalities still don't know or apply the latest water policy tools.
- Tariff certainty & cost recovery: what reforms are needed to make water services financially viable and attractive to investors?
- Fast-tracking decentralized systems: how to simplify licensing and standards for boreholes, reuse plants and modular treatment.
- Bridging the government-private gap: practical ways to get national policy embraced (or enforced) at municipal level.
- Which three regulatory changes could unlock the most private investment by 2030?

Speakers:

- *Benoît Le Roy, Co-Founder, South African Water Chamber NPC*
- *Ntombizanele Billa-Mupariwa, Provincial Head - Western Cape, Department of Water and Sanitation*
- *Bashan Govender, Manager: Environmental Compliance SA Region - SA PGM & Gold Operations, Sibanye Stillwater*

WATER HUB

19 MAY 2026

WATER CONNECTIONS & COLLABORATION LAB
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB, HALL 4

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Facilitator: *Debbie Donaldson, Business Owner, BecauseYourWorthIt*

Speakers:

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- *Gilbert Muhwezi, Senior Manager – Non-Revenue Water Management, Kampala, NWSC*

10:30-11:00 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

INFRASTRUCTURE RECOVERY & UTILITY PERFORMANCE
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB, HALL 4

This session examines how utilities and private developers are deploying advanced treatment technologies and smart infrastructure to expand water supply and improve system performance.

11:40-12:00 **EKURHULENI WATER CARE COMPANY - CATALYTIC PROJECT UPDATE**
Lelentle Motaung, Sales Engineer, ERWAT

12:00-12:20 **REIMAGINING THE CLEANING INDUSTRY THROUGH ESG: WATER STERWARDSHIP, CLIMATE RESPONSIBILITY AND GREEN ENTERPRISE INNOVATION**
Precious Nyarambi, Founder & CEO, Elohay Cleaners & Energy

12:20-12:40 **FROM COMPLIANCE TO COMPETENCE: THE WORKFORCE FACTOR IN WATER INFRASTRUCTURE PERFORMANCE (VIRTUAL PRESENTATION)**
Diyaanah Marcianelli, QCTO Accredited Skills Development Provider

12:40-113:00 **SMART METERING AND DIGITAL REVENUE MANAGEMENT**

- Advanced metering infrastructure
- Billing systems
- Customer data platforms
- Revenue recovery

Theuns Tait, Product Manager, Conlog

13:00-14:00 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

14:00-15:00 **TECHNICAL DISCUSSION: LEAK DETECTION TECHNOLOGIES FOR LARGE DISTRIBUTION NETWORKS**

- Satellite leak1 detection
- Network monitoring systems
- Pressure management

Presenters:

- *Ivy Maisela, Head: Water Demand Management & Implementation, City of Cape Town*
- *Etienne Hugo, Director: Distribution Services (Water), City of Cape Town*

DESALINATION, REUSE & ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB, HALL 4

As water scarcity intensifies in coastal regions, desalination is emerging as a strategic supply source. This session explores technical design, environmental considerations, and operational models for desalination plants in African cities.

15:00-15:20 **PROTECTING WATER RESOURCES IN INDIGENT REGIONS: FROM CATCHMENT DEGRADATION TO SUSTAINABLE SUPPLY SECURITY**
Phindile Mahlangu, Scientific Services Manager, Magalies Water

15:20-15:40 **SCALING WASTEWATER REUSE FOR URBAN WATER SUPPLY**

- Potable and non-potable reuse systems
- Treatment requirements
- Public acceptance and regulation

Gerhard Cronje, CEO, Maskam Water

15:40-16:00 **Managing Excess Water in Conventional Ash Storage Facilities: Risks, Controls, and Optimisation**
Musa Maluleke, Acting HOD: Engineering -Civil Engineering Department, Bulk Material Services, Eskom Rotek Industries (ERI)

16:00-16:20 **Drops in the Ocean – exploring opportunities for public private partnerships to achieve water security from catchments to coasts**
Shelly Fuller, Consultant: Sustainable Sourcing and Impact Team, Newforesight

REFRESH AND CONNECT – END OF DAY 1

WATER SECURITY AFRICA STRATEGIC

20 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE
BALLROOM, FIRST FLOOR

09:30-11:00 **HOW A COORDINATED ENERGY/WATER PLAN COULD CHANGE AFRICAN RESILIENCE**
11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

GLOBAL INNOVATIONS IN REUSE AND RECOVERY AMID WATER SCARCITY
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Moderator: Ashton Mpofu, AfriVolve Group

This session examines how innovative wastewater reuse and desalination solutions are driving economic and water resilience across Africa. It combines a high-impact masterclass from the City of Cape Town with a forward-looking panel on commercial and industrial water innovation, offering participants practical tools, real-world case studies and scalable models to move water reuse from pilot projects to permanent infrastructure. Delegates will leave with actionable insights on technology, financing, governance and public-private partnerships that deliver both water security and long-term economic returns.

