

Water and Sanitation Sector Leadership Group Meeting

CSIR Water Initiatives Aligned to SDGs

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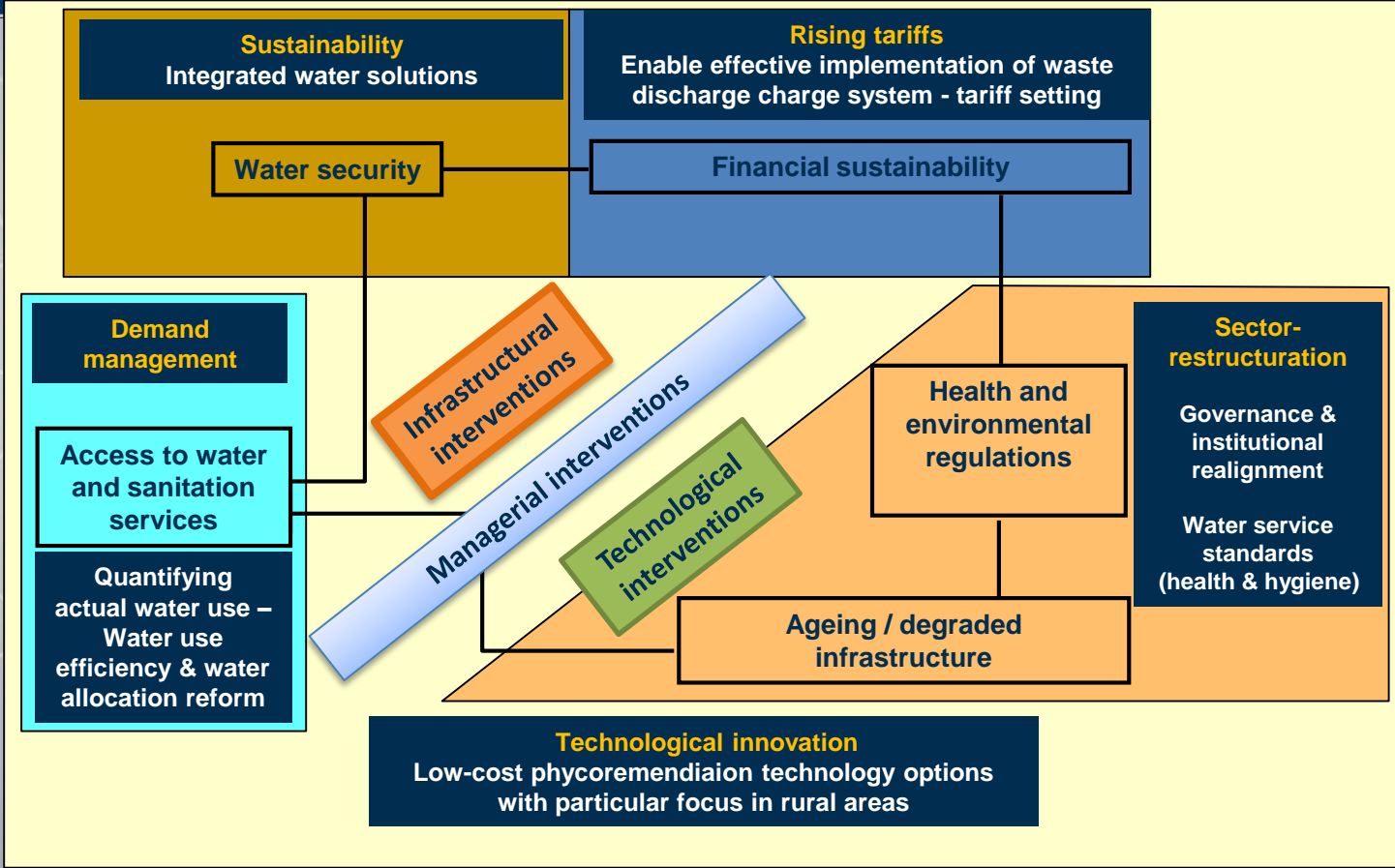
Effective Implementation of SDG 6

❖ Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation to all

- Ensure – for **current** and **future** generations.
- Implies short, medium and long-term implications to be addressed – **simultaneously**.
- Major **challenges** and **opportunities** in responding to these.
- Require **rapid, intermediate** and **comprehensive** interventions.
- Applies to **SDG 6.1- 6.6**
 - Access, efficient use and sustainability
 - Improving water quality and ecosystems restoration
 - IWRM and international best practise



