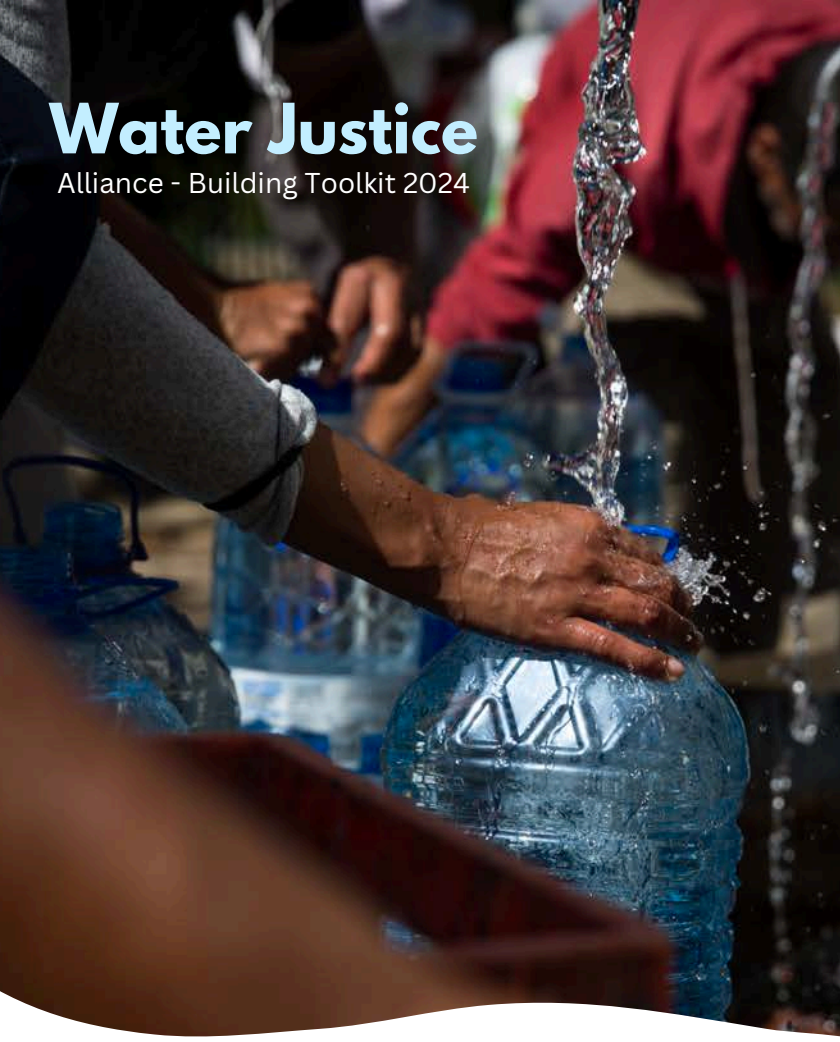
Water Justice

Alliance - Building Toolkit 2024



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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About this toolkit

This toolkit is a combination of resources, activities, and contacts aimed at supporting local actions towards water justice across social movements in Cape Town and beyond.

This toolkit was co-designed in collaboration with 10 Cape Town activists as part of a research project called *Exploring Alliance-Building and Knowledge Co-Creation across Water Justice Movements*. This research project sought to better understand grassroots and intergenerational understandings of water justice in Cape Town, and to identify innovative methods for alliance-building and knowledge co-creation across water justice movements and related social movements to advance water justice at the community level. The project involved 5 social movements: water justice, women's rights, urban land/housing rights, LGBTQ rights, and racial justice.

The study included: video walk-along interviews with 10 water justice activists; 5 focus group discussions each with approximately 8 activists from one of 5 social movements (water justice, women's rights, urban land/housing rights, LGBTQ rights, and racial justice); 2x 2-day alliance-building workshops each with 5 activists (one group with women, one group with men) across the 5 social movements mentioned above; and a community dialogue bringing together 40 activists across the 5 social movements with local policymakers. The 10 video walk-along interviews were translated into a short documentary video which is available for free online as part of this toolkit. The recruitment of participating activists was supported by local community-based organisations: Sonke Gender Justice, the Housing Assembly, Tekano, the Western Cape Water Caucus, Triangle Project, Majawie Safe Space, and Bertha House.

This research project was led by Principal Investigator Professor Carmen H. Logie at the University of Toronto Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work (FIFSW) in Toronto, Canada, and coordinated by FIFSW Postdoctoral Research Fellow Dr. Sarah Van Borek, in collaboration with local partner and co-applicant Dr. Amber Abrams, Senior Research Officer at the University of Cape Town Future Water research institute (FW) and Co-Principal Investigator. Dr. Lesley Gittings, Assistant Professor, Western University, London, Canada, Dr. Lina Taing, Senior Researcher - Water and Health, United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health, Hamilton, Canada, and Dr. Amaya Perez-Brumer,Assistant Professor, University of Toronto's Dalla Lana School of Public Health, Toronto, Canada. The study was funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

For questions related to the toolkit, please contact:

Principal Investigator:
Professor Carmen H. .Logie
Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work University of Toronto
Email: carmen.logie@utoronto.ca Telephone: +1 647 454 4203

Co-Principal Investigator:
Dr. Amber Abrams
Future Water Research Institute University of Cape Town
Email: amber.abrams@uct.ac.za Telephone : +27 (0)21 650 5317

ToolkIt layout/illustrations by Sanelisiwe Singaphi

Definitions of Different Rights

It is important to understand what rights different social movements are working to achieve.

Cape Town activists involved in social movements generated each definition, which are aligned in principle with the UN Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and should be safeguarded with Water Rights (p. 6-8) defined in South African legislation and UN Resolutions.

These rights should complement the section on Water Rights that follows.



Women's Rights

- Empowerment of women, including the freedom to choose and have access to what they need (e.g., clinics, hospitals, water, men/relationships, birthing/contraception, HIV prevention, marriage, children, to attend or participate in various places, to access education);
- Right for all women and girls to live a life free from all forms of violence and have access to justice (e.g., GBV police report being taken seriously);
- Right to full and effective participation and decision-making in public life, including the freedom to choose their movements and activities, for example, sports;
- Right for women to be treated equally, for example in work, religion and culture;
- Elimination of discrimination against women and girls, whereby women should be given equal opportunities without discrimination or distinction on the basis of gender.