11:45-12:15 **MASTERCLASS: INNOVATIONS IN WASTEWATER REUSE AND DESALINATION FOR ECONOMIC RESILIENCE**

In this practical 30-minute masterclass, Leonardo Manus explores how cities and industries can position wastewater as a strategic resource through energy, nutrient and water recovery. The session covers advances in desalination and reuse technologies including solar-powered reverse osmosis and modular systems — while linking sustainability, financial viability and Non-Revenue Water (NRW) management to long-term water security. Special focus is given to Cape Town's post-Day Zero journey and the critical role of public-private partnerships in scaling proven solutions.

- Positioning wastewater as a strategic resource, and the approaches to energy, nutrient, and water recovery
- Advances in desalination and reuse technologies, including solar-powered reverse osmosis and modular deep-sea systems
- Linking sustainability, financial viability, and long-term water security
- Managing Non-Revenue Water (NRW) and its impact on consumer costs and system efficiency
- Regional application through Cape Town's Day Zero journey
- Role of public–private partnerships and governance in scaling solutions

Leonardo Manus, Executive Director: Water and Sanitation, City of Cape Town, South Africa

12:15-13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION: THE REUSE IMPERATIVE: HOW WATER SCARCITY IS ACCELERATING INNOVATION ACROSS COMMERCIAL SECTORS**

Water scarcity is no longer just an environmental issue, it is driving a new wave of water innovation and reuse across Africa's commercial and industrial landscape. From property developers and hotel groups to agro-processors and manufacturers, organisations are deploying proven solutions such as greywater recycling, treated effluent reuse, condensate recovery and closed-loop industrial systems to cut costs, reduce reliance on municipal supply and build long-term resilience.
While the technology exists, most projects remain one-off pilots rather than permanent infrastructure. This panel examines the real barriers, financial, regulatory and institutional, and showcases how Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) are successfully bridging the gap. Drawing on high-impact case studies, panellists will explore scalable models that deliver both economic returns and water security.

- Implementing greywater and treated effluent systems to reduce operating costs and reliance on municipal supply
- Responding to NRW-driven tariff increases through on-site reuse and efficiency investments
- Leveraging public–private partnerships and institutional frameworks to enable large-user reuse projects
- Aligning property and tourism developments with circular economy and long-term water resilience goals

Moderator: *Ashton Mpofu, Director, AfriVolve Group*

Speakers:
- *Nicholas Igwe, National Coordinator, OPS-WASH*
- *Helen Hulett, CSO, AfriGIS*
- *Akhona Tyhali, Water Analyst, GreenCape*
- *Thobekile Gambu, Sustainability Lead, Umgeni Water*

13:00-14:30 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

SECTOR-SPECIFIC STEWARDSHIP IN HIGH CONSUMPTION INDUSTRIES
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Moderator: *Ithriam Leukes, Water Solutions Specialist, Ontec*

Mining, agro-processing, and hospitality drive over 70% of Africa's industrial water demand, yet water is still treated as an unlimited input. From zero-liquid-discharge mines to brewery water recovery and greywater hotels, leaders are proving 60–90% reductions are possible. This panel brings the doers to unpack the technologies, business cases, and 4Rs strategies turning high-use sites into net contributors to local water security.

14:30-14:35 **Scene setter**
14:35-15:30 **PANEL DISCUSSION POINTS: SECTOR-SPECIFIC STEWARDSHIP IN HIGH-CONSUMPTION INDUSTRIES**

- Mining's 70-90 % recycling reality: closed-loop tailings water, zero-discharge policies and real-time AI sensors (Harmony Gold, Anglo American examples).
- Agro-processing closing the loop: extracting water from potatoes, condensate recovery, and fertigation with treated effluent (AB InBev, Tiger Brands, Heineken cases).
- Hospitality's hidden footprint: greywater recycling, smart guest programmes and rainwater systems that cut consumption 40-60 % (Marriott, Radisson, Virgin Limited Edition).
- The 4Rs in action: Reduce → Reuse → Recycle → Rethink, which step delivers the fastest ROI for each sector?

- Beyond the fence: how these industries fund catchment restoration and share treated water with communities to de-risk licences and secure supply.

