



Joint Press Release
 Issued by: National Science and Technology Forum and the Water Research Commission
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WRC forges a strategic partnership with the NSTF to celebrate South African excellence in Water Management

The [National Science and Technology Forum \(NSTF\)](#) and the Water Research Commission (WRC) have over the years collaborated on water management solutions and towards enhancing strategic dialogues on water security. The NSTF and WRC are building on this foundation through a new [water award category](#) as part of the [NSTF-South32 Awards](#). The partnership will strive to identify and celebrate the excellent work being done in water research and innovation in South Africa and to promote best practices in water management.

Mr Dhesigen Naidoo, CEO of the WRC stated that the Commission plays a strategic leadership role in water research, development and innovation, and the partnership with the NSTF demonstrates the need to move research to impact. He said the WRC-NSTF award will undeniably create a platform to honour and recognise outstanding achievements in water management that often go unseen and encourage the sector to be more pioneering.

The [NSTF-South32 Awards](#) takes place annually, honouring and celebrating outstanding contributions to science, engineering, technology (SET) and innovation in South Africa. The Awards have grown to be the largest and most prestigious public SET and innovation awards in South Africa and is a flagship project of the NSTF, in partnership with South32. The Awards are endorsed and supported by the Department of Science and Technology and the Honourable Minister of Science and Technology is the official patron.

NSTF Executive Director, Ms Jansie Niehaus stated that with the water security challenges experienced in our country and globally, it is paramount to drive innovation in this space. She is pleased to have the WRC come on board and raise the profile of SET for water security through the NSTF-South32 Awards platform.

The new [NSTF-WRC award](#) seeks to give recognition to the following contributions:

- Leadership in water research, development and knowledge generation
- Exceptional contributions towards informing and shaping the national water landscape through policy, decision-making and legislative enhancements
- Innovations that demonstrate sustainable solutions to water challenges in South Africa
- Outstanding work in trans-disciplinary approaches and water projects towards the empowerment of communities; and
- Improved models for integrating water opportunities into entrepreneurship and new product developments that will have a positive impact on water management in South Africa

[Registration](#) of nominations are invited and [processes for the awards](#) can be found online - <http://www.nstf.org.za/awards/>

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To find out more about the NSTF go to www.nstf.org.za
 To find out more about the WRC go to www.wrc.org.za

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About the NSTF

The National Science and Technology Forum (NSTF), established in 1995, is a broadly-representative stakeholder body for all SET and innovation organisations in South Africa, which seeks to influence policy formulation and delivery.

The NSTF Awards are unique in SA, recognising the outstanding contributions of individuals and groups to SET and innovation.

The science bursaries page <http://www.nstf.org.za/bursary/> provides information on bursaries and bursary providers for science, engineering and related studies.

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