

Workshop: Evaluation & Field Testing of an Emerging Hydrothermal Polymerisation Process for Treatment of Faecal Sludge

17 June 2021 • 15:00 - 17:00

Venue: Zoom

Rationale

In South Africa, provision of sanitation is through various systems that range from sophisticated water borne, to simple low-cost systems such as low flush toilets, pit latrines and in some informal settlements, bucket toilets. The most widely applied simple low-cost sanitation system is pit latrines. About 31.3% of households in South Africa have their sanitation needs met by a pit latrine; 12.5% of which are ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines while 18.8% are pit latrines without ventilation. When full, pit latrines need to be emptied and faecal sludge safely managed through treatment and/or beneficial utilisation. Safe management of faecal sludge has been identified as one of the major challenges with pit latrines particularly in low- and middle-income countries like South Africa. To address this challenge, technology research and development efforts in South Africa have focused on cost effective faecal sludge treatment technologies, prioritising those that result in beneficiation of resultant materials. These efforts have mostly been supported by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) through the Sanitation Technology Demonstration Program launched in 2014 (in partnership with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) and the Water Research Commission. While several promising technologies have been identified and demonstrated in the field, research and developing efforts are still on-going in order to provide a wider range of options for the low-cost sanitation sector.

The Dialogue will discuss the results from a WRC research project that evaluated the application and efficacy of the emerging EHTP technology to treat faecal sludge from ventilated improved pit (VIP) latrines as well as urine diversion dry toilets (UDDTs) in selected study areas in Gauteng and eThekwini (Durban Metropolis). The discussion will also include a comparison of the performance of the EHTP technology with other technologies currently applied for faecal sludge treatment.

Expected outcome

At the end of this dialogue, it is expected that the results from the projects will add to the pool of knowledge and technologies that are being evaluated for treatment of faecal sludge in South Africa.

Who should attend?

All stakeholders within the low-cost sanitation sector including representatives from Government Departments, Municipalities, Industry, Civil Society, Funding Organizations, Entrepreneurs, Researchers and Academics should attend.

Programme

15:00 - 15:10	Welcome and Introduction	WRC
15:10 - 15:25	Opening Remarks	Jay Bhagwan, Executive
		Manager: Water Use and Waste
		Management (WRC)
15:25 - 16:25	Evaluation & Field Testing of an Emerging	Eustina Musvoto, (TruSense
	Hydrothermal Polymerisation Process for	Process Engineering)
	Treatment of Faecal Sludge	
16:25 – 16:55	Questions and Answers – Facilitated by WRC	
16:55 – 17:00	Wrap up and vote of thanks	WRC