Speakers:

- *Petrus Swanepoel, Senior Manager Sustainability, MEDICLINIC South Africa*
- *Molatelo Motau, Sustainability Projects Manager, Heineken*
- *John van Wyk, Group Senior Environmental Manager, Harmony Gold Mining Company*
- *Darshana Myronidis, Global Sustainability Leader*
- *Martjie Cloete, Sustainability Manager-Projects, GrowthPoint Properties*
- *Abe Andries, Head: Mining & Metals, Standard Bank*

15:30-16:00 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

INTERACTIVE SESSION: SUSTAINABLE DESIGN AND GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Facilitator: *Debbie Donaldson, Business Owner, BecauseYourWorthIt*

Your multi-billion-rand project has just failed its water ESG audit. Investors are calling—and you have 90 days to fix it. In this fast-paced roundtable, delegates tackle a live water crisis, vote on circular retrofit options, and see capex, water savings, and ESG scores update in real time. Compete against a real African benchmark and leave with a ready-to-use Green Infrastructure Fix-It Toolkit.

16:00-16:10 **SCENE SETTER**

16:10-17:30 How it runs – 6 steps

1. Crisis drops (live demo of a real failed project)
2. Roundtables pick & vote on retrofit packages (Mentimeter)
3. On-screen engine instantly shows cost, water & ESG impact
4. Top 3 table designs battle in final audience vote
5. Reveal the real benchmark solution + compare results
6. Every delegate gets the digital toolkit + winning table prize

WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB

20 MAY 2026

KEYNOTE
BALLROOM, FIRST FLOOR

09:00-11:00	**KEYNOTE DAY 2**
11:00-11:45	**REFRESH AND CONNECT**

ADVANCED WATER TREATMENT & SMART WATER SYSTEMS
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB, HALL 4

Examining next-generation treatment technologies for municipal and industrial wastewater.

11:45-12:05	**FINANCING UPSTREAM INVESTMENTS FOR WATER SECURITY: THE ROLE OF INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT IN LESOTHO** • *Matsolo Migwi, Deputy Coordinator, Integrated Catchment Unit (ICU), ReNOKA Programme in Lesotho, GIZ*
12:05-12:25	**INNOVATION, APPLICATION AND BENEFITS OF SPECIALIZED MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY FOR THE TREATMENT OF DIFFICULT WASTEWATERS** • *Dylan Billingham, Business Development Engineer, Aquest Colsen*
12:25-12:45	**STRENGTHENING WATER RESILIENCE AND COMPETITIVENESS IN THE ATLANTIS SEZ** • *Michael Pienaar, Sustainable Infrastructure Development and Zone Operations Specialist, Atlantis Special Economic Zone Company*
12:45-13:05	**EXTRACTING VALUE FROM WASTEWATER ASSETS** • *Gary Brown, Director, Dikubu Water Solutions*
13:00-14:00	**RECHARGE AND CONNECT**
14:00-14:20	**RESOLVE WATER: A GEOSPATIAL INTELLIGENCE PLATFORM TO UNLOCK INVESTMENT AND BUILD WATER RESILIENCE ACROSS AFRICA** • *Helen Hulett, CSO, AfriGIS*
14:25-15:25	**PANEL DISCUSSION: ADVANCE WATER TREATMENTS** • Performance benchmarking of membrane bioreactors vs conventional activated sludge • Advanced oxidation processes for industrial effluent treatment • Removal technologies for PFAS, pharmaceuticals, and microplastics • Heavy metal recovery through electrochemical and absorption systems • Engineering and economics of Zero Liquid Discharge plants ***Moderator:*** *Kabelo Sehlati, District Manager, ERWAT* ***Panellist:*** • *Gerhard Cronje, CEO, Maskam Water* • *Phindile Mahlangu, Scientific Services Manager, Magalies Water* • *Ashton Mpofu, Director, AfriVolve Group*
15:30-16:00	**REFRESH AND CONNECT**

ACCELERATING WATER TECHNOLOGY DEPLOYMENT FOR C&I OPERATIONS
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB, HALL 4

A practical, business-focused workshop exploring how industrial and commercial water users can fast-track the adoption of new water technologies to improve operational resilience, reduce costs, and meet compliance requirements.

