



## **WATERNET-WRC WEBINAR**

### **WATER, ENERGY AND FOOD NEXUS AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

**Date:** Tuesday 21 July 2020

**Time:** 10.30 HRS -12:00 HRS (CAT)

**Register:** [https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_vj5Tx\\_MBTuWBdDmPuhB8bw](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_vj5Tx_MBTuWBdDmPuhB8bw)

The water energy food (WEF) nexus approach has received growing attention and has been subject to research in Southern Africa. For its operationalisation, the nexus approach challenges existing structures, policies and procedures at regional and national levels and hence, needs to overcome various barriers. There has been progress in developing knowledge, frameworks and tools on operationalising the nexus in Southern Africa and this has undoubtedly been affected by the rapid spread of the COVID-19 pandemic since late 2019. WaterNet, WRC, UKZN, IHE-DELFT, GWP-SA and ARC have also been planning around capacity development and knowledge management to be part of the next phase of the WEF nexus agenda in Southern Africa. The momentum in WEF nexus research, capacity development and dialogues has undoubtedly been impacted by shifting priorities towards health, nationwide lockdowns and changes in working environments. There is therefore a need to have an in-depth discussion on how the COVID-19 pandemic has affected the WEF Nexus in the SADC Region. Such an analysis will help in identifying gaps or opportunities within the nexus that can be taken forward post the pandemic. The speakers are all working on different aspects of the WEF nexus and will deliver different perspectives on how the Covid-19 pandemic has impacted their WEF nexus agenda.

The presenters will specifically address the following issues:

- Challenges inflicted by COVID-19 pandemic on the WEF nexus agenda in Southern Africa;
- Gaps and opportunities in the WEF nexus exposed by the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- Way forward post-COVID-19 regarding the WEF nexus agenda.

**Introductory Remarks**



Prof Jean- Marie Kileshye Onema  
Executive Manager of WaterNet.

**Presenters**



Professor Graham Jewitt  
  
Professor of Hydrology/Head of Department  
Dept. Water Resources and Ecosystems  
IHE-Delft Institute for Water



Professor Larry Swatuk  
  
Professor at the School of Environment, Enterprise and Development,  
Waterloo University



Professor Sylvester Mpandeli  
  
Executive Manager: Water Utilisation in Agriculture  
Water Research Commission

**Moderator**



Dr Mamohloding Tlhagale,  
Head of International and Stakeholder Engagement, Water Research  
Commission