Major Challenges and RDI Opportunities



SDG 6.3 Improve Water Quality by Reducing Pollution

❖ Pollution detection and treatment

- Low-cost rapid pathogen detection technology
- Near-real-time water quality monitoring system
- Polymer-based adsorbents for removal of toxic pollutants from water – application in acid mine drainage treatment, EDCs, and emerging contaminants (nano-scale)
- Multi-scale modelling, analysis and advanced computation (water/energy linkages)
- Low-cost passive waste treatment technology - facilitate effective and efficient removal of nutrients and pathogens in WWTWs effluent in rural areas in particular
- Desalination of inland contaminated water streams for maximum recovery of water
- Ecological infrastructure and its role in water resource management



SDG 6.4 Substantially Increase Water-Use Efficiency

- WaterGrid-Sense - for applications promoting smart water use (water loss control at municipal level)
- Agricultural biological control agents - ability to improve soil health and crop growth rate - reduce water utilisation in agriculture
- Water Use Measurements – analysing water user behaviours for more accurate monitoring and planning of water allocations to promote water use efficiency and enhance productive water uses (water use audits – validation and verification)



Contents lists available at [ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com)

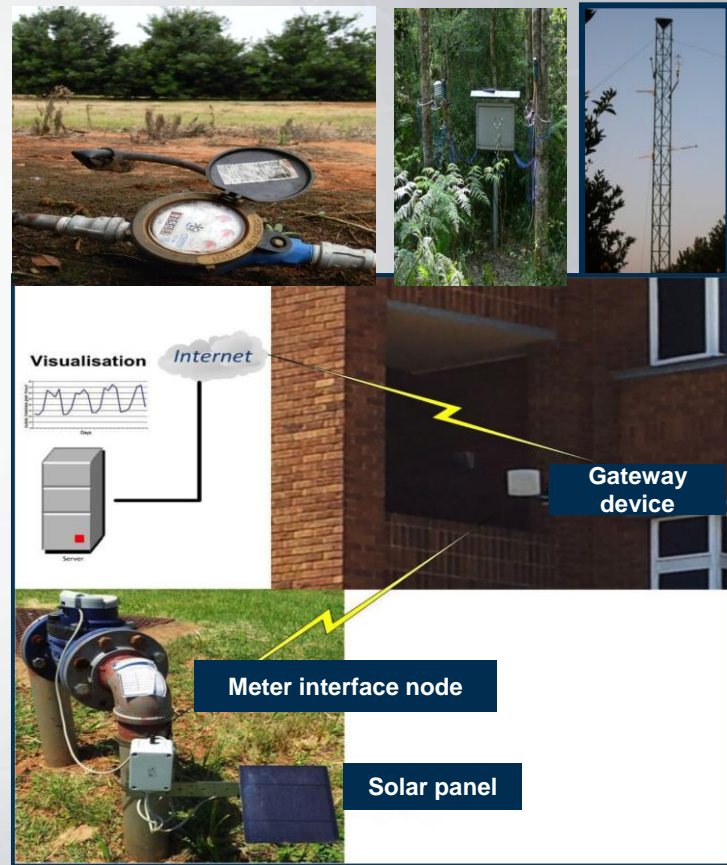
Physics and Chemistry of the Earth

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/pce

Validation and verification of lawful water use in South Africa: An overview of the process in the KwaZulu-Natal Province

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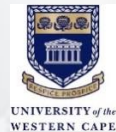
SDG 6.5: Implement IWRM at all Levels



❖ Quantification of catchment processes impacting on water

- Understanding hydrological impacts of land-use changes through measurements & modelling.
- Agricultural, forest & alien invasive plant water-use.
- Catchment/WMA-scale water resources assessments & management.
- Use of Earth Observation data / Remote Sensing for spatial ET estimation & IWRM.
- Water use verification & validation.

- Water use efficiency - water productivity - water footprints/stewardship – national water use index.
- Geohydrological & geochemical assessments (GW/SW interaction).
- Reserve determinations, managed Aquifer recharge, geochemical monitoring.
- Supplementing water supplies – GW for irrigation.
- Rainwater Harvesting - rural water supply.



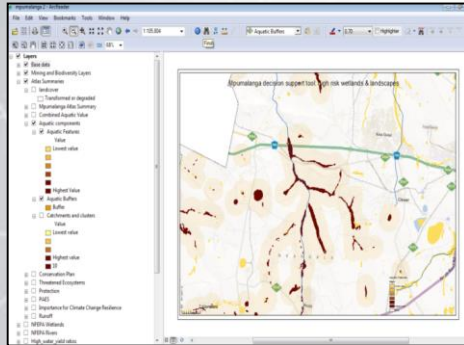
water & sanitation
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Water and Sanitation
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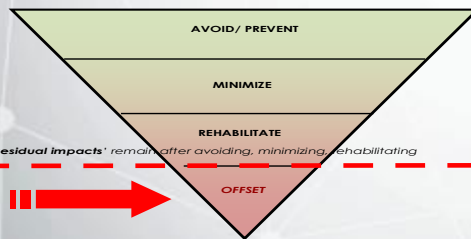
SDG 6.6 Protect and Restore Water-related Ecosystems



