

Thinking Sustainability: Energy, Food, Water Nexus

Event Themes Announced

The South African National Energy Association (SANEA) will be hosting a two day conference as a platform to share knowledge and information about
“Energy Food Water Nexus for South Africa”

The key themes of the event which will be the basis to deliberate significant issues and integrated approaches impacting the nexus, look at potential solutions and options for sustainable development and the interdependencies amongst these elements are:

- ❖ Contextualising the Energy Food Water Nexus and its importance
- ❖ The Nexus from an Energy Lens – what does the food and water elements need from the energy element?
- ❖ Energy impact on the nexus – how does the energy element integrate with the food and water elements?
- ❖ Deliberating the development of policy and infrastructure that can further a sustainable approach to the nexus
- ❖ Future scenarios – what do these look like and what is the transition path to these?
- ❖ Making a positive impact on the nexus at all levels (individual, business, national, etc)

Background

Energy, food and water are central to sustainable development and contribute directly to human well being, economic development and poverty alleviation; with enormously significant linkages and cross impacts among them.

The demand for all 3 are increasing, driven by growing human populations, increased energy needs, adverse weather patterns, urbanisation, economic growth and resource degradation and scarcity among other issues.

Agriculture and energy production are the worlds largest and second largest users of water and more than 25% of the world's energy usage is for the food production and supply value chain (UN Water).

The economic and social challenges triggered by the nexus in these 3 critical elements require an integrated approach to ensure sustainable development, resource efficiency and human survival.

According to research conducted by the WWF, South Africa as a water scarce country with little arable land and high dependency on water intensive coal fired power generation technologies is significantly exposed to constraints in these elements.

Join SANEA on this thought leadership and critical thinking journey as an understanding of the Energy Food Water Nexus for South Africa and its

integrated issues are unfolded in a 2 day discussion involving key experts from business, government and civil society.

Date: 31 October and 1 November 2018

Venue: Johannesburg, Gauteng

Programme Structure

The programme will be delivered with expert speakers, panel discussions and strong audience input through digital platforms and workshops. The event will provide networking opportunities amongst industry professionals and stakeholders across all aspects of this vast theme.

A key focus of the programme will be to provide the latest information on the nexus in South Africa, create a common understanding of the challenges and issues and facilitate thinking and solutions to this situation.