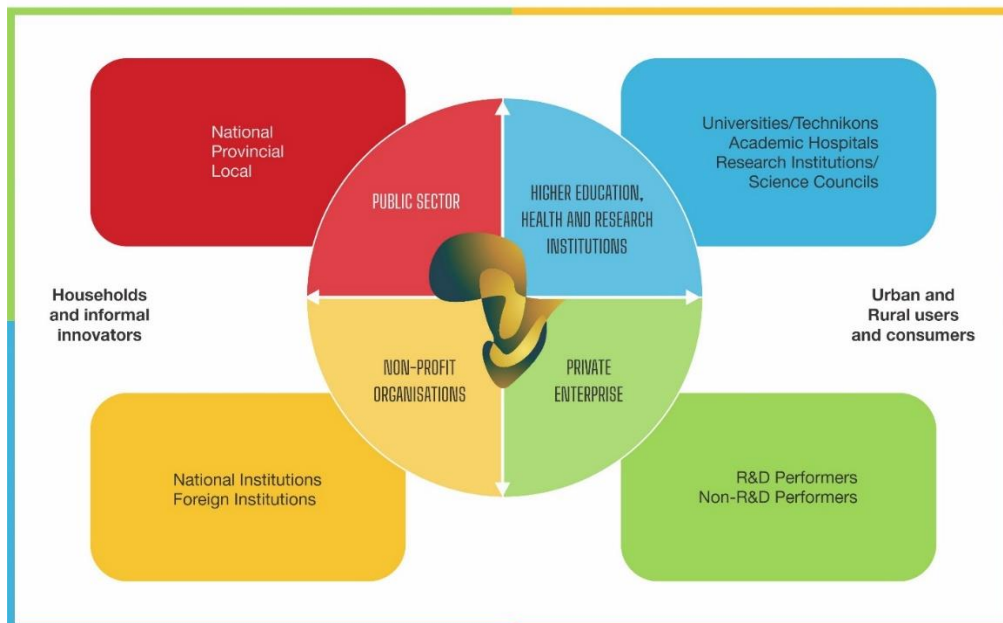


IWA NSSS Workshop Abstract: Establishing a national system of innovation to fast-track adoption of non-sewered sanitation systems in South Africa

The National System of Innovation (NSI) in South Africa is a collection of institutions, policies, and relationships designed to promote innovation and technological development. The NSI involves government agencies, research and development organizations, universities, and private sector firms, all working together to develop and disseminate knowledge, technology, and innovation. The Department of Science and Innovation (DSI) is a key actor in the NSI, responsible for developing policies and strategies to promote innovation and scientific research. Other institutions involved in the NSI include the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA), and the Innovation Hub. Overall, the NSI is crucial in promoting economic growth and development in South Africa. The South African Sanitation Technology Enterprise Programme (SASTEP) is a national initiative aimed at promoting and supporting the development of innovative sanitation technologies in South Africa. SASTEP is a key component of the NSI, which is a framework designed to promote innovation and technology development in the country.

SASTEP aims to support the development and commercialization of new sanitation technologies that can improve access to safe and affordable sanitation services for all South Africans. The programme provides funding, technical assistance, and business development support to entrepreneurs and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) working on innovative sanitation technologies. By supporting the development and commercialization of new sanitation technologies, SASTEP is helping to create new industries and opportunities in the sanitation sector. This, in turn, can help to stimulate economic growth and create jobs in South Africa.

SASTEP – National System of Innovation (NSI) for Innovative and Emerging Sanitation Technologies



Establishing a national system of innovation to fast track the adoption of non-sewered sanitation systems in South Africa is not linear, it requires a multifaceted approach that involves collaboration between various stakeholders, including the government, private sector, civil society, academia, and communities.