16:00 -16:20	**ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF SUSTAINABLE WATER SUPPLY TO PORTS** *Kubefu Maduna, Water Sector Specialist, Transnet National Ports Authority*
16:20-16:45	**SMART WATER METERING: A CASE STUDY ON RESIDENTIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL IMPLEMENTATION IN COURTRAI** **Speakers:** • *Hilton Smith, Chief Accountant for Water and Electricity, Drakenstein Local Municipality* • *Ithriam Leukes, Water Solutions Specialist, Ontec*
16:45-17:15	***FROM PILOT TO PLANT – DEPLOYING WATER TECH IN INDUSTRY*** • *Technology readiness for Industrial Use* • *Designing industry pilots* • *Compliance & approval pathways* • *1Funding & Procurement Models for C&I* *Warwick Hayes, Technical Lead, ENGAGE*
	REFRESH AND CONNECT ***END OF DAY 2***

WATER SECURITY AFRICA STRATEGIC

21 MAY 2026

COUNTRY SPOTLIGHTS: PUBLIC-PRIVATE PLAYBOOKS FOR WATER SECURITY
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Moderator: *Zakhele Mayisa, Senior Consultant, Private Sector Engagement and Business Development, Water Security and Sanitation Division, African Development Bank*

09:30-09:/35 Turning arid or flood-prone cities into resilient water hubs through bold policy, new tech and real private-sector muscle. Delegates rotate between four live country tables (20 min each) to hear national government + utility + private partner trios unpack their latest projects. Conversations dive into policy choices, technology decisions, financing models, and how political and technical capacity were built quickly and at scale. Participants leave with four practical, adaptable city blueprints and direct connections to the teams who made them happen.

How it runs

- 3 simultaneous roundtables (8–10 seats each)
- Delegates to be assigned in the respective roundtables rotate every 30 min + final 20-min wrap on main stage
- Each table hosted by government + public utility + private partner trio

09:35-11:00

Uganda
NWSC's new Kampala Water–Lake Victoria Water & Sanitation project: turning 42 % NRW into revenue while adding 240 ML/d
Gilbert Muhwezi, Senior Manager – Non-Revenue Water Management, Kampala, NWSC,Uganda

Kenya
Nairobi City Water's aggressive PPP pipeline and smart-meter roll-out
Ephantus Mugo, Project Manager, Nairobi City Water and Sewerage Company

South Africa
Focus on turning systemic losses (e.g. 37-47% national NRW from leaks, aging pipes, and poor maintenance) into revenue via aggressive PPP-led interventions.

Emmanuel Khomela, Executive Manager: Infrastructure Planning & Projects, ERWAT, South Africa

11:00-11:45 **REFRESH AND CONNECT**

CATCHMENT-LEVEL RISKS AND MUNICIPAL RESILIENCE
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Moderator: *Ntsako Baloyi, Senior Associate, OMI Solutions*

From Johannesburg's Vaal to Nairobi's Athi, Windhoek's aquifers to Lagos' waterways, Africa's urban catchments face mounting threats, invasive species, acid mine drainage, 40% NRW losses, and climate-driven supply drops of up to 50% in a decade. This panel explores proven interventions from catchment audits and flood management to dam optimisation and desalination, highlighting how cities can cut losses, boost water security, and build resilient municipal and industrial systems.

11:45-13:00 **PANEL DISCUSSION POINTS: CATCHMENT LEVEL RISKS AND MUNICIPAL RISKS**

- Upstream perils across borders: Acid mine drainage in South Africa's Vaal vs. invasive plants choking Uganda's Awoja catchment, shared monitoring fixes for industrial safeguards.
- NRW leaks continent-scale: Johannesburg's 34% losses mirror Lagos' pipe failures; George's smart metering blueprint for Nigeria and Kenya's urban audits.
- Downstream floods & scarcity: 654 SSA events displacing millions, from Kenya's Tana over-abstraction to Namibia's Windhoek recycling, equity lessons for all.
- Yield boosters in action: Nature-based restoration in Cape Town's catchments and Middle East desalination tech adapting to Botswana's droughts for optimized flows.
- Pan-African resilience toolkit: PPPs bridging silos in Kampala and Windhoek, plus insurance models to fund upgrades and de-risk infrastructure by 2030.

Speakers:

- *Shyam Misra, Group Managing Director/CEO, Siza Water*
- *Rembu Magoba, Water Centre Manager, CSIR, South Africa*
- *Kennedy Chihota, Managing Director ERWAT, South Africa*
- *Patrick Hlabela, Specialist Scientist: Climate Change Analysis, Department of Water and Sanitation, South Africa*
- *Desiree Moima, Specialist: Water Infrastructure Support, Gauteng Department of Co-operative Governance and Traditional Affairs*

13:00-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

CLOSING SESSION
Capacity Building for Water Security in Commercial & Industrial Sectors
WATER STRATEGIC STAGE, HALL 4

Moderator: *Jurgen Wolfenden, PHD Candidate; Centre for Sustainability Transitions, University of Stellenbosch*

South Africa's C&I sectors lose billions yearly to water inefficiency because most managers and technicians simply don't know what they don't know. From boardrooms to plant floors, the fastest resilience wins now come from targeted training, smart tech adoption, and policy muscle that turns knowledge into immediate savings. This panel brings the people who design and deliver the courses, the companies that slashed consumption 30-50 % after training, and the regulators who are making it pay. Leave with a 12-month capacity-building roadmap you can launch next quarter.

