

4th YWP ZA Biennial and 1st African YWP Conference



STOP TALKING, START DOING!

This theme challenges us all to bring our skills and knowledge to the water sector 'work bench' in order to implement practical and relevant solutions to shared challenges. It also reminds us all that we need to work together across disciplines, professions, academia and practice to come up with innovative solutions that solve problems and address skills gaps that water and sanitation sectors face all over Africa.



An invitation to young professionals and students (under the age of 35 or who gained their qualifications in the last 5 years) working in the water and wastewater sector in Africa

PLEASE PASS THIS ON TO COLLEAGUES WHO WOULD BE INTERESTED!

16-18 November 2015

**CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria,
South Africa**

Organised by the

South African Young Water Professionals

under the auspices of the

International Water Association (IWA)

&

Water Institute of Southern Africa (WISA)

Visit our website for more information: <http://www.ywp-za.org/>



DATE AND VENUE

Following three very successful conferences in 2010, 2011 and 2013 the joint 4th YWP-ZA Biennial Conference and 1st Africa-wide YWP Conference will take place at the CSIR International Convention Centre in Pretoria, South Africa. We will be welcoming participants to our conference from all over Africa from 16-18 November 2015 in what promises to be the most interactive event yet. The conference is expecting to attract over 450 delegates from across Africa and all disciplines.

THE YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONALS

It is widely recognised that capacity building and sustainable knowledge transfer are critical concerns for several sectors in Africa, and the water sector is no different. The repercussions of not responding to these concerns can result in high staff turnover as well as the loss of skills and institutional memory. Young Water Professionals in Africa are therefore faced with the threefold challenge of developing their skills; finding mentors to help them do so; as well as grappling with the added responsibility of re-learning knowledge that could have been retained through sustainable knowledge transfer policies and programmes.

In order to respond to the current and future needs of the African water sector, we need a highly skilled community of professionals who can not only come up with technological and scientific solutions, but also implement them in a context relevant and appropriate manner. This requires that young professionals become highly skilled, agile in navigating the water sector landscape and are able to work together across disciplines and work contexts.

Fulfilling the present and future needs of the water and wastewater industries therefore requires the continuous development of a workforce which is adequate in size, capable in skills and strong in leadership. Recognising this, the Young Water Professionals (YWP) programme was established as an international initiative by the International Water Association (IWA). This programme aims to reach out to students and professionals in the water sector who are under the age of 35, or who attained their most recent qualification within the past five years.

In Africa, a range of YWP Chapters, volunteer-run by dedicated young professionals, have been established which aim to provide opportunities for YWPs to meet and communicate; provide career development opportunities for YWPs; support employers with the recruitment and retention of YWPs; and ensure that the Programme remains relevant to young professionals. The YWP initiative provides a range of activities and services to young professionals and students in the water and wastewater sector. The Programme connects with employers, academic institutions and other professional associations to ensure that the future needs of the sector are understood and addressed, and that inter-generational dialogue is created to form links between senior professionals of the sector and the incoming young professionals.

CONFERENCE THEME AND OBJECTIVES

The conference theme is “Stop Talking, Start Doing!” This theme aims to bring academic research together with professionals working in implementation contexts in order to facilitate an awareness of how to apply knowledge and solutions in situations where they can make a difference. In addition, it will create a platform for researchers and practitioners to get to know each other and start building the cooperative relationships essential for generating relevant solutions.

The conference will thus provide a forum for young researchers and practitioners across the water sector to present and discuss their work and ideas. Participants will meet peers within water and wastewater science, governance, engineering, technology, management and other areas of the water sector. This conference aims to showcase career pathways and further young professional capacities in a multidisciplinary and multi-sectoral environment, encouraging discourse on current and future water concerns.

The Jo Burgess award for Best Platform Presenter at this conference will be sent to represent South Africa at the 8th Biennial IWA International Young Water Professionals Conference (Terms and Conditions apply).