Here are some key steps that can be taken to establish such a system:

- **Conduct a Needs Assessment:** Conduct a comprehensive needs assessment to identify the status of non-sewered sanitation systems in South Africa, including the challenges faced by communities, the availability of appropriate technologies, and the financial and institutional capacities needed to support the adoption and scaling up of these systems.
- **Develop a National Strategy:** Based on the findings of the needs assessment, develop a national strategy that outlines the goals, objectives, and targets for the adoption of non-sewered sanitation systems in South Africa. The strategy should also identify the key stakeholders and their roles and responsibilities, the resources needed, and the monitoring and evaluation framework to measure progress.
- **Establish a National Innovation Hub:** Establish a national innovation hub to support the development and dissemination of appropriate technologies, as well as the capacity building of local communities, entrepreneurs, and service providers. The innovation hub should also provide a platform for collaboration between stakeholders and promote knowledge sharing and innovation.
- **Strengthen Institutional Capacities:** Strengthen the institutional capacities of government agencies responsible for sanitation, such as the Department of Water and Sanitation, to support the implementation of the national strategy. This includes the development of policies, regulations, and standards to guide the adoption of non-sewered sanitation systems, as well as the allocation of resources and the establishment of monitoring and evaluation systems.
- **Mobilize Resources:** Mobilize financial resources from various sources, including government budgets, development partners, and private sector investments, to support the implementation of the national strategy. This includes the establishment of financing mechanisms, such as subsidies, grants, and loans, to support the adoption and scaling up of non-sewered sanitation systems.
- **Engage Communities:** Engage communities in the adoption and scaling up of non-sewered sanitation systems by promoting awareness and education on the benefits of these systems, involving them in the planning and implementation of sanitation projects, and building their capacity to operate and maintain these systems.

- Monitor and Evaluate Progress: Establish a monitoring and evaluation framework to track progress towards the goals and targets set in the national strategy. This includes the collection and analysis of data on the adoption and performance of non-sewered sanitation systems, as well as the identification of gaps and challenges that need to be addressed.

Participants

Participants will include representatives from public organizations (preferably from water and sanitation ministries), relevant policy makers, academia, private companies, and NGOs involved in the research, development, management and implementation of water and sanitation programmes and policies in South Africa.

Workshop Program

Date: Tuesday, 17th October 2023

Venue: Julia Room

Time: 15:30 - 17:15

Facilitator – Phillip Majeke (WRC)			
Time	Duration	Topic	Speaker
15:30-15:35	5	Welcome by the moderator	Phillip Majeke
Session 1: Opening address and topic presentations			
15:35-15:45	10	Opening Remarks	Dr Valerie Naidoo
15:45-15:55	10	The role Engineering Field Testing (EFT) and SASTEP platforms in supporting innovative sanitation technologies toward commercialization	Nick Alcock
15:55-16:05	10	Field Testing of NEWgen at EFT as well as demonstration and localization through SASTEP	Gunter/Tim
16:05-16:15	10	Developing SANS 30500 Certification Scheme in South Africa	Preyan
16:15-16:25	10	Draft Regulatory Framework for Non-Sewered Sanitation Services in South Africa	Andre van Der Walt
Session 2: Panel Discussion			
16:25-16:55	30	Changes needed in current sanitation service planning and implementation to accelerate adoption of innovative sanitation solutions	DWS JW EWS SALGA DBE
Question & Answer Session			
16:55-17:05	10	Question & Answer Session	All
Conclusion and Wrap-up			
17:05-17:10	5	Wrap up, reflections and next steps	Facilitator
		Vote of thanks	

		Close	
--	--	-------	--

References:

Department of Science and Technology. (2018). National System of Innovation. Retrieved from <https://www.dst.gov.za/index.php/national-system-of-innovation>

Republic of South Africa. (1996). White Paper on Science and Technology. Retrieved from https://www.gov.za/sites/default/files/gcis_document/201409/s_twp96.pdf

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. (2021). About us. Retrieved from <https://www.csir.co.za/about-us>

Technology Innovation Agency. (2021). About us. Retrieved from <https://www.tia.org.za/about-tia/>

The Innovation Hub. (2021). About us. Retrieved from <https://www.innovationhub.co.za/about-us/overview>