❖ Ecological infrastructure and its role in water resource management



- The value of wetlands - valuable services to society that complements traditional hard/built infrastructure is becoming increasingly important.
- Applied research – improve understanding & management of wetlands.
- Wetland Classification and Risk Assessment Index (WCRAI) - management of natural freshwater wetland ecosystems.
- Eskom initiative - in response to need for improving management of wetlands.
- Research work expanded - development of a High Risk Wetlands Atlas.



Eskom



Some Project Examples...



❖ Responding to droughts and floods

- Water Bank / Managed Aquifer Recharge and Storage (MARS)
- Longstanding work with City of Cape Town in the Atlantic Water Supply Scheme
- Highly effective storage mechanism in that it reduces evapotranspiration



Quantifying potential water savings from clearing invasive alien



❖ Bergriver Catchment



- Rainfall over 1-year study period = 407mm
- Water use by large *E. camaldulensis* trees = 100 L/tree/day (winter) 260 L/tree/day (summer).
- (47 000 L/tree/year)
- Stand level *Euc* transpiration ($\cong 833$ mm/y)
- Potential for significant augmentation of streamflow through clearing of *E. camaldulensis*
- Actual volumes of water released will depend on differences in the water use characteristics of invaded stands relative to mature native replacement stands.

Desalination of inland water streams: maximum recovery of water



- Reducing brine to fresh water and dry salt at acceptable cost and energy consumption:
 - Release more fresh water
 - Treat contaminated water streams, including AMD
- Determine energy and economic feasibility of large-scale AMD treatment at Eskom power stations

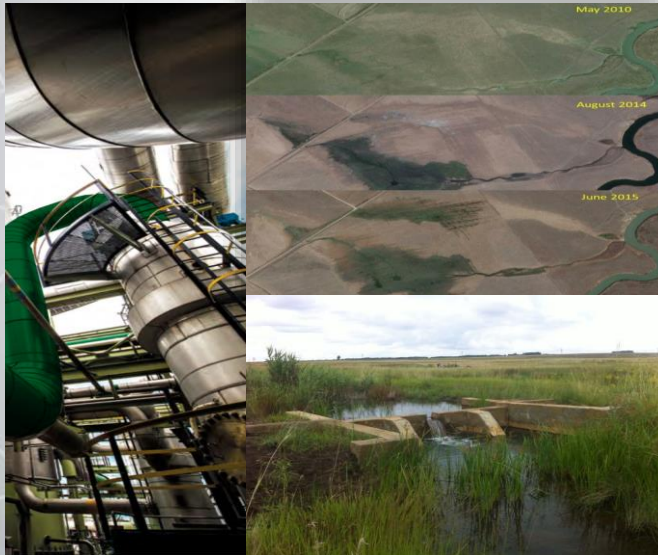
- Develop modelling tools to allow realistic calculation of:
 - Energy demand, salt concentration, pressure, temperature and heat transfer surface areas for both MED and heat pumps in different configurations
 - Electricity generation impact on power stations of steam bled to drive MED and heat pumps



Valuing Natural Resources



❖ Wetland rehabilitation (OMNIA Wetlands – Zaalklapspruit)



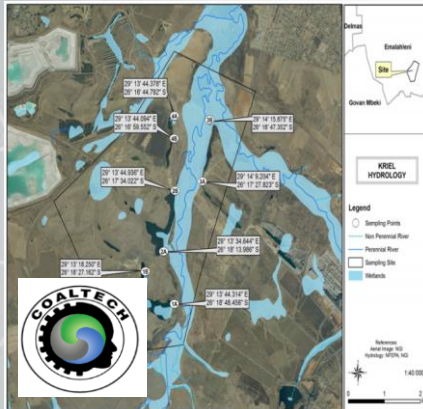
- Determine the status quo of the downstream environment in relation to their integrated water use licence
- Evaluate the potential use of constructed wetlands for effluent management

- Based on estimates of study, the asset value of Zaalklapspruit Wetland - between \$42M - \$65M, of which water purification & waste assimilation service contributes \$11M - \$48 M.
- By rehabilitating Zaalklapspruit Wetland at a cost of \$145K – able to produce between \$11M - \$48M on the natural asset balance sheet of SA.

