



Water Security in Africa

NETWORKING AND TRANSFER PROJECT WASANet

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Introducing WASANet

Who we are

What to expect

How to engage

Introducing WASANet: WHAT



WASANet: Network and Transfer-Project

Objectives are:

- To raise awareness for the WASA research projects,
- To establish effective cross-sector networks and knowledge transfer among them,
- To support decision-makers in Africa's and Germany's water domain, and
- To promote the utilisation, integration, and synthesis of results generated by the WASA research projects.

Introducing WASANet: WHO



- **Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT):** WASANet Coordination, Research Integration, Academic Training
- **AU/NEPAD Southern African Network of Water Centres of Excellence (SANWATCE):** WASANet African Speaker, Academic Excellence in the Water Sector, Policy Maker Engagement
- **German Water Partnership (GWP):** Stakeholder Engagement (PPP, Industry), Outreach
- **Stellenbosch University Water Institute (SUWI):** Research Integration, Industry Engagement



Research Germany
Institute of Meteorology and
Climate research (KIT-IMK)
Dr. Joerg Helmschrot



Research / Policy link Southern Africa
AUDA-NEPAD Southern African Network
of Water Centres of Excellence
Dr. Nico Elema



Industry / Policy link Germany
German Water Partnership (GWP)
Marie-Louise Chagnaud



Research / Industry link Southern Africa
Stellenbosch University
Water Institute
Prof. Dr. Gideon Wolfaardt

Introducing WASANet: HOW



WASANet Work Packages:

- **WP1: Coordination for WASA Programme Activities** (Lead: KIT, Co-Lead: WP2: Integration)
- **WP2: Cross-fertilization and Exchange of WASA Projects** (Lead: KIT, Co-lead: SUWI)
- **WP3: Communications and Public Relations** (Lead: GWP, Co-lead SANWATCE)
- **WP4: Science-Policy Dialogue** (Lead: SANWATCE, Co-Lead: GWP)
- **WP5: Public and Private Sector Engagement** (Lead: GWP, Co-lead: SUWI)
- **WP6: Support to Capacity Building and Young Researchers** (Lead: KIT, Co-Lead: SUWI)
- **WP7: General financial-administrative coordination** (Lead: KIT, Co-Lead: all partners)

Introducing WASANet: HOW

WASANet Support and Expectations:

Scientific and Academic Networks -
Public-Private-Sector Engagement -
Science Communication/Diplomacy -
Local/Regional Knowledge -
Academic Training Programmes -
Cross-institutional Arrangements -
Knowledge Exchange Platform -



- Innovative Research
- Data/Knowledge Exchange
- Training activities (e.g Summer schools)
- Outreach Support
- Sustainability and Utilisation
- Stakeholder Engagement

- Thematic integration support
 - Task Force support
- 6-monthly project progress meetings
- WASA events (Kick-off, final conference)
- Knowledge Exchange platform
- Business development support (entrepreneurs)
- Joint event participation
- Consolidation of results for policy advisory
-

WASANet
Innovative
research
integration

- Stakeholder mapping/analysis
 - WASA projects
 - Regional-continental
 - Potential collaborations
- Leveraging existing networks
- Science-Policy-Partnership Support
- Public-Private Sector engagement
- Science policy dialogue
- ...

WASANet Stakeholder engagement

- Capacity building activities mapping
- Collaboration with regional and national academic and non-academic programmes
 - WATERNET
 - SGSP (lectures, cotutelle model, joint courses)
- Summer schools (thematic)
 - Based on the task force formation
 - E.g. IWRM, water technologies
- DAAD link
- Early Career Scientist mobility grant (e.g. conferences)
- Alumni networks (WASA, SASSCAI, others)

WASANet Capacity Development

- Sustainability strategy
 - data, technologies, networks
- Collaboration with similar activities
- Potential-opportunities for entrepreneurship
- Joint fundraising
 - Identifying and approaching funding models (IKI, Belmont, AfDB, WB, UNDP ...)
- Follow-up activities and cross-cutting
-

WASANet Sustainability and Utilisation

- Webpage
 - newsfeed
 - event calendar
- Newsletter
- Events
 - science conferences
 - public science events exhibitions and trade fairs
- Promotional materials (flyer, poster, banners etc)
- Outreach support to projects
- Joint policy advisory (e.g. policy briefs)

WASANet Outreach



WASA programme brochure



[Download
here](#)

WASA programme website

watersecurityafrica.org



Welcome to the research programme
Water Security in Africa – WASA

For a water-secure future.