The Adrian Puigarnau award for Best Poster Presenter will be awarded attendance at the WISA 2016 Biennial Congress and Exhibition to be held Durban, KwaZulu Natal (Terms and Conditions apply).

A Sanitation Award will also be handed out to the best Sanitation presentation at the conference.

REGISTRATION

Registration will open on the **2nd of February** and close on the **28th of February, 2015**. Online Registration can be accessed through: <http://www.ywp-za.org/>

The registration fee will be **R 2 500** for YWP members and **R 3 000** for non-members (including VAT). The first 100 students qualify for a discounted registration fee of R 1 750 (including VAT). Single day packages will cost R 1 200 (including VAT). This will include access to the “Africa Water Games” social networking event, as well as a festive gala dinner.

RECRUITMENT AND EXHIBITION

The conference will include an interactive exhibition hall to highlight new technologies, innovative concepts, and soft skills tools that all YWPs can use. This also brings YWPs in contact with potential employer organisations. Organisations in the ‘water field’ are invited to participate in the exhibition as a product / service exhibitor and to meet the talented young professionals at the conference. Interested organisations are requested to contact the Secretariat for further information.

CONFERENCE STRUCTURE

Summary of the various parallel activities to take place at the Conference		
Research Stream	Technical and Vocational Stream	Exhibition
This will include invited plenary and keynote presentations from notable individuals in the water sector, oral presentations of submitted papers on case studies and research, and research posters sessions	This will include YWPs working in technical occupations (e.g. process controllers and operators and laboratory technicians). These sessions will create space for these individuals to meet each other and interact with other YWPs from other sectors, as well as highlighting opportunities for career and capacity development.	This interactive exhibition will be a space for organisations to showcase their work, innovative technologies and solutions and meet and network with the young professionals at the event.

Keeping with the youthful vigour of YWP we will, of course, have a variety of fun social functions, featuring networking events, a gala dinner and an awards lunch.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

The conference topics are broadly defined into the following categories. The spirit of this event, however, is to include all young people who are passionate about the water sector. So, if you have a topic that you are passionate about that does not fit into these categories, please feel free to share it with us!

- Domestic and municipal water and sanitation
- Drinking water and bulk water supply
- Industrial and mine water
- Environmental water, and water resources
- Capacity building and training



- Water governance, management and society
- Inter and transdisciplinarity in the water sector

We will explore how different professionals in the sector contribute with their skills, some through research others through practical on-the-job work.

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

Updated conference calls and new information will be available on the YWP-ZA website (<http://www.ywp-za.org/>), IWA website (www.iwa-network.org) and WISA website (www.wisa.org.za). Registration will open in early January on the conference website.

ACCOMMODATION AND TRANSPORT

All participants will be expected to arrange their own transport and accommodation. However, a list of available options will be communicated closer to the time on our conference website.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

For the [Research Stream](#), you are invited to submit oral and/or poster abstracts. We encourage students, young professionals involved in research and people who work as technical staff to submit their work to us. Prospective authors are requested to submit their details and a half-page abstract (in English only) to Jaco Seaman by **28 February 2015**. Please look carefully at the attached [research abstract templates](#). Each abstract will be scored by two independent reviewers who may request changes to the proposed content of papers before acceptance into the programme as an oral or poster presenter.

Authors whose papers are chosen for oral presentation will be required to submit a full paper which will be reviewed for possible inclusion in IWA publications after the conference. It is expected that any feedback received from the review process be taken into account before the submission of final papers. High quality papers will be submitted to IWA for review and publication in IWA journals. The remaining papers will be recommended for YWP Publications Workshop scheduled for February 2016.

Papers and posters will be accepted on the understanding that the main author (or a co-author) will personally attend the conference as a fee-paying delegate and present their paper or poster; and that the deadlines indicated below will be strictly adhered to.