Urban Land Rights

- Right to improved dwellings meaning proper, decent housing regardless of income, recognising that decent housing requires access to public services such as water, electricity, and proximity to hospitals and transport;
- Secure rights to land including prioritising residents over commercial uses of land; recognising access to land is a fundamental basis for human shelter, food production and other economic activity;
- Compensation for displacements, evictions, etc., in the form of socially or legally recognised entitlements to access, use and control areas of land and related natural resources.



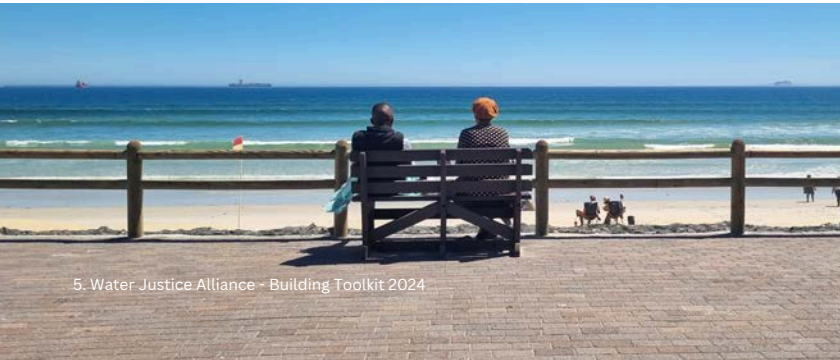
Sexual Rights and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ) Rights

- Feeling safe, experiencing bodily integrity, and having access to resources;
- Freedom of choice of partners, sexual activity, and right to consensual sexual relationships;
- Freedom of choice and freedom from violence, coercion, and discrimination;
- Right and safety to celebrate sexuality in public, right to consensual marriage, and right to decide whether or not and when to have children;
- Right and safety to choose and disclose your sexual identity, gender identity, and gender expression;
- Right to pursue a satisfying, safe, and pleasurable sexual life;
- Capacity to seek, receive, and share information related to sexuality and access sexuality education;
- Right to access housing, employment, and sexual and reproductive health services.



Racial Justice

- Right to equality in dignity and rights of all peoples, irrespective of race, colour and origin;
- Right to confront legacies, including through accountability and redress, and by dismantling systemic racism;
- Right to equal access to quality education, housing, employment, health, and economic opportunities regardless of race or ethnicity;
- Right to ensure the voices of all people and those who stand up against racism are heard and that their concerns are acted upon.



5. Water Justice Alliance - Building Toolkit 2024

Water Rights

“As human rights and the environment are interdependent, a clean, healthy and sustainable environment is necessary for the full enjoyment of a wide range of human rights, such as the rights to life, health, food, water and sanitation and development, among others.”

-What is the Right to a Healthy Environment? Information Note. UN Human Rights Office of the High Commission, UN Environment Programme & UN Development Programme, 2023.

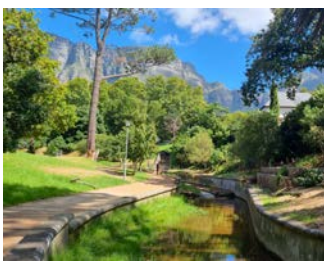


Section 27(1)(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996 (the Constitution) recognises the right of everyone to have “access to sufficient water”.

The State must take reasonable legislative and other steps, within its available resources, to achieve the “progressive realisation” of this right. Section 7(2) of the Constitution sets out the specific duties of the State to “respect, protect, promote and fulfil” the right of access to water. **Chapter 2 of the Constitution** provides that: “Everyone has the right to have access to sufficient food and water.”

Section 24 of the Constitution states that: “Everyone has a right to:

- an environment which is not harmful to their health or well-being
- have the environment protected for the benefit of present and future generations through reasonable legislative and other measures that:
- prevent pollution and ecological degradation
- promote conservation
- secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources, while promoting justifiable economic and social development



The Water Services Act 108 of 1997 protects the right to basic water supply and basic sanitation. Section 3 of the Act defines "basic water supply" as:

"The prescribed minimum standard of water supply services necessary for the reliable supply of a sufficient quantity and quality of water to households, including informal households, to support life and personal hygiene." Regulation 3 of the Act specifies "basic water supply" as: "a minimum quantity of potable water of 25 litres per person per day or 6 kilolitres per household per month at a minimum flow rate of not less than 10 litres per minute; within 200 metres of a household; and with an effectiveness such that no consumer is without a supply for more than seven full days in any year." The Act's regulations also indicate that a water services authority must have a programme for monitoring the quality of potable (drinking/cooking) water and regularly informing water users of any health risks.

The Act says that water services institutions must give preference to providing a basic water supply and basic sanitation to its existing consumers if they are unable to meet the requirements of all those consumers. The national Department of **Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF)** supports municipalities to put into practice regulations from the Water Services Act of 1997.





The free basic water policy in June 2001 was adopted by the Government under the Water Services Act. The amount of free basic water is 25 litres a person each day, or 6,000 litres a household each month. This remains the limit regardless of the number of people in a household except in cases where the municipality decides to provide a higher amount.

The National Water Act (NWA) 36 of 1998 is the main law that directs the Government to ensure that the country's water resources are managed, used, protected, and developed in a sustainable way.

It was created to provide fundamental reform of the law relating to water resources. The objectives of the NWA include recognising that South Africa's discriminatory laws and practices of the past prevented equal access to water and that water is an unevenly distributed national resource that belongs to all people of South Africa. According to **Section 3 of the NWA,** the national government is regarded as the public trustee of the nation's water resources and accordingly, all potential water users in South Africa may apply for water use rights. This is in line with the principle of equality enshrined in the Constitution, which provides that "everyone is equal before the law and has the right to equal protection and benefit of the law". Water management is distributed across national, provincial, and local government.

A global campaign for the human right to water resulted in the UN General Assembly adopting resolution 64/292 on 28 July 2010,

thereby enshrining **'The human right to water and sanitation'** into international human rights law. The resolution "recognizes the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation as a human right that is essential for the full enjoyment of life and all human rights" (A/RES/64/292). The United Nations Human Rights Council resolution 48/13 acknowledged the right to a healthy environment in October 2021. This was adopted by the UN General Assembly 28 July 2022.



