



Workshop: #allhandsondeck for integrating green and grey to secure water

*WISA 2020 Conference, Sandton Convention Centre
Thursday, 10 December 2020*

Programme director: Michelle Hiestermann, Water Research Commission (WRC)

The importance of managing ecosystems to enhance downstream water quality, quantity and built infrastructure maintenance benefits is increasingly recognized internationally. We are excited to announce the hosting of a workshop focused on unlocking the benefits of ecological infrastructure through development finance in critical water catchments in South Africa. This workshop will be beneficial to academics, municipalities and government organisations, as well as private sector companies, industry bodies and finance institutions facing water related risks and impacts.

1. Important findings from the implementation of a Global Environment Facility (GEF) funded 5-year partnership project, in the uMngeni and Berg-Breede catchments will be shared, specifically:
 - Integrating **Natural Capital Accounting** into planning and prioritisation
 - **Financial Mechanisms** for rehabilitation and maintenance of ecological infrastructure
 - Developing **public-private partnerships** at scale to deliver on the SDGs and the Paris Climate Agreement

2. Participants will be presented with catchment case study challenges and will collectively prioritise and **design financial and partnership solutions** to the challenge presented. The session will strengthen participant practice and knowledge in collective action to unlock investment in ecological infrastructure for water security. The opportunity to join a national community of practice to scale up these efforts will be introduced.

09h15	Welcome and introduction to the EI 4 Water Security Project (Julie Clarke, Development Bank of South Africa and Michelle Hiestermann, WRC)
09h30	The importance of water ecosystems for water security and using Natural Capital Accounting as a tool (Ndileka Mohapi, Department of Water and Sanitation)
09h45	Financial Mechanisms for rehabilitation and maintenance of ecological infrastructure (Caroline Gelderblom, WWF-South Africa)
10h00	Developing public-private partnerships at scale (Dr Pearl Gola, South African National Biodiversity Institute)
10h15	Working group session (Alex McNamara, National Business Initiative and Michelle Hiestermann, WRC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to case-study challenges in 2 critical catchments • Group financial and partnership solution design • Group consolidation and feedback
11h15	Close of workshop

Key speakers:



Michelle Hiestermann,
Water Research Commission



Julie Clarke,
Development Bank of South Africa



Ndileka Mohapi,
Department of Water and Sanitation



Alex McNamara,
National Business Initiative



Dr Pearl Gola,
South African National Biodiversity Institute