For the [Technical and Vocational Stream](#) you are invited to submit an application form. Here the focus is on the work that TVET college learners and process controllers are involved in. This is about sharing experience, work focus areas, innovative approaches and lessons learned. The emphasis is thus less academic in nature. Prospective applicants are requested to submit their details and a short motivation (in English only, please) to Jaco Seaman by **28 February 2015**. Please look carefully at the attached [technical application templates](#).

All authors, from the Research and Technical streams, who are selected for an oral presentation will be required to prepare a full PowerPoint presentation which will be reviewed. The Conference will increase capacity by giving constructive advice on the presentation content, readability, length, text vs. graphic ratio, as well as ensuring that each presenter tackles the hard questions of how their research fits into the broad water sector and how their research contributes to solving Africa's water crisis.

Similarly, poster design is an important skill that will be developed by the Conference. Posters must be submitted for reviewing. Feedback will be given on content, poster size, font size, etc. Presentations will be accepted on the understanding that the participant will bring their poster for display and personally attend the conference as a fee-paying delegate; and that the deadlines indicated below will be strictly adhered to.



DEADLINE DATES: THE TWO STREAMS

	
Technical and Occupations e.g. TVET college learners, process controllers, lab technicians	Research e.g. Masters, PhD student, researchers, lab technicians
Deadline: 28 Feb Format: Application	Deadline: 28 Feb Format: Abstract
 Young Water Professionals: Stop Talking, Start Doing!	

2 February 2015	Opening date for online submissions for participation
28 February 2015	Closing date for online submissions for participation
1 June 2015	Reviewer decisions communicated. Authors and presenters will be issued with guidelines and advised to start preparation of full papers and PowerPoint presentations. Authors of posters will be notified and issued with guidelines for the preparation of posters
1 September 2015	Submission of full papers and presentations – they are then forwarded to IWAP (International Water Association Publishing) for review. <i>Thereafter IWAP will liaise direct with the authors re the reviewing and revision procedure.</i>
1 September 2015	Electronic distribution of draft conference announcement (containing provisional titles of papers and names of authors).
1 October 2015	Electronic distribution of final conference announcement (containing provisional titles of papers and names of authors).
15 November 2015	Conference Registration commences.

CORRESPONDENCE AND ENQUIRIES

All correspondence can be directed to the conference organizer or conference chair:

Mr Jaco Seaman (Conference Organiser)
 Office: +27 11 805 3537
 Fax: +27 11 315 1258
 Email: events@wisa.org.za

Mr Stuart Woolley (Conference Chair)
 Tel: +27 12 330 9057
 Fax: +27 12 331 2565
 E-mail: stuartw@wrc.org.za

WEBSITE: <http://www.ywp-za.org/>



ABSTRACT TEMPLATE: RESEARCH STREAM

Fill this abstract out if you wish to participate in the academic presentations or posters components of the programme

On completion, please save as a Word document and send to events@wisa.org.za with filename as: LASTNAME Firstname (e.g. SMITH John)

PRESENTING / SUBMITTING AUTHOR DETAILS

	Title (Dr, Ms, Mr)	First name	Family / last name
Author 1			
Organisation			
Position			
Postal address			
Country / Code			
Email address			
Cell / mobile no. (incl. country code)			
Tel. no. (incl. country code)			
Fax. no. (incl. country code)			
Please note that the conference cannot supply funding for attendance			

CO-AUTHOR/S

	Title, Initials and Last Name	Organisation / Country
Author 2		
Author 3		
Author 4		

PRESENTATION

Is abstract intended for:	Oral or poster presentation <input type="checkbox"/>	Poster presentation only <input type="checkbox"/>
Please note that submissions for oral presentation will also be considered for poster presentation		

Please type your abstract on the following page, using the layout guidelines and formatting indicated. Abstracts which do not adhere to these guidelines and follow the template will be returned to the author for correction and can not be sent for review.



**TITLE OF ARTICLE SHOULD CONCISELY AND ACCURATELY SPECIFY SUBJECT OF PAPER;
TIMES NEW ROMAN 10 PT BOLD UPPER CASE; LEFT ALIGNED; MAX. TWO LINES**

Another B. Tom^{1*}, Someone B.B. Dick¹ and Everybody A. Harry²

¹Department of Improbable Research, University of Life, 1 Crow Road, Muddle, Eddenshire, BB3 1TC, UK.

