

Date: 26 November 2024

Time: 09:00 – 12:30

ONLINE WEBINAR ON UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF ECOLOGICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN SECURING WATER FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

MOVING TOWARDS HEALTHY AND BETTER MANAGED ECOSYSTEMS THROUGH BLUE CONVERSATIONS

Dear Stakeholder,

Ecological infrastructure refers to naturally functioning ecosystems that deliver benefits to people. Since biodiversity and water are closely linked in the environment, some of the most common examples of ecological infrastructure are related to water. Healthy ecological infrastructure, such as wetlands, rivers and Strategic Water Source Areas, can directly support water security by increasing run-off and water storage in soils, preventing or delaying the build-up of sediment in dams, improving water quality and reducing flood damage by storing and slowly releasing flood waters. If ecological infrastructure is degraded or lost, the flow of ecosystem services will diminish.

Ecological infrastructure is the nature-based equivalent of built or hard infrastructure and can be just as important for providing services and underpinning socio-economic development, and it is important to manage, invest in and maintain it. Ecological infrastructure has the potential to complement and, in some cases, substitute for built infrastructure solutions for water resource management. Investing in ecological infrastructure will not only have gains for biodiversity and water, but it also creates jobs and strengthens local economies.

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS), in collaboration with the Water Research Commission (WRC) and the South African National Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), invites you to a Knowledge and Information Sharing Session on the role of protecting water source areas to secure water for future generations. This session aims to educate all stakeholders on the benefits of effective management of ecological infrastructure, share case studies and achievements on this area of work, create awareness about the importance of its preservation and potential opportunities for partnerships.

Ms Teams login details: Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: [323 171 611 467](#)

Passcode: [3yaGeV](#)

For more information, please contact Ms Nwabisa Gantsho at GantshoN@dws.gov.za

RSVP to Ms Nwabisa Fundzo by 22 November 2024 using this link:
<https://forms.office.com/r/1FZctuF07U>

Invitation



WATER IS LIFE - SANITATION IS DIGNITY

South Africa is a water-scarce country, use water sparingly



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



SANBI
Biodiversity for Life
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