Other rights related to water rights In the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa:

- The right to life (Section 11)
- The right to human dignity (Section 10)
- The right of access to adequate housing (Section 26)

Sources:

https://dullahomarinstitute.org.za/socio-economic-rights/research-and-publications/resource-book/Chapter%2010%20-%20Water%20Rights.pdf

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https://www.undp.org/sites/g/files/zskgke326/files/2023-01/UNDP-UNEP-UNHCHR-What-is-the-Right-to- a-Healthy-Environment.pdf

https://www.sahrc.org.za/home/21/files/SAHRC%20Water%20and%20Sanitation%20revised%20pamphlet%2020%20March%202018.pdf

Shared Goals/Values

ICON SHEET These goals/values emerged from water stories shared by Cape Town activists across 5 social movements (water justice, women's rights, LGBTQ+ rights, urban land rights, and racial justice). This icon sheet is also part of the 'Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity'.





Milnerton Lagoon, Video still, *Its Ebbs and Flows* documentary 2024.

Film Discussion Guide

Its Ebbs and Flows

A short documentary about understandings of water justice in Cape Town
English, isiXhosa & Afrikaans versions available South Africa 2024
Duration: 17:16 minutes https://youtu.be/mHPeyItq1T4

About the Film

This short documentary was produced using video footage and stories filmed during walk-along interviews with 10 water justice activists in Cape Town, South Africa, in February and March 2024. The film is narrated by Albida MacMillan, and directed/edited by Sarah Van Borek, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, University of Toronto Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work. Supported by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada.

About this Guide

This questionnaire is meant to be used in community screenings and workshops to assist facilitators in guiding discussions around key themes and topics raised in the film. Feel free to use some or all the suggested questions (which are grouped thematically and listed in order of importance) and to adapt them as needed to meet your community's aims.

You might consider asking your audience "What is water justice?" before and after watching the film and discuss if any shifts arise after watching the film.

Film Discussion Questions

Understanding Intersectional Water Justice – Key Questions:

1. What is your understanding of water justice?
2. What 4 key water justice themes does the film present? Can you give some examples from the film for each theme?
3. What are some examples of local water justice efforts from the film? Beyond the film?
4. How, if at all, does water justice relate to your life, work, and/or community?
5. Which 7 social issues does the film suggest water issues connect with? Are there other social issues you feel connect with water issues, and why?

Unpacking Water Injustices – Additional Questions:

6. Focus groups from this study identified things they felt were missing from the film in terms of understanding water justice. Specifically, they highlighted the need for recognising some underrepresented populations who are greatly affected by water injustices, including: migrants, people with disabilities, people living with chronic diseases, and the elderly. How might these various populations experience water rights differently and why?
7. What factors affect peoples' unequal access to water in Cape Town?
8. How does water infrastructure, for example, piping, drains, wastewater treatment, etc., affect water in/justice?
9. Why might boreholes be seen as a symbol of inequality?
10. How have Water Management Devices contributed to water injustices?

Unpacking Water Governance – Bonus Questions:

11. What is the difference between water uses for basic needs and water uses for additional needs? Which is more important, and why?
12. What competing interests exist at the meeting point between the Liesbeek and Black rivers? How might we address these kinds of competing interests at this and other similar waterways?
13. How is the pollution of Milnerton Lagoon an example of water governance challenges linking to other social issues?
14. What might greater public participation in water governance allow for?
15. What if water governance included more people of colour, and/or more local and traditional knowledge systems?

Map Your Waterworld **Activity**

Materials:
Paper, drawing materials.

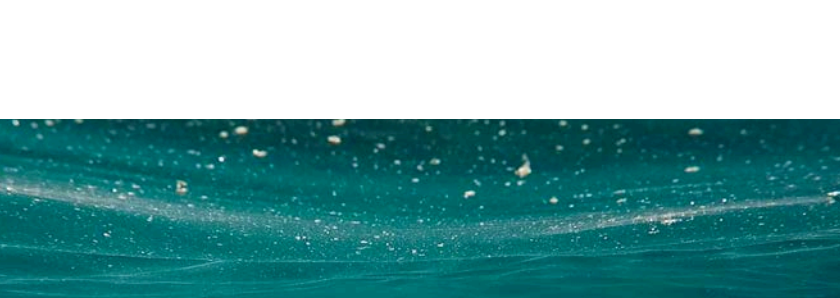
Description:
A drawing activity mapping your water uses (in your life, work, and community) on paper, in response to a few prompts, in a way that shows which are most important (e.g., maybe bigger = more important) and how they relate to one another. Each participant is given a piece of paper and drawing materials, and invited to add text/images in response to the following prompts:

Prompt 1: Your water uses for basic needs in your personal life.

Prompt 2: Your water uses for additional needs (e.g., cultural, education, recreational, etc.) in your personal life. Include water bodies.

Prompt 3: Your community's water uses as they relate to your activist work in your social movement.

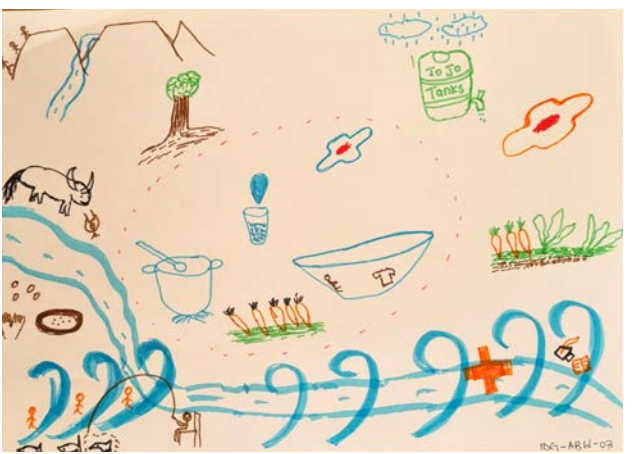
Share & discuss these with the group.



Examples:



Map Your Waterworld activity by men's alliance-building workshop participant, 30 May 2024



Map Your Waterworld activity by women's alliance-building workshop participant, 27 May 2024

Muraling Intersections with Water Justice **Activity**

Materials:
Large piece of paper, watercolour paints and brushes, pencils, small container with water for cleaning brushes, paper towel, flashcards of stories from the field found at the end of this toolkit, shared goals/values icons sheet (page 9. of this toolkit), scissors, glue stick.