*E-mail: ab.tom@life.ac.uk

² School of Hard Knocks, Bartenders' College, Hangover Square, Albertinia, CV1 999, Canada.

This example is to demonstrate the layout of an abstract for submission to YWPC2011. The page margins should be 2.0 cm on all four sides (top/bottom and left/right). The title should be in bold upper case and the authors' names in bold. The title, authors' names and addresses should begin 2.0 cm from the top of the page. The presenting author must be indicated by underlining.

The abstract text should all be Times New Roman 10 pt, single line spaced. Please leave one blank line above the authors' names. One blank line should be left below the authors' affiliations. The abstract itself, set in 10 pt type, should start about 5 cm down the page. Do not indent the text paragraphs. New paragraphs are not indented, but preceded by a line of space. Please justify the text (use straight right hand margin).

Please avoid using footnotes. Please do not include tables or figures in your abstract. Please do not make reference citations and please keep within the limit of 450 words. [Note that ONLY the first 450 words of text will be sent to reviewers].

Minor Headings

Minor headings are typed in 10 pt italic (or underlined if italics are not available), not indented, with one line of space above. Do not number headings. One line space must be left between the abstract and the keywords.

Keywords: Up to six keywords may be supplied, in alphabetical order, separated by commas.

Topic: Provide your choice(s) of conference topic (see Call for Abstracts), in preferred order, to allocate your presentation to the appropriate session. If none of the listed topics applies, please indicate the topic here.



ABSTRACT TEMPLATE: TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL

Fill the abstract out if you wish to participate in the technical and vocational components of the programme

On completion, please save as a Word document and send to events@wisa.org.za with filename as: **LASTNAME Firstname TECH** (e.g. SMITH John TECH)

PRESENTER DETAILS

	Title (Dr, Ms, Mr)	First name	Family / last name
Presenter			
Organisation			
Position			
Postal address			
Country / Code			
Email address			
Cell / mobile no. (incl. country code)			
Tel. no. (incl. country code)			
Fax. no. (incl. country code)			
Please note that the conference cannot supply funding for attendance			

EDUCATION & VOCATIONAL DETAILS

Name of your occupation / job title?		
Are you finished with your studies?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> Please fill in the date, name and level of your last completed studies below.	No <input type="checkbox"/> Please fill in the date, name and level of your expected qualification below.
Date (month and year) of (expected) graduation		
Name of qualification		
Level of qualification Only degrees up to Diploma and Advanced Certificate are accepted for this stream		



PRESENTATION

Do you know somebody that could help you to prepare your presentation (e.g. PowerPoint) if necessary?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>	Maybe <input type="checkbox"/>	Not necessary <input type="checkbox"/>
Please note that submissions for presentation will also be considered for poster presentations				

Please answer the below questions, taking the word limits into account. Questions marked with a red star (*) are compulsory. Incomplete applications will be returned to the author for correction and cannot be sent for review.

*** PLEASE DISCUSS YOUR RELEVANT EXPERIENCE IN THE WATER SECTOR AND YOUR FIELD SPECIFICALLY. (100 words)**

*** WHICH RELEVANT TOPICS ARE YOU PASSIONATE ABOUT? (50 words)**

*** WHAT IMPORTANT LESSONS HAVE YOU LEARNED RELEVANT TO THE WATER SECTOR THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH OTHER YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONALS? (100 words)**

*** WHY DO YOU WANT TO PRESENT AT THE YOUNG WATER PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE? (150 words)**

*** WHAT DO YOU CONSIDER THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE IN THE WATER SECTOR TODAY? (100 words)**

DO YOU HAVE EXPECTATIONS FROM PARTICIPATING IN THE YWP CONFERENCE? ANY OTHER COMMENTS?

