

FUTURE PROOFING WATER SKILLS: UNPACKING THE RESPONSE NEEDED FROM RESEARCH AND INNOVATION INSTITUTIONS

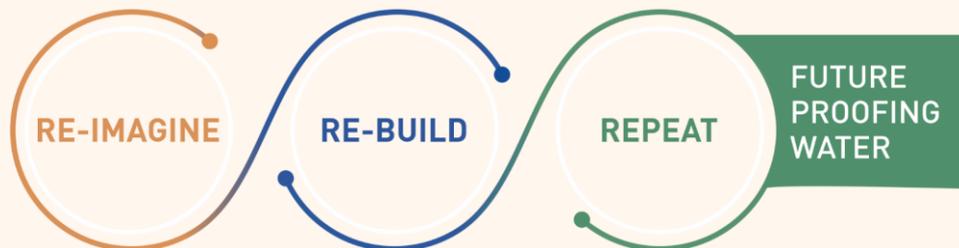
Monday, 20 September 2021 | 11:00-13:00

Carefully nurturing the water skills pipeline is a key driver in future proofing water security. This workshop will unpack the latest insights relating to the RDI-linked high end skills landscape and from there explore the needs that training institutions can respond to collaboratively in supporting a transition to a future-proof water skills landscape.

Key questions to be reflected on are:

1. What is the market opportunity or demand for high end skills in the sector?
2. Are our water PhDs absorbed by the sector and what key trends should we be sensitive to when investing in PhDs?
3. On skills supply, what is the state of the landscape for upskilling professionals (from a postgraduate and short course training perspective)?
4. What are the gaps/opportunities that need to be responded to in future proofing high end water skills and how might we address this?

To lay to the foundation for conversation we'll start with a series of short presentations on the key findings of several recently concluded WRC projects. From there we'll shift to a panel and audience conversation that will allow us to unpack these results in more detail and reflect on our collective responsibilities based on these findings.



Chair: Shanna Nienaber, WRC

11:00	Welcome and overview	Shanna Nienaber, WRC
11:10	Understanding the market opportunity: What is the demand for water skills	Michelle Carstens, SU
11:30	Understand the market opportunity: PhD absorption in the sector	Johann Mouton, SU
11:50	Understand the RDI System's response: Upskilling STI practitioners (post grad training)	Nicole Nel, SU
12:05	Understand the RDI System's response: Upskilling professionals (short course focus)	Manuel Jackson, SU
12:20	Responses to presentations and brief reflections on the biggest gaps we see for high end skills training institutions to respond to in future proofing water skills	Nora Hanke Louw, EWSETA Bheki Hadebe, DSI Kevin Pietersen, UWC
12:40-13:00	Facilitated Dialogue with presenters and audience	Shanna Nienaber, WRC