14:00-15:00 **PANEL: CAPACITY BUILDING FOR WATER SECURITY IN COMMERCIAL & INDUSTRIAL SECTORS**

- Closing the skills emergency: why 70 % of industrial water teams lack formal water-management training and how short, accredited courses are fixing it fast.
- From audit to action: real NCPC-SA and company case studies where a R150k training + audit package delivered R8-15 m annual savings.
- Smart tech needs smart people: pairing AI sensors and digital twins with operator upskilling — the new non-negotiable combo.
- Making it stick: incentives, penalties and stewardship SOPs that turn one-off training into permanent culture change.
- Your 2026 playbook: the exact mix of government-backed courses, private mentorships and funding routes to get your entire team water-secure in 12 months.

Speakers:

- *Mmaphefo Thwala, Water Sector Manager, EWSETA*
- *Ashton Mpofu, Director, AfriVolve Group*
- *Gerhard Cronje, CEO, Maskam Water*

WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB

21 MAY 2026

WATER LEADERSHIP & RESILIENCE FORUM
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB, HALL 4

A strategic leadership discussion on managing climate risks, infrastructure failures, and system resilience in African water utilities.

09:30-09:35 **SCENE SETTER**

09:35-10:30 **FIRESIDE-STYLE INTERACTIVE FORUM**

- Utility leadership during climate-driven water shortages
- Infrastructure resilience under growing demand and aging assets
- Governance models for sustainable water utilities
- Building the next generation of water professionals

Speakers:

- *Thobikile Gambu, Environmental Scientist, uMngeni-uThukela Water*
- *Ntombizanele Mary Billa-Mupariwa, Provincial Head for the Western Cape, Department of Water and Sanitation*
- *Marilyn Maduka, Sustainability Director, AB-InBev*
- *Dr Ndohva Mandavha, Deputy Director: Infrastructure Skills Development Grant, National Treasury*

10:30-10:50 **CLOSING THE GOVERNANCE GAP IN AFRICAN URBAN WATER SECURITY, LESSONS FROM NAMIBIA**

- *Rennie Munyayi, Manager: Research and Post-Graduate Development, Namibia University of Science and Technology*

10:50 – 11:10 **DEVELOPING FUTURE-READY WATER PROFESSIONALS: GRADUATE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES AS STRATEGIC INSTRUMENTS FOR WATER SECURITY, INNOVATION, AND WORKFORCE RESILIENCE IN AFRICA**

- *Alice Lubega, Project Manager, Rand Water*

11:10-11:30 **WATER REUSE AND RECOVERY AS A STRATEGIC RESOURCE FOR WATER RESILIENCE: EXPERIENCES FROM AROUND THE WORLD**

- *Marco Arcieri, President, International Commission on Irrigation and Drainage*

111:30 – 11:50 **IMPLEMENTING TECHNICAL AND SCIENTIFIC SOLUTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE WATER MANAGEMENT THROUGH PROMOTION OF THE NATURAL SCIENTIFIC PROFESSION: INFRASTRUCTURE SKILLS DEVELOPMENT GRANT**

- *Dr Ndovha Mandavha, Deputy Director: Infrastructure Skills Development Grant, National Treasury*

DIGITAL INNOVATORS & SMART UTILITIES
WATER SECURITY AFRICA HUB, HALL 4

11:50-12:50 **INTERACTIVE PANEL**

- AI-powered leak detection platforms
- Smart metering and revenue management systems
- Mobile platforms for community water reporting
- Digital tools for asset management and maintenance

Moderator: *Benoît Le Roy, Co-Founder, South African Water Chamber NPC*

Panellists:

- *Keenan George, CEO, Smart View Technology*
- *Siya Bashe, Director: Commercial Services, City of Cape Town*
- *Dhasi Naidoo, Chief Strategy & Commercial Officer, Ontec*
- *Melliscent Mashinini, Vertical Sales Manager: Water and Waste Water, Siemens*

12:50-13:10 **SMART BASINS FOR MUNICIPAL WATER RESILIENCE**

- *Dr Anna Matros-Goreses, Executive Director, Directorate: Research, Innovation and Partnerships, Namibia University of Science and Technology*

13:10-14:00 **RECHARGE AND CONNECT**

CLOSING SESSION

14:00-14:30 **CLOSING KEYNOTE**

14:30-15:00 **STAND AWARDS**