



## **WaterNet Alumni Association Webinar**

### **Commemorating the Women's Month**

**Title: Contributions of Women Members of the WaterNet Alumni Association to the SADC Water Sector**

**Date: 27 August 2020**

**Time: 10:30 – 12:00**

**Register for the webinar [here](#)**

**Webinar Link, [here](#) (Access Code: 248-809-029)**

WaterNet, with the support of the Government of the Netherlands through DGIS has been running the Regional Masters Programme in IWRM jointly offered by seven universities in the SADC region is the flagship of WaterNet. The programme trains current and next generation of Southern and Eastern African water managers with a bias towards IWRM guided by the principles of “Environmental Integrity, Equity and Economic Efficiency”. The programme empowers current and future managers to effectively comprehend and communicate with professionals from other disciplines, working in the water sector. To date, the programme has supported over 500 graduates, mainly from the Universities of Dar es Salaam and the University of Zimbabwe. The programme has deliberately ensured that 50% of those who are supported are women. All the graduates of the programme automatically joins the WaterNet Alumni Association.

The WaterNet Alumni Association is comprised of graduates of the Regional Masters Programme in IWRM, Water Resources Engineering (WRE) and Water Resources Engineering Management (WREM) who were supported by WaterNet funds at the University of Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania) and the University of Zimbabwe. The association is a supporting member of WaterNet. The association's activities are aimed at ensuring the sustainability of the network. A tracer survey carried out in 2016 showed that 63% of the graduates are permanently employed, 30% are employed on a contract basis, 3% are unemployed, 3% are self-employed and 1% unemployed but pursuing PhD studies.




Women members of the WaterNet Alumni Association have played central roles in the water sector within the SADC region. This is in line with the SADC Protocol on gender and development, article 14 on Gender equality in Education, sections 1 and 2 which states in summary that state parties are to support and promote equal retention and training of women and girls especially in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in accordance with their protocol and training and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)-SDG 5 on achieving gender equality



by empowering all women and girls. By virtue of women being central bodies in water issues, WaterNet finds it compelling to reach out to women Alumni not only to showcase their contributions in the sector but to solicit opportunities for training sustainability. This is designed to create opportunities where these women might assist in raising that much needed support to give opportunities to upcoming water professional. The voice of women in the sector may be what is needed to ensure continuity of training and adherence to established protocols in SADC states governance.

This webinar will do the following:

- Highlight how women members of the WaterNet Alumni Association have benefited from the WaterNet funded Masters Programmes,
- How the programme has opened opportunities for them and cultivated their future in their respective lines of work
- Advise to upcoming younger women in the water sector on how they can play critical roles in the region.
- Appeal to SADC Member States, Private Sector and International Organizations to support the WaterNet funded programme putting more emphasis on women

### Speakers

Introductory Remarks	
	<p>Dr Lapologang Magole Senior Lecturer, University of Botswana's Department of Architecture and Planning.</p>
Presenters	
	<p>Ms Sindy Mthimukulu, Chief Executive Officer, Usuthu River Basin Authority, eSwatini</p>
	<p>Dr Anatoria Chinyama, Dean of Studies, Gwanda State University, Zimbabwe</p>

	<p>Ms Joana Fatch, Project Manager: AU/NEPAD Southern African Network of Water Centres of Excellence (AU/NEPAD SANWATCE)</p>
<p><b>Moderator</b></p>	
	<p>Ms Faith Chivava, GIS Analyst (<i>Freshwater</i>) WWF Zambia</p>

For more information, please contact

Ms Catherine Tlotlo Kerapetse

[ckeropetse@waternetonline.org](mailto:ckeropetse@waternetonline.org)