

# International water governance experts gather in Drakensberg

Cooperation on shared water resources is critical, especially in water-scarce regions where the upstream and downstream impacts of consumption and pollution are magnified. Shared river basin and aquifer systems continue to present opportunities for cooperation and joint water resource development

within as well as between countries. To address this and many others, the Water Research Commission (WRC), in collaboration with the Department of Water Affairs and various international and local water institutions, hosted the International Conference on Freshwater Governance for Sustainable Development, in the Drakensberg,

in November. The conference, which was attended by more than 400 delegates from 29 countries, covered various topics within the themes of water-related legislation, regulatory environments, human and environmental rights, markers and measures of good governance, and transboundary governance and adaptive management, among others.



*Christine Colvin of WWF-SA was part of a panel discussion on how to enable business to become good water managers and stewards.*



*Mike Muller of the University of the Witwatersrand provided insight into various sessions at the conference.*



*More than 400 delegates from 29 countries attended the conference.*



*Prof Claudia Pahl-Wostl of the University of Osnabrück, Germany, provided insight into enhancing water security for humans and nature.*



*Special conference guest speaker, Prof Ali Mazrui of the State University of New York at Bingham, and WRC CEO, Dhesigen Naidoo, share a lighter moment during the conference.*



*WRC HR Executive Manager, Reshmili Lutchman, WRC Research Manager Bonani Madikizela and Muleki Matiwane of the University of the Western Cape.*



*Chair of the Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Water & Environmental Affairs, Adv. Johnny de Lange, delivered the opening address on behalf of Water & Environmental Affairs Minister Edna Molewa.*