



WEF Nexus in Africa Initiative

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September Newsletter

wefnexus.org



The Water-Energy-Food in Africa Initiative Website has officially been launched and online for few months. We are excited to share with you updates on the current news and events, ways to get involved, and upcoming items to be on the lookout for.

THIS MONTH'S
TOP STORIES



Member Registration and Collaborative Platform

If you have not yet done so, we highly encourage interested participants to join the WEF Nexus in Africa Initiative as a member of our website and the Collaborative Platform. Membership is free and provides you with access to a network of qualified professionals in Nexus-related fields as well as current relevant news and events. The Collaborative Platform provides members with a resource tool for collective sharing of information, promoting Nexus discussion, and other learning opportunities.

[Register Here for Collaborative Platform](#)

[Register Here for Membership](#)

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Featured News and Events

News

Special Issue Call for Abstracts

The journal Land (ISSN 2073-445X) is currently running a Special Issue entitled “Collaboration and Multi-Stakeholder Engagement in Landscape Governance and Management in Africa: Lessons from Practice”

[Read More >](#)

Call for Abstracts: Dresden Nexus Conference 2020

The Dresden Nexus Conference will be held June 3rd-5th, 2020 in Dresden, Germany with the purpose of “advancing research on and the implementation of a Nexus Approach to environmental resource management and to fostering dialogue on how nexus thinking contributes to achieving the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).”

[Read More >](#)

Call for Research, Reports, and Book Reviews

The upcoming issue (Volume 7 Number 3) of the Future of Food: Journal on Food, Agriculture, and Society will be dedicated to the Water-Food-Energy Nexus with specific focus on food security and socioeconomic development.

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Events

Strategic Networks and Initiatives Program (SNIP) Speaker Series at Penn State

"Building a Food-Water-Energy Nexus Community of Transformative and Convergent Research"

[Read More >](#)

8th World Conference on Ecological Restoration

We proudly invite you to Cape Town for the 8th World Conference on Ecological Restoration from 24-28 September 2019, jointly hosted by the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER) and the South African Water Research Commission.

[Read More >](#)

African Climate Risks Conference

The African Climate Risks Conference (ACRC) is an open platform for sharing the latest African climate research among researchers, policy makers, practitioners and development partners.

[Read More>](#)

Stay Tuned...

In upcoming months the WEF Nexus in Africa Initiative will be hosting three to four webinars on Nexus, featuring speakers from around the world. Keep your eye out for updates to come on the webpage.

[DISCOVER MORE ON OUR WEBSITE](#)

WEF Nexus in Africa Initiative Member Activity Updates

Water Research Commission (WRC) of South Africa

The water-energy-food (WEF) nexus is gaining recognition internationally as an intersectoral approach to resource management and sustainable development. The Water Research Commission (WRC) of South Africa has identified the WEF nexus as one of its focus “lighthouse” areas of research. This project was part of the WRC’s goal to promote the WEF nexus in South Africa. Since 2012, the WRC conducted several research studies focusing on the WEF nexus nationally and also in the Southern African region. The first study on WEF nexus was to assess the status of WEF nexus in South Africa. The aim of the study was to conduct a review of available information and knowledge about the Water – Energy – Food nexus in South Africa. Specifically, to conduct a state-of-the-art literature

review on past, present and ongoing work on the WEF nexus focusing on current status, potential, challenges and opportunities for intersectoral WEF Nexus planning. In addition, to propose a framework for linking the WEF Nexus to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), paying emphasis on SDG 2, 6 and 7. Lastly, this would culminate in developing a draft research agenda to guide future research and develop on the WEF nexus for South Africa. The WRC with its key strategic partners have proposed WEF framework for South Africa (Figure 1).

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WEF Nexus at UNFCCC Technical Expert Meetings on Mitigation (TEM-M)

An African proverb on collective engagement goes “Knowledge is like a baobab tree; no oneperson can embrace it alone”. This echoes one of the objectives of the WEF Nexus in Africa: to explore possible partnerships with institutions and individuals interested in immediate collaboration around specific nexus research, education or outreach programs. Represented by Ms. Margaret Koli, Education Programme Associate at the United Nations University – Institute of Environment and Human Security ([UNU-EHS](#)), the WEF Nexus in Africa network had the opportunity to [present](#) its initiative at the UNFCCC [Technical Expert Meetings on Mitigation \(TEM-M\)](#) this summer in Bonn, Germany. The technical examination process on mitigation consists of regular in-session thematic technical expert meetings and focused follow up work to be conducted by Parties, international organizations and partnerships throughout the year. Parties to the Convention on Climate Change resolved to start this process in 2014 and to further accelerate it by 2020 in order to implement scalable best practice policies and bridge the ambition gap.



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Penn State News Features WEF Nexus in Africa

The Pennsylvania State University News has featured the WEF Nexus in Africa Initiative and steering committee members Rachel Brennan, Michael Jacobson, and Brian Thiede in their article: *Penn State researchers lead the way in Water-Energy-Food research in Africa.*

[Read Full Article Here >](#)