Description:
On large paper laying on a table, participants illustrate intersections of water justice with: racial, land, LGBTQ & women's rights.

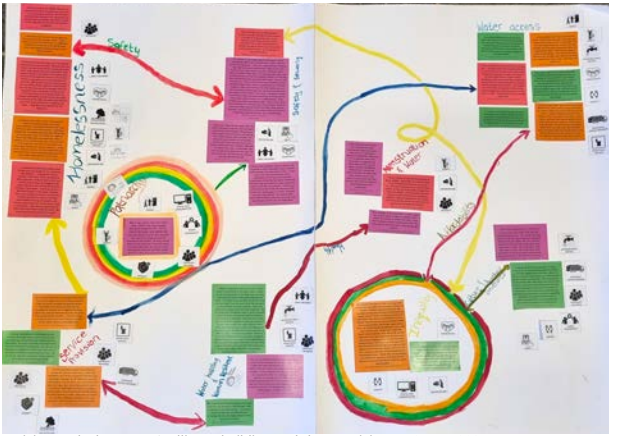
Give participants flashcards of findings re: **stories from the field** to review and invite them to first lay these out on the paper so they show which stories are connected based on underlying social issues (e.g., connected stories are **collaged** in proximity to one another). Ask participants to use a pencil to write the word(s) of the social issue next to each cluster of stories. Once participants have agreed on the placement of flashcards/stories, invite them to collage these onto the paper using the gluestick.

Invite participants to use watercolour paints to paint in these connections using text/images (e.g., painting a symbol of preventing GBV where it links two stories that raise this issue, and painting a line connecting the two stories). Invite participants to continuing painting connections between secondary shared social issues.

Next, collage shared goals/values using the icons sheet to illustrate goals/values as they relate to the various stories from the field (e.g., dignity icon glued next to story about period poverty).

Discuss during and after the process of muraling.

Examples:



Activity results by women's alliance-building workshop participants, 27 May 2024



Activity results by men's alliance-building workshop participants, 30 May 2024

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

For women, it is not safe, especially for youth. You're sending the child to go and fetch water. And in my area where I'm staying, we ... that was supposed to be a freeway road. But now we are staying there, closer to the road. Some of them, they need to cross the road to get water... And it's not like a small road. It's a big road, wide, open one, and the cars are running. And imagine maybe a 12 year old with a 25 litre of bucket coming to fetch water. There's a risk of those cars. There's a risk of men who are walking across seeing an opportunity, here's an opportunity as a little girl, maybe it's late in the evening. That child maybe was sent during the day to fetch water, but taking chances because the mother is not at home, he's at work. And before mommy comes home, then now they're thinking, let me go quickly fetch water, and it's around six, it's getting dark. Those children are at the risk of being raped. They're at the risk of being initiated into selling drugs if they are boys. Because now when they're going to fetch the water, those boeties, that age, is standing there in the corners waiting for them to initiate them into the business.
So it's challenging.

(Women's rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

Men in our culture, they don't fetch water. Which was a big struggle during the pandemic time. You will find on the queue, only women and men are sitting at home, they are safe and women must go out and be exposed to the COVID. So also culture played a role because if we were equal, we will all go and take our buckets and fetch water.

(Women's rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

In the work that we do, there was a few girls who were sharing their experience when they are in the, during the period, it's difficult for them and it's so traumatic when they know they are approaching those dates where access to water is going to be difficult because that is the period where a woman will need more water and they don't have access to much water that they can use. So it came out while we were doing community awareness.

(Women's rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...when there's going to be a ceremony, women must fetch water. And you are filling like big drums. It's not like you just carry that 20 litre, you're going to take that 20 litre and put it there. No, you must fill big drums because you're going to need that water to cook. You're going to need that water to bath. You're going to need that water to do all the washings because the whole family is here for the ceremony.

(Women's rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...there was a lady, she was raped, then she went to the clinic, and when she came back, and they do have showers there. Due to trauma, she refused to take a shower at the hospital, thinking that when she gets home, she's going to bath when she's at home, when she ... in a space where she's comfortable. But when she got home, there was no water. So she had to wait until the taps are running, then she can take the bath.

(Women's rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

We as women, we do need water. I'm sorry, men, but I'm just saying, we get our monthly, every month, so it means we need to be clean.
If you don't wash you on your monthly, you stink. You stink, and it's not a nice smell. And then you get bullied...

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

For me, my understanding, a woman is a mother, and a mother provides for her kids. So if a child needs that water, she doesn't worry if she must walk three to four hours just to go fetch that bucket of water. If she must wash her kid's clothes, if she must go stand at the river and wash her kid's clothes, she's going to do it. That is what I understand because I'm also a mother. You will go way out when it comes to your children, so water is a need to your kid. You can stay three to four hours without water. Can your child? No.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

I think women and girls, because of their role in society, in their household, if one is staying with a woman, the expectation is that... if one stays in an informal settlement that is dependent on the community tap, the expectation will be that the woman will be the one who is going to fetch the water, and do the cooking, and also the washing... and the man will be sitting like me like this. Because of the, of what the society expects of them. They bear more the responsibility. The issue of water, how it affects them is more than us as men and boys because of their role and expectation.

(Water justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

So we are asking where is the justice for land, if we must struggle, like we are doing currently now. So there's so many occupations within Cape Town, and when you look into the occupations, people are struggling for water, electricity, and just the basic services. So when they bring a toilet with this ... this tank toilet, sanitation where you must, they clean it and bring it back. So it's so unhealthy also.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

For the years that I reside in our informal settlement, we have electricity...water and sanitation, but it's four structures that must use one toilet. One tap. So, to make it for yourself comfortable, you can put in your own toilet, and your own taps. But, where the problem come in is, what we really fight the city for is, we got a pump station in our area and that pump station will only work for a month. After that our drains will overflow. We had uhm, a situation where two people passed on and a boy of five years old.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

We occupied this piece of land, but supposedly the private land that's being owned by those two families. However, they are willing for the occupiers to stay over the land, however the city doesn't want to lease or perhaps buy the land over them. Now, due to service delivery, if it's a private land, the city can't put permanent water there and sanitation, electricity, roads, and so forth. So I mean like the occupation is more than 12 or 15 years now. People don't have like, there's only temporary taps. Out of 20, around about five that's working, because there's also that pressure, because there's only one water pump pressure. So if you're getting water with your bucket from the last tap, you might wait for about two to three hours to get it full, just a 20 litre. And also, what she also mentioned about the portable toilets. I mean, like, it's not healthy for children, for women as well, they can get infections because about 20 or 10 families could use one toilet.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

... there was a fire in one of the occupations, and you know the comrade, when ... when ... when a structure burned down...it might be a hokkie, but it was my house that burned down, and people lose everything in these floods and fires.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...the occupation that I stay in, there is no water. So even what she said, if we want to go number one we have to do it in a bucket. Dig the hole and go throw our number one and number two in the hole, where city comes, we ask them for water... We have the right to water and sanitation... you, that live in your mansion, you can open your tap, you can open your tap and then water comes. Now why can't we have it?

