

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION FORUM: A SALGA-WRC PARTNERSHIP

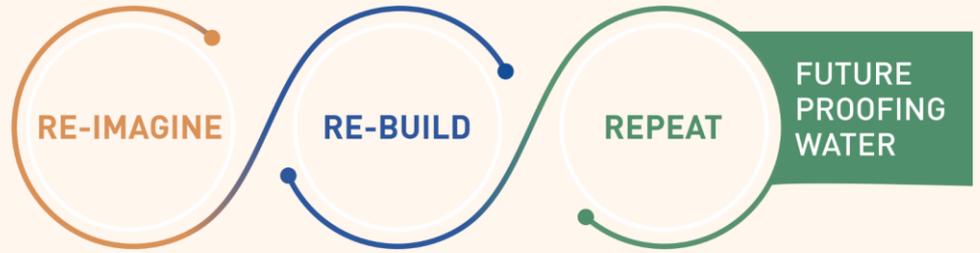
Wednesday, 22 September 2021 | 11:00-13:00 (CAT)

In September 2020 the Water Research Commission (WRC) and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) joined forces to establish a Water Technology Innovation Forum (TIF) to identify, test and accelerate disruptive technology and innovations to enhance the operational efficiency of water services institutions. Following a series of engagements held over the past year, the forum will reconvene at the 5<sup>th</sup> WRC Symposium. This annual forum provides a platform to understand the current research needs and innovation landscape in the water and sanitation sector for members and will reflect on the anticipated forum outcomes going forward. The TIF is also a platform to identify synergies and gaps, as well as look at how to improve coordination and engagement with members moving forward. Hosted by the WRC and SALGA, TIF provides a collaborative platform for Water Service Institutions (WSI) to share their innovation needs, mobilise partnerships to conceptualise programmes, projects, and funding opportunities.

The TIF is one of six implementation platforms of SALGA's Local Government Technology and Innovation Programme — implemented in partnership with the WRC and other key stakeholders in the sector. The other platforms focus on capacity building to equip the WSIs with the skills required to deploy and manage new technologies; coordinating the WSI research, development, and Innovation (RDI) agenda; strengthening the RDI divisions' capacities; and lastly, broker partnerships between the innovators, investors and WSIs to facilitate the development and accelerate the uptake of the innovative solutions in line with the WSI's needs. The solutions will also include off-grid options that could be used to service the underserved communities in South Africa.

### Who should attend?

The session will be closed to invited guests and representatives from the South African Water Services Institutions (municipalities and waterboards), innovators, investors and to the enterprises and utilities operating in the areas of drinking water, sanitation, and environment in South Africa.



Chair: Ms Shanna Nienaber

<b>INTRODUCTIONS (Facilitator: William Moroka, SALGA)</b>		
11:00	Welcome and housekeeping rules	Facilitator
	Programme outline and anticipated outcomes	
<b>SETTING THE SCENE (Facilitator: William Moroka)</b>		
11:10	Reflecting and understanding the current Research and Innovation landscape and anticipated outcomes	Dr Henry Roman, DSI Dr Valerie Naidoo, WRC Mr Dayanandan Naidoo, TIA
11:40	Discussion and identification of synergies, gaps and how we can better coordinate	All
<b>TECHNOLOGICAL AND RESEARCH NEEDS IDENTIFICATION PROCESS (Facilitator: Shanna Nienaber)</b>		
12:00	High level exploration of the needs analysis process	All
12:15	Embracing the youth in tech and innovation-partners	All
12:25	Strengthening partnerships	All
12:40	Suggested way forward	All
13:00	Closure	