



Securing Cape Town's Water Future with the option of Water Reuse

18th March 2025, 16h30 – 17h45

Context

Cape Town is one of several cities worldwide experiencing water scarcity. Between 2015 and 2018, the city faced its worst recorded drought, with dam levels dropping to just 9.8% of usable storage capacity. Through extensive water-saving efforts, Cape Town successfully reduced consumption by over 40%, averting Day Zero.

The lessons learned from this crisis shaped Cape Town's Water Strategy; a roadmap to ensuring a resilient and sustainable water future. The strategy is built on five key commitments:

1. Safe access to water and sanitation
2. Wise water use
3. Sufficient, reliable water from diverse sources
4. Shared benefits from regional water resources
5. A water-sensitive city

Water reuse and reclamation play a crucial role in four of these commitments. The Water and Sanitation Directorate is responsible for ensuring their implementation, and young professionals within the directorate have been actively contributing to these efforts.

Purpose

This session aims to share and discuss the Water and Sanitation Directorate's holistic approach to water reuse while aligning with the commitments of the Water Strategy. By engaging young professionals at the forefront of these initiatives, the session will:

- Provide insights into Cape Town's approach to water reuse as part of its broader sustainability goals.
- Highlight the technical and strategic aspects of upgrading wastewater treatment and implementing non-potable reuse.
- Discuss the importance of independent advisory panels
- Facilitate discussion on challenges, opportunities, and innovations in water reuse.



14th
IWA International Conference on
**WATER RECLAMATION
& REUSE**

16-20 March 2025 Cape Town South Africa



Programme		
Chairperson – Kaashifa Aziz		
TIME	ITEM	PRESENTER
16:30-16:35	Welcome and introductions and purpose	Chairperson
16:35 -16:45	The need for water reuse (potable and non-potable) in Cape Town, focusing on water security, resource management, and climate resilience.	Lloyd Fisher-Jeffes
16:45-16:55	Upgrading wastewater treatment plants to ensure required quality to serve as source water for reuse.	Christopher Thando Norman
16:55-17:20	Applications of treated effluent for non-potable uses, such as industrial, agricultural, and municipal purposes.	Collin Mubadiro and Ivy Maisela
	The Role of Independent Advisory Panels	Buyisile Kholisa
17:20-17:40	Facilitated discussion from the floor	All
17:40-17:45	Thank you	Kaashifa