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...you know when there's fires in occupations? ...That fire and fire brigade, that truck, sometimes don't have even enough water. And when you open up this fire hydrant...nothing is happening. So people are losing their things due to not enough water. And there's no urgency also when these fires are happening. When it happens in our communities, you will see it takes a very long time. But near the mountain and these areas, these fires, a quick response... white areas, they're all there. So, that inequalities and that, you know, that what people experience, it's just a daily reality within communities.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

I think two years back, I got the bill to say I owe R8 000,00 but I don't even use too much water. So I went in, when we were mos RDP houses, so I went in, I asked, what does this bill mean because I don't use water? Even when I wash clothes, I go fetch there, by the toilets, by the informal settlement, because I want to save water this side. It wasn't my, like, they didn't deduct from my water, they took someone else's bill, which water was leaking there, in my street, they put on my bill, which wasn't fair. So I said, no, I can't pay water, this is not on.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...when you look at the LGBTQ, they are the ones that are mostly excluded and you know ... by communities and that. And we have comrades like that also in our movement, so we can relate to that also. And when it comes to housing, they are also the ones who are struggling.

(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

R: any thoughts about LGBTQ people?
P: Like, it wouldn't be safe for them to walk. It wouldn't? To go fetch water, I'd say, because what if they, they encounter someone that is, that is homophobic? It wouldn't be safe for them to go, like, up the street to go fetch water. So, I would say it's not safe for them.

(Water justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

I mean, if you are homeless and there is no tap, just ... the government should really look into it, create some sort of, you know, a hub, allow that person also access to water, although it's just like maybe 5 litre or 10 litre a day or something. I don't know how they are going to measure that out, but at least give that person also the leverage to have water. I can imagine you're homeless and you don't have money, you're struggling for food and you don't have access to water. It really affects you in a mental way as well.

(Sexual rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...there is certain things that we do before we go, as LGBTQ...that makes us in need of water. Then at the facilities that they are giving us... there are no bathing rooms in some other places, so that we can be neatly enough to be free as an LGBTQ. I'm not going to mention what is actually the thing. We're all adults here. Yes, I mean, sometimes in other spaces we cannot use the douching while under the showers.

(Sexual rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

The statistics shows the majority of the LGBTQ community, they are homeless. Because even the moment you are in the shelter, it means that you don't have a place to go, you're homeless. And what we found in the shelters, the system and I think social development have to work on that. There's a new policy just implemented that if you're an LGBTQ person, they don't have to put you out of the shelter, they don't have to have you exit there because of the danger which are exposed to you, you've got risk, you can be murdered, there's a lot of things which can happen and we find most of them in the street, the majority of the LGBTQ, especially trans women are in the street and they're struggling with water... They don't have facilities for the bathroom.

(Sexual rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...in poor areas we get huge bills of water that people cannot afford and to an extent these bills actually become a threat to the livelihood of those that do not have and this is a big problem in terms of water justice.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...I stayed there [LGBTQ safe shelter] when things were very tough for me, sometime from 2022 to ... Istayed there for six months. I left there, Ithink sometime in March last year. And just before I left, two months prior to that, we struggled with water and there was nothing being done. We didn't have water... and it was winter... We have to wash in cold water. And that time I was working in a hotel, I would have to start my shift at 6. And for me to be presentable working with people, with clients, I have to be smart and I have to wash in cold water... We come to a point that we didn't even have water inside the house. We have to go outside and fetch the water.

(Sexual rights focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

We've connected illegally because the water that they are giving us is not enough. And it's better the one that we are ... we did for ourselves than the one that they are bringing, the city is bringing, because that one is not purified.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

They cut the water now in black townships. For example, we had a funeral, you know, in Nyanga, an area called KTC. So we had a funeral, then people had to look for water in the informal settlement, because the informal settlement is not far from there, and the municipality water is off. And then one of my family sisters that has a house there has to go and negotiate with the city for more water.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

... What I've noticed is that in our areas, I don't know if I should call it the water tanks or water trucks, but that water is not clean, because they would go and I don't know where they get the water. That water is not purified. So the first time we used water from the water tank, like everyone in my area had a running stomach. And at the same time, we don't have uhh flushing toilets. We are using uhm, the bucket system. So it's a bucket system and then we have to wait for a truck to come and clean the toilet. And then now, if you have like a 20 litre bucket of water, now you have to wash your hands when you come out of the toilet. And then we have to think of cooking with the same water. And then the truck is not coming like every day, it comes once a week. And then the 20 litre bucket you have, you have to keep it. And then we have a running stomach and then we have to use it like regularly because now you have to go to the toilet and come back like maybe four to five times a day. And then it is a struggle.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

I think the most affected people remain Black and Coloured. Your townships and your poorest of the poor, with lack of infrastructure and lack of municipal support for those communities, are the most affected. Some, some days it can be worse on the one side, and some days it can be better than other days on the other side and... so you can on one side have both communities significantly impacted and severely denied access toward the justice of any kind.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

We've connected illegally because the water that they are giving us is not enough. And it's better the one that we are ... we did for ourselves than the one that they are bringing, the city is bringing, because that one is not purified.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...in Khayelitsha, for example, you have half a million people who stay in shambles, tin houses, very unequally distributed water and services, compared to people that stay in affluent households, people that stay in Constantia who actually get their services you know, without problem.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...you are just deprived everything, your water, your electricity, including sometimes the land as well, because you can't just go to any land and do as you wish, you know, because you'll find that if you are black, the police will treat you as your grandmother or your grandfather.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...we have big problems of drainage system. And the drainage system when the drains are overflowing, are overflowing in black working class areas. You won't find that in Bishop's Court, you won't find that in Claremont. You won't find that here in Waterfront where you'll find drains with a lot of kak flowing around, you know. So, so, for me, the racial question, I mean, remains the order of the day in Cape Town.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Flaschards for the Muraling Intersections of Water Justice Activity. These represent real stories/quotes from focus group discussions in Cape Town that were part of the study reflected in this toolkit.

