



The South African Mine Closure Atlas – A Tool for Supporting the Just Transition

Date: 5 September 2024 | **Time:** 10:00 – 11:30

Registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DtsSKi98QMm7_RziNMrvqQ

Webinar Outline

Mine closure is a growing concern in South Africa due to the associated environmental and socio-economic impacts, particularly in coal, gold and platinum mining areas. Over 220 operating mines are located in a quarter of the country's local municipalities and are supported or hosted by over 350 diverse urban and rural communities, home to over 6 million people. Many of these communities and local economies are highly dependent on mining and thus vulnerable to the risks relating to mine closure. Despite the existence of global best practice guidelines and local legislation, few mines have successfully closed and progressed into post-closure land uses and economic activities.

Mine closure risks and opportunities are site-specific, affecting different communities to varying degrees, at different times and in distinctive ways, depending on factors such as water resources, land capability, socio-economic profiles, economic diversity, public infrastructure and access to markets. In 2024 the Water Research Commission (WRC) and its research partner, the University of Cape Town (UCT) published a South African Mine Closure Risk and Opportunity Atlas as a free, public tool to support sustainable mine closure and the just transition. The WRC and UCT are thus offering an information and training webinar on the Atlas to share it more widely and encourage its use by diverse stakeholders.

Programme

TIME	ITEM	RESPONSIBLE PARTY
10:00 – 10:10	Welcome and Introduction by Chair	Dr John Ngoni Zvimba , WRC
10:10 – 11:00	Mine Closure Atlas Demonstration	Dr Megan Cole , UCT
11:00 – 11:25	Questions & Answers	ALL
11:25 – 11:30	Closing Remarks	Dr John Ngoni Zvimba , WRC