The aim of the research programme “Water Security in Africa (WASA)” is to contribute to achieving a sustainable increase in water security in Africa. This includes the improvement of water supply and wastewater management as well as the preservation of natural ecosystems. The guiding principles behind the WASA programme are to enable joint action by African and German partners from the very start of the project, adopt a synergistic and integrated approach involving different ministries and political representatives as well as the pursuit of a long-term implementation strategy.

WASA programme website

watersecurityafrica.org



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WASA Research programme Cooperation projects Events Media & Press
Water Security in Africa

Media & Press



Water Security in Africa (WASA) research programme main phase kicks off in Stellenbosch
23. September 2024
With the Kick-off Conference in Wallenberg Conference Centre at STIAS (Stellenbosch, South Africa) 25 - 27 September 2024 the research programme is officially starting in its main phase.





Initial Overview of the WASA Research Programme
19. September 2024
The first publication of the Water Security in Africa (WASA) research programme provides an initial overview of the research projects.

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September 2024

25.09. - 27.09. **WASA Programme Kick-off Conference**
The WASA research programme officially launches its main phase with a comprehensive three-day kick-off conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa.

February 2025

16.02. - 20.02. **AfWASA International Conference & Exhibition**
AfWASA International Congress and Exhibition (AfWASA ICE) is organized by AfWASA as part of the mechanisms to enhance the exchange of ideas and recent developments in the water and sanitation sector.

July 2025

08.07. - 10.07. **IFAT Africa**
Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Refuse and Recycling; Solutions for Subsahara-Africa As the industry's definitive forum, IFAT Africa gathers all relevant information about the latest developments. Largest and leading trade fair in Africa, presence of industry leaders and entire overview of the industry. More information

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3 thematic fields - 7 collaborative research projects

Following a transparent and inclusive selection process engaging international experts from the water sector and considering the strategic priorities of all partner ministries, seven collaborative research projects were jointly selected. In addition, a networking and transfer project was started. Overall, more than 90 partner institutions collaborate in the projects. They represent the different stakeholders from research, academia, politics, practice and industry in Germany and Southern Africa who join their efforts in achieving Water Security in the Region.

Thematic field 1: Sustainable water resources management



SeeKaguA
Semi-Airborne Electromagnetic Exploration of Kalahari's Aquifers, Africa

WaMISAR
Sustainable and Climate Adapted Water Management in Mining in the Southern African Region

Thematic field 2: Water infrastructure and water technology




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WaRisCo

Water Risks and Resilience in Urban-Rural Areas in Southern Africa - Co-Production of Hydro-Climate Services for an Adaptive and Sustainable Disaster Risk Management



Dr. Sigitas Ilakop

"I am proud to lead this excellent African-German team of WaRisCo, which in co-design with key stakeholders will build resilience to mega-floods and multi-year droughts in a changing climate."



Prof. Dr. Francisco Engelbrecht

"WaRisCo brings together state-of-the-art climate and hydrological modelling capabilities from Germany and South Africa, to project the likelihood of two of the biggest climate change risks South Africa may face in a warmer world: a 'day-zero drought' in Gauteng, and mega-flooding in KwaZulu-Natal."

Abstract

Southern Africa is projected to become drastically warmer and likely also drier, but with more extreme rainfall events in the east. WaRisCo will explore two of the biggest risks that climate change poses to South Africa.

Consortium speaker in Germany

Dr. Sigitas Ilakop, Department of Geography (Geographic Information Science) - Friedrich Schiller University Jena

Examples of Events 2025/26



- **14th IWA International Conference on Water Reclamation and Reuse**, 16.-20.03.2024, Cape Town, South Africa
- **IFAT Africa**, 08.-10.07.2025, Johannesburg, South Africa
- **Hamburg Sustainability Conference 2025**
- **COP 30**, tbd
- **Utility Platform** , tbd 2025
- **AfWASA International Conference & Exhibition**
- **GWP Forum Session**
- **WISA Biennial Conference & Exhibition (2026, 2028)**

Your Contact Points



WASANet Coordination

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Working Groups: Guiding Questions



Capacity Development (CD)	Policy Support	Technologies and Innovation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the key activities in WASA regarding academic and non-academic CD? • What are CD needs, WASA can address? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are effective instruments to assure uptake of scientific results? • What are expectations of decision makers towards science and research in WASA and beyond? • How to facilitate the Science-Policy-Private Sector dialogue in WASA projects and beyond? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are key technologies and innovative approaches in WASA projects with potential for upscaling to other African countries? • What is the role of actors (e.g. science, private sector, public sector) in developing demand-driven technologies to improve water security in Africa?