...if you go to, let me say Houtbay, it's only a street that is dividing Houtbay from those who are rich and wealthy and to the other side it's a different scenario because you can't afford to get better services such as water, electricity and so on. But to the other side, white area, everything is put at or everyone is benefiting from the state. So this backtracks to a question of design of these areas. Even history tells us that during colonialism and also after colonialism, apartheid also helps us to understand this racial understanding of these areas and also the distribution of resources in South Africa.

(Racial justice focus group participant)

Alliance-Building Challenges & Supports Activity

Materials

List of challenges and supports.

Consider creative and engaging ways you might use this list to get workshop participants thinking and sharing about how these challenges arise and how they can be addressed using some of the supports listed, or additional supports participants come up with.

Description

One example of an activity involves role-playing... In small groups, participants choose one challenge from the list and come up with a skit using 2 characters that enacts a real situation they might have encountered (or anticipate they might) in alliance-building. The skit should include 2 scenarios: 1) the problem situation with the challenge; 2) a solution situation with a support from the list or a new support idea. Share & discuss after each skit is presented.

Challenges

Group think/Trending topics;
Funder-driven focus;
Political focus;
Stuck in old ideas;
Championing individuals;
Polarisation;
Lack of awareness;
Working in silos;
Different goals/values;
Competition over funding/resources;
False leadership;
Stigma;
Egos;
Socioeconomic tensions;
Lack of sustainability;
Trust deficit;
Turf wars;
Divided society (race, class, ideology);
Lack of communication;
Surface-level engagement ('crowd renting');
Using collective ideas for personal gain;
Dominance rooted in past oppression;
Personality clashes.

Supports

Shared platform/network;
Awareness-raising;
Sharing experiences & key issues;
Getting political leaders on board;
Addressing conflicts (including interracial);
Valuing grassroots voices;
Resources (Human, Funding, etc.);
Capacity-building;
Meeting space;
Collectively-led events;
Data/evidence;
Political education;
Sharing contacts for resolving issues;
Communications re: when/how to get involved;
Rallying around a specific goal, cause, or campaign.

Note to toolkit users: This list reflects the challenges and supports to alliance-building between the water justice movement and other social movements in Cape Town that were identified by participants in the study that this toolkit comes out of. These participants included 17 water justice activists, 7 women's rights activists, 7 land/housing rights activists, 8 LGBTQ rights activists, and 8 racial justice activists.



Photo by Paul Hudson (Flickr.com) https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/

Shared Vision Song-making **Activity**

Materials:
Smartphone, BandLab app, headphones, song-making template, pens.
BandLab app tutorial:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NmUaloydldg

Description:
This activity invites participants to share or deepen their vision for alliance-building through expressing related ideas in the form of a song. With the facilitator managing the technical side of the song-making BandLab app, participants are supported to choose musical beats and build a song (sung, rapped or both). Participants are to be given a song-making template (below) with prompts, which they can add writing to and rehearse before recording the song with the facilitator.

***Note: one or all participants can 'perform' the song.**

Alliance-Building Workshop Song-Making Handout

Write 1 verse that describes some of the challenges you seek to address in working together (shared goals) by completing the following sentences...

"What we want is...

"What we wish is for...

Write 1 verse that describes the potential benefits in working together across social movements by completing the following sentences...

"Working together can...

"Working together will...

Write 1 verse that describes activities through which you plan to work together and why by completing the following sentences...

"What we can do together is...

"When we _____ together...

Write 1 verse that describes resources (you have and need) to work together effectively by completing the following sentences...

"What we need is...

"What we have is...

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
FOR WATER JUSTICE ALLIANCE-BUILDING

Between
[SOCIAL MOVEMENT OR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION A]
And
[SOCIAL MOVEMENT OR COMMUNITY ORGANISATION B]

Note for users of this MOU template: Please ensure that each page is signed by signing authorities from each social movement or community organisation represented in this agreement. If there are more than two parties involved in this agreement, please add additional parties to the various sections following the same approach used for the two parties included here.

This Memorandum of Understanding (the "MOU") is made between [Social Movement or Community Organisation A] and [Social Movement or Community Organisation B].

Background

The two social movements or community organisations, **[Social Movement or Community Organisation A] and [Social Movement or Community Organisation B],** aim to work in collaboration, as part of a water justice alliance-building initiative, to advance shared goals linked to the advancement of water justice at the community level.

1. Collaboration Details

a)Name of project or programme of activity:
b)Description of project or programme of activity:
c)Name and contact details of project/programme leads for each social movement/community organisation:
d)Proposed date(s) when the project or programme will take place:
e)Time(s) and physical venue(s) at which the project or programme will take place:

2. Responsibilities of **[Social Movement or Community Organisation A] [Social Movement or Community Organisation A]** will:
3. Responsibilities of **[Social Movement or Community Organisation B] [Social Movement or Community Organisation B]** will:

Duration and Termination:

This MOU will begin on the date of last signature and will continue until the last date indicated under section 1 (d) above. Unless the parties agree to extend the MOU it will terminate at the end of that period.

Dated: _____ at _____

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

Dated: _____ at _____

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Title: _____

[insert project title] PHOTO/VIDEO/AUDIO RELEASE AGREEMENT

If you want to include peoples' faces, voices or quotes in your campaign materials, you will need to get peoples' permission first. It is recommended that you do so by asking people to sign a release form, similar to the template below. You give them a signed copy, and you keep a signed copy for your records. This protects you in future from any potential claims that you did not have permission to use this material. It is also recommended that you share any edited materials with the person, to confirm they are ok with how they have been represented, before publishing them.

