

INAUGURAL URBAN SANITATION MASTERCLASS: SYNTHESISING BEST PRACTICES TO SUPPORT INCLUSIVE AND EFFECTIVE UPTAKE OF INNOVATIVE NON-SEWERED SANITATION SOLUTIONS FOR MUNICIPALITIES

DATE: Sunday, 15 October 2023

TIME: 12:00 - 15:00

BACKGROUND:

The provision of safely managed and inclusive sanitation solutions in developing countries is still a major hurdle to achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6, and in particular, target 6.2 on access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all. Over the years, there has been a significant focus and investment in urban sanitation within larger metropolitan areas with centralised sewer systems that are viewed as the 'golden standard' solution. However, there is a need to shift attention and support to smaller district municipalities that serve people's sanitation needs through onsite/non-sewered sanitation (NSS) technologies. Smaller districts often have limited or no access to information relating to emerging technologies and their applicability within communities. This presents an opportunity to explore sustainable and innovative ways of addressing complex sanitation problems and providing context-specific sanitation solutions that meet community needs inclusively and sustainably.

WORKSHOP OBJECTIVE:

This inaugural workshop is part of a series of planned sanitation training workshops to be hosted by the Water Sanitation & Hygiene Research & Development Centre in collaboration with the South African Sanitation Technology Enterprise Programme, eThekweni Water and Sanitation, Department of Water and Sanitation, and the South African Local Government Association in 2024. The purpose of the workshop is to encourage peer-to-peer learning, knowledge sharing, and capacity building in order to empower municipal staff or engineers to better understand the NSS field. Furthermore, to raise awareness of emerging sanitation technologies and how their demonstration or uptake can be facilitated at a local level. The following topics will be covered:

1. Integrated sanitation action to achieve sustainable development
2. Strengthening the adoption of a citywide inclusive approach in Africa
3. Regulating sanitation services (i.e. strategies, policies, guidelines, standards, etc.)
4. District model to enhance innovative sanitation solutions for smaller district municipalities
5. Integrating sanitation tools to advance progress

LEARNING OUTCOMES:

After attending this workshop, the participants will be able to:

- Describe types of NSS sanitation technologies and their applicability in different municipal contexts
- Understand the implementation of a city-wide inclusive approach at a country level.
- Assess the impacts of the policy and regulatory environment on the uptake of NSS technologies by local municipalities
- Identify the use of various tools and guidelines to improve decision-making and efficiencies in the adoption of innovative NSS solutions.
- Explain the importance of continued community engagement through education and awareness programmes