

WISA 2020 Conference Workshop on Wastewater Resource Efficiency

Venue: Virtual

11 December 2020

Rationale

Wastewater treatment and sludge management including disposal has quickly become a problem for most municipalities and water utilities. Most treatment plants were (and are still being) designed to prioritize only the treatment of liquid streams over solids and resource recovery. This is despite the wastewater treatment field having made a number of discoveries and technologies that offer answer on how resources contained in wastewater can be recycled.

Session Focus

The session will be started by a presentation and talks on what an ideal resource recovery wastewater treatment plant looks like. These will be followed by a discussion and preset questions aimed at addressing the difficulty in achieving this ideal. The bottlenecks experienced by water service authorities, the ideal delivery model for these projects and finding the right market for the resources recovered will be discussed. This is aimed at coming up with a high-level guideline to make implementation of such projects easier and more streamlined. Current projects and collaboration opportunities will also be discussed.

Workshop outcome

The intention if the workshop is to come out with proposal, partners and research areas needing further focus. This will ultimately lead to a streamlined approach for the delivery of circular economy projects.

Time Slot	Activity	Presenter
09h15 to 09h25	Introduction and Welcome	Mlu Mnguni (Workshop Chair): Lead – WISA Anaerobic Sludge Processes
09h25 to 09h35	The low hanging fruits: Sludge Treatment and Nutrient Recovery	Gary Brown: Dikubu Water & Environmental Services
09h35 to 09h45	The low hanging fruits: Water and Energy Recovery	Megan Schalkwyk: Vice-Lead WISA KZN (Umgeni Water)
09h45 to 10h00	Introduction to Discussions and Q&A	Workshop Chair and All
10h00 to 10h10	First Discussion Slot: What other resources could be recovered from wastewater	All
10h10 to 10h30	Second Discussion Slot: What are the bottlenecks preventing transitioning to Resource Efficient Plants	All
10h30 to 10h55	Third Discussion Slot: Vehicles to deliver resource efficient plants. Current projects and lesson learnt	All
10h55 to 11h10	General discussion	All
11h10 to 11h15	Closure and way forward	Workshop Chair