Date:
Project Title:
Project Contact:

Project Description:
[describe the project goals and audience, the company/organization/individual(s) affiliated with the project, how the interview may be included in whole or in part, and how the final interview will be used]

RELEASE STATEMENT

In signing this release, it is my understanding that the material is to be used as described above.
I understand the risks and contributions of my participation in this project and agree to participate. Please check all that apply:
☐ Yes, I consent to the inclusion of my identity (name and title) in all documentation and publications.
☐ Yes, I consent to the use of digital images (photos or video) or audio recordings taken of me for purposes stated above.

I will indemnify and hold **[insert organisation name]** and its employees/contractors safe and harmless against any legal prosecution or suit arising from or prompted by the use of all or any portion of the material in which I am quoted or appear.

I am signing this release freely and voluntarily and in executing this release do not rely on any inducements, promises or representations made by said **[insert organisation/movement name]** and its employees/contractors.

Name:_____Email:_____
Title/Affiliation:_____
Date:_____Signature:_____

Witness

Name:_____ Date:_____
Signature:_____

Water Justice Alliance-Building Workshop Evaluation Form

Date: _____ Participant Name: _____ Workshop and/or Organisation Name: _____

1. This workshop aimed to explore understandings of water justice and how they relate to other social issues and social movements. Which, if any, social movements do you feel you identify with? (For example, water justice; racial justice; urban land/housing rights; women's rights; LGBTQ rights, etc.).
_____
_____

2. What was the most interesting part of the workshop for you and why?
_____
_____

3. What topics, ideas, stories, or activities will be the most useful to you and why?
_____
_____

4. What is something new you learned from the workshop?
_____
_____

5. What is one thing you can do, with the resources you already have, to advance water justice in your community?
_____
_____

6. What other knowledge or skills would you like to learn to help support you to advance water justice in your community?
_____
_____

7. Do you feel your voice was heard and that your contributions were valued in the workshop? Please explain.
_____
_____

8. What is one thing you can suggest to improve the workshop in future?
_____
_____
_____

Water Justice Research

"Water insecurities are outcomes of governance processes, wherein State and non-state actors engage to shape how, for what, and for whom water is made available"
- Méndez-Barrientos et al. (2022)

Introduction to Water Justice

Boelens, R., Perreaul, T., & Vos, J. (2018). **Introduction: The multiple challenges and layers of water justice struggles.** In Boelens, R., Perreaul, T., & Vos, J. (eds) Water justice. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, pp. 1-32.

Fantini, E. (2019). **An introduction to the human right to water: Law, politics, and beyond.** WIREs Water 7(2). DOI 10.1002/wat2.1405

Sultana, F. (2018). **Water justice: Why it matters and how to achieve it.** Water International 43(4), 483- 493. DOI: 10.1080/02508060.2018.1458272

Zwarteveen, M.Z., & Boelens, R. (2014). **Defining, researching and struggling for water justice: some conceptual building blocks for research and action,** Water International, 39(2), 143-158, DOI: 10.1080/02508060.2014.891168

Water Justice in Cape Town & South Africa

Adam, F. (2023). Activist Citizen Science: **Building Water Justice in South Africa.** In Perkins, P.E. (ed), Climate Justice and Participatory Research: Building Climate-Resilient Commons. Calgary: University of Calgary Press, pp. 259-278.

Enqvist, J., & Ziervogel, G. (2019). **Water governance and justice in Cape Town: An overview.** WIREs WATER, 6;e1354. DOI 10.1002/wat2.1354

Enqvist, J., Ziervogel, G., Metelerkamp, L., van Breda, J., Ntombikayise, D., Lushithi, T., Mdunyelwa, A., Mgwigwi, Z., Mhlalisi, M., Myeza, S., Nomela, G., October, A., Rangana, W., & Yalabi, M. (2020). **Informality and water justice: community perspectives on water issues in Cape Town's low- income neighbourhoods**. International Journal of Water Resources Development, 38(1), 108-129. DOI: 10.1080/07900627.2020.1841605.

Hofstetter, M., Bolding, A., & van Koppen, B. (2020). **Addressing failed water infrastructure delivery through increased accountability and end-user agency: The case of the Sekhukhune district, South Africa. Water Alternatives**, 13(20), 843-863.

Hove, J., D'Ambruoso, L., Mabetha, D., van der Merw, M., Byass, P., Kahn, K., Khosa, S., Witter, S., & Twine, R. (2019). **'Water is life': developing community participation for clean water in rural South Africa.** British Medical Journal Global Health, 4;e001377. DOI 10.1136/bmjgh-2018-001377

Taing, L., Chang, C.C., Pan, S., & Armitage, N.P. (2019). **Towards a water secure future: reflections on Cape Town's Day Zero crisis.** Urban Water Journal 16(7), 1-7. DOI 10.1080/1573062X.2019.1669190

Fecht, S. (23 September, 2019). **How climate impacts our water. State of the Planet,** Columbia Climate School.

Grafton, Q., Fanaian, S., Sacco, G., & Liberman, L. (2022). **Bending towards water justice: pathways for truth, reconciliation, inclusion and transformative actions.** International Journal of Water Resources Development, 38(1), 1–10. DOI 10.1080/07900627.2021.1952855

Logie, C.H., Newman, P.A.,, Admassu, Z., MacKenzie, F., Chakrapani, V., Tepjan, S., Shunmugam, M., & Akkakanjanasupar, P. (2024). **Associations between water insecurity and mental health outcomes among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer persons in Bangkok,** Thailand and Mumbai, India: Cross-sectional survey findings. Cambridge Prisms: Global Mental Health, 11(e31). Doi: 10.1017/gmh.2024.27

Méndez-Barrientos et al. (2022) **Race, citizenship, and belonging in the pursuit of water and climate justice in California.** Environment and planning E: Nature and Space, 6(3), 1614-1635.

Tallman, P.S., Collins, S., Salmon-Mulanovic, G., Rusyidi, B., Kothadia, A., & Cole, S. (2022). **Water insecurity and gender-based violence: A global review of the evidence.** WIREs Water e1619. DOI: 10.1002/wat2.1619

Water Research Commission. (2022). **Climate change impacts on water resources: Implications and practical responses in selected South African systems.** Water Research Commission Report no. SP 155/22.

Yeni, S., Brandt, F., & Benson, K. (2022). **Womn + water in Africa : An overview of water justice struggles.** Urgent Action Fund Africa.

Awareness-Raising Tools



It is important to choose a form and style of communication that will match with the population(s) you are aiming to engage, and the goal(s) of your initiative. Below are examples of some different awareness-raising tools that have been used in Cape Town around water.

