

New WRC publications strengthens SA climate change armoury

The latest series of water and climate change studies emanating from the Water Research Commission (WRC) was launched amid great fanfare earlier this year.

The launch formed part of a WRC dialogue on climate change and water to explore current knowledge on potential impacts of climate on the South African water scene, potential science and

technology-related solutions and decision-making support mechanisms. The dialogue provided a platform for various stakeholders to express views on what the science and technology response to climate change has been, and should be going forward. Discussions also provided an opportunity for attendees to debate key questions around addressing climate change impacts, adaptation and mitigation measures, South Africa's

contribution to global climate change initiatives and the country's own resilience to potential change. Speaking at the event, WRC CEO, Dhesigen Naidoo, said that adaptation to climate change is a current reality that water resource managers must adhere to. "Our water problems will increase in future under climate change. We all need to decide whether we want to act now or face the crisis at a later stage."

All photographs by Lani van Vuuren



Imraan Patel (Department of Science & Technology); Dr Sylvester Mpendeli (Department of Environmental Affairs); Prof Roland Schulze (University of KwaZulu-Natal); Chris Moseki (Water Research Commission); Dr Sabine Stuart-Hill (UKZN) and Dhesigen Naidoo (WRC).



Imraan Patel (centre), Deputy Director-General at the Department of Science & Technology receives the new WRC climate change publications from WRC CEO, Dhesigen Naidoo (right), while main author, Prof Roland Schulze, of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, looks on.



Deputy Ambassador of Jordan, Omar Ababneh, provided insight into the potential effects of climate change on water resources from an international perspective.



WRC CEO, Dhesigen Naidoo, tackles some issues at the dialogue.



One of the main researchers on the WRC climate change project, Sabine Stuart-Hill of the University of KwaZulu-Natal, also participated in discussions.