Rehabilitation in Mining Areas

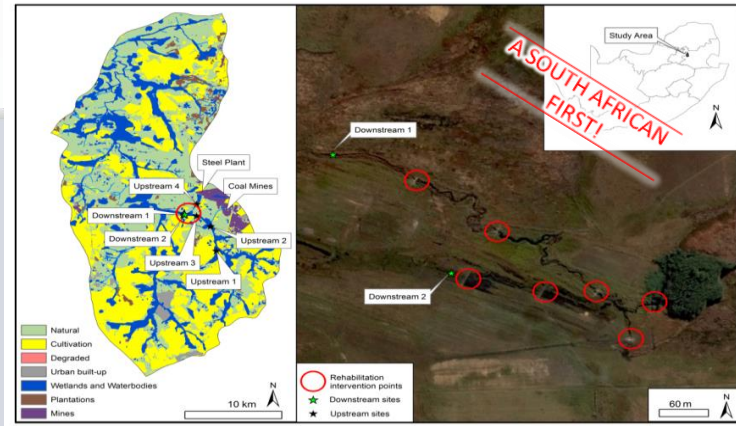
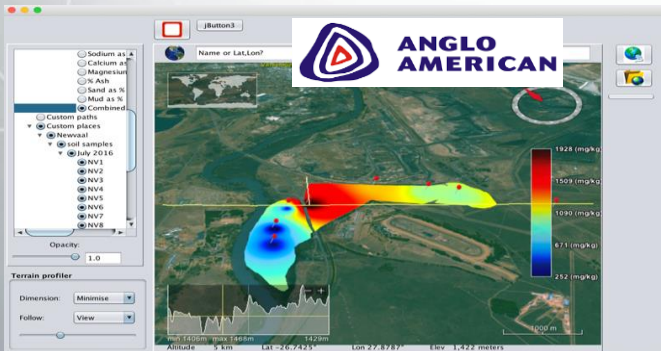


❖ Treatment of AMD and wetland rehabilitation



The outcome of the research aims to:

- i) Inform water use license decisions regarding the monitoring and management of wetlands.
- ii) Inform decisions regarding the management and treatment of acid mine drainage (AMD) as well as the potential of rehabilitating the wetlands.
- iii) Enhancing goods and services that wetlands provide.



Transboundary Water Cooperation

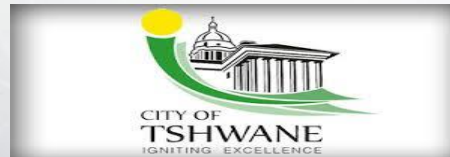


Simulating interaction of multiparty co-investment and cooperation options

Results: SIMCCOTM developed as tool that supports interactive & cooperative gaming through role play, options ID & evaluation.

Use: Supports interactive gaming to simulate cooperative engagement between participants from the military and civil society to ID & discuss options to improve mission sustainability.

Future: Potential to upscale & replicate in different countries and with wide range of stakeholder groups.



Policy to inform flood and drought-induced migration

Scope: Advancing our understanding of the linkages between climate-induced migration and Southern Africa's preparedness to respond to internal and cross-border displacements due to environmental disasters.

Use: Strengthening regional and national policy to inform the impact of environmental migration in SA, and how to integrate it systematically into adaptation planning processes.

Future: Becoming the Southern African knowledge hub on climate-induced human mobility, growing international network.

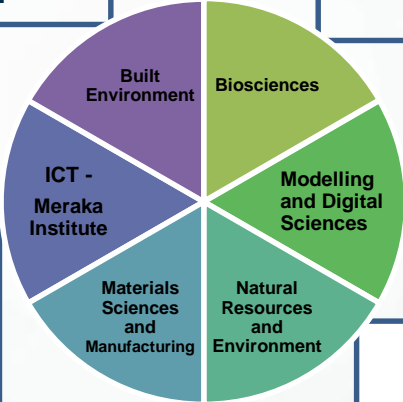


Integrated approach to address water & sanitation problems

Infrastructure interventions support
Waste water treatment technologies
– membrane distillation.
Smart buildings – water use
efficiencies and optimisation.

Wireless sensor networks -
reticulation management .
Dynamic hydraulic model for
water pressure management.

Rapid pathogen detection
technology
Water & waste water purification –
novel adsorbent technologies (to
treat AMD and their industrial
focus)
Near real-time monitoring systems



Effluent treatment technologies.

Advanced modelling – water
demand and supply; Leakage
detection; Water quality.

Emerging contaminants
Governance and planning support
Industrial water and waste water
treatment

Way forward

- ❖ **The CSIR to further develop and strengthen its integrated water research capability**
 - **Developing a uniform vision and value proposition to address national water supply, use and reuse issues**



Thank you

