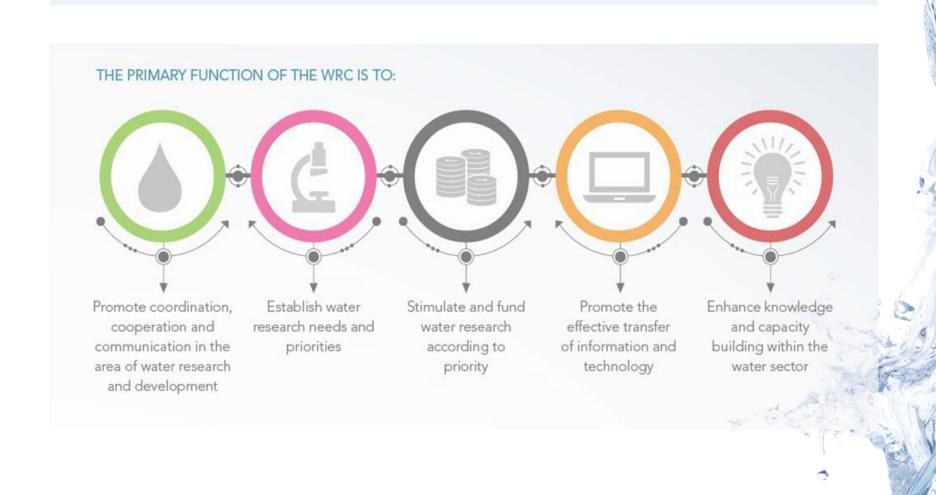


John Dini Water Research Commission, South Africa





About the Water Research Commission



Experience in international cooperation

Bilateral partnerships with EU member states

• e.g. Research Institutes of Sweden, Institute de Recherche Pour le Developpement, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, implementation of inter-Ministerial agreements (e.g. Netherlands, Denmark, Italy)

Multilateral partnerships

 e.g. Watershare, Water JPI, Global Water Research Coalition, AfriAlliance, Indian Ocean Rim Association (Academic Group and Water and Sanitation STI), OECD Water Governance Initiative

Modalities

- Joint funding of R&I projects
- Technology sharing
- Joint research agenda setting
- Market access
- Capacity building and knowledge exchange (dialogues, workshops, exchange programmes)

Key challenges

- Asymmetries in research agenda setting
 - "European leadership", "valorising European know-how" vs. "mutual benefit and equal footing", "co-construct joint RDI action"
- Misalignment of systems, procedures between SA and JPI
 - ► Timeframes, evaluation procedures, contracting, reporting, travel plan approval
- ► SA is not seeing full potential benefits of projects it co-funds
 - Locally funded components vs. full projects
- Limited financial resources to allocate to Joint Calls
 - ► SA gross expenditure on R&D in 2018 was 0,68% of GDP vs target of 1,5%. Global average was 1,4%.
 - ▶ WRC joint project funding is limited and spread across several partnerships

Cooperation with economic sector

- ▶ Joint agenda setting based on their RDI needs
- Co-funding research projects
- Co-creation of relevant solutions
- Targeted knowledge products
- Involvement of sector expertise in reviewing proposals,
 participating project reference groups
- Convening and supporting communities of practice

Recommendations

- Broaden WJPI membership and cooperation,
 - Especially developing countries
 - Align with other water related EU platforms
- ldentify sufficiently overlapping areas of mutual benefit
 - More focus on co-creation
- Better coordination between co-funding partners
 - ► Especially on individual projects, to maximise benefits for all partners
 - Mechanisms for bringing new potential partners together
- More streamlined administrative processes
 - Reducing transaction costs and synchronisation problems
- Use technology optimally to support collaboration
 - ▶ Improving communication, information sharing, team working
 - Remote connections for all key meetings

Dankie Thank you Ke a leboga Dankie Ngiyabonga Inkomu Dankie Thank you Dankie Inkomu Ndo livhuv Enkosi Ngiyabonga Dankie Junka Leboha Inkomu Enkosi Enkosi Dankie Dankie Thank you Dankie Thank you Enkos byhana Enkos byhana leboha a leboha Ke a leboga Inkomu Ke a leboha Ngiyabonga Ngyabaya Rayubaya Enkosi Tenkosi Enkosi Enkosi Unkomu Ke a leboha EnkosiNdo livhuwa