Art exhibit



Organisation: Viva con Aqua South Africa
Art exhibit: Let'sTalkPERIOD
Description: Showcasing creativity in addressing water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) issues through art. Exhibits in Cape Town (Spier Arts Trust), Bonn, Germany (Millerntor Gallery), and Zanzibar (2nd International African Learning Exchange).
Open call for emerging artists:
https://vivaconagua.org.za/open-call-for-visual-artists/
https://www.instagram.com/p/C7BugpAqrUQ/
https://www.instagram.com/p/C7BWZbwqh9N/

Social media

Organisation: Rethink the Stink
Social media platform: Facebook
Description: A Facebook account is used to share important updates, news, information, and photos of the status of water quality, including dates of when the photos were taken, at Milnerton Lagoon. Public group, currently with 2,900 members.
https://www.facebook.com/groups/rethinkthestink/

Video

Organisation: WWF South Africa
Video title: We are all connected
Description: A short (2:19 mins) video that aims to inspire people to value the natural environment and resources that underpin the lives and well-being of South Africa.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SWEeyc14MFk

"When you are a human being, you are a comrade, when you belong, you know?"
(Urban land rights focus group participant)

Podcast



Organisation : JoJo
Podcast title : For Water For Life
Description : For Water For Life tells the extraordinary stories of 12 ordinary women and men who have made it their life's work to protect, preserve and replenish the water supply in their unequal and water-scarce country, South Africa. From Indigenous knowledge to cutting edge science, each episode reveals the challenges and insights of these geologists, healers, innovators, farmers, organisers and activists.
https://iono.fm/c/5580

Song



Organisation : For Love of Water (FLOW)
Song title : For Love of Water
Description : In recognition of World Water Day (March 22) and National Water Week (March 21-27), 2021, a group of renowned, writers, composers, producers and artists gathered together to create an original anthemic piece of music called 'For Love Of Water' in order to raise awareness and inspire action on water issues that are affecting each and every one of us daily. The Song was written by a collaboration of Zolani Mahola, Michael Rennie and Aron Turest-Swartz and produced by a team including Marc Algranti, Daniel Eppel, Clara Tilve and Murray Anderson.
https://vimeo.com/21637011

Music Video



Organisation : Viva con Agua South Africa
Music video : Say WASH
Description: A collaboration between Viva Con Agua South Africa and GIZ for the 'fit for schools' initiative, as part of the Dance 4 WASH campaign (see Dance).
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H349YQ9JJic

"I think it will be something great if these organisations can work together as one and standing for our vision and our mission for what we sign up in our constitution. As a CEO and a founder of an organisation, I feel it's very important of what we say in our constitution that we practice what we say. So we have to learn it, own it, respect it, and then give it to the community, which is very important."
(Sexual rights focus group participant)

Dance



Organisation: Viva con Agua South Africa
Dance campaign: Dance 4 WASH – Shaking Things Up for Clean Water and Hygiene Description: In 2023, GIZ and Viva con Agua collaborated on a campaign using dance and music to raise awareness about water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) amongst South Africa's school children. Participants were invited to film themselves dancing and to post it to social media; then submit and tag #Dance4WASH to join the competition to win a chance at a school toilet makeover. 2 schools in Cape Town received upgraded toilet facilities. More than 50,000 people were reached digitally across South Africa with this campaign.
https://vivaconagua.org.za/viva-con-aguas-16-days-of-activism/
https://www.instagram.com/vivaconaguasouthafrica/reel/CtbkAtOtiXF/

Volunteer Activities



Organisation: The Beach Coop
Volunteer activity: Beach cleanups
Description: Every New Moon since 2015, The Beach Co-op hosts a cleanup in the intertidal zone at Surfers Corner, Muizenberg in Cape Town, South Africa. During these New Moon cleanups, participants are asked to remove any litter and take pictures of any marine species observed.
https://www.thebeachcoop.org/cleanups/

"There's always a value in working together. I mean, we are stronger in numbers. We are unified and so we speak in one voice to some extent, and we are more difficult to oppose when we show up in numbers and in strength and in support of one another, and so I'm in support of that."
(Racial justice focus group participant)



Contacts for Reporting Water Issues:

City of Cape Town Water and Sanitation Department
The City of Cape Town's Water and Sanitation Department is responsible for ensuring Capetonians have access to a reliable and safe water supply. A 24-hour Corporate Contact Centre can be contacted via telephone, message (Whatsapp or Email) or an online faults reporting website as below.

Contact the 24-hour Corporate Contact Centre to report an issue such as:

- burst pipes and water leaks;
- faulty water meter;
- blocked and overflowing sewer;
- pollution to stormwater and river;
- illegal use of water (dampening of building sand, hosing down paved areas, watering outside stipulated hours, tampering with water connections);
- missing or stolen manhole cover; and
- damaged or vandalised communal taps or toilets in informal settlements.

24-hour Corporate Contact Centre

- Telephone: 0860 103 089 (choose option 2: water-related faults)
- SMS: 31373 (free SMSes do not apply)
- WhatsApp: 060 018 1505
- Email: water@capetown.gov.za

FreeCall lines are located at various municipal and community buildings throughout Cape Town and allow you to contact CoCT Water and Sanitation directly at no cost.

Account enquiries telephone: 0860 103 089 (select option 1)
Email: accounts@capetown.gov.za OR water.info@capetown.gov.za

Report a fault online:
https://eservices1.capetown.gov.za/coct/wapl/zsreq_app/index.html

Tell your municipality, ward councillor, or community development worker if you are experiencing problems.

Potential Ally Organisations



LGBTQ Rights
Triangle Project
Sexual Reproductive Justice Coalition
Gender Dynamix
Majawie Safe Space
Sex Workers Education and Advocacy Taskforce (SWEAT)



Women's Rights
Sonke Gender Justice
Black Girls Rising
Women's Legal Centre
Village of Hope



Racial Justice
Anti Racism Network South Africa
Institute for Justice and Reconciliation
The Social Justice Agency
Black Girls Rising
Tekano



Urban Land Rights
The Housing Assembly
Ndifuna Ukwazi
Reclaim the City
Slum Dwellers International



Water Justice
Western Cape Water Caucus/South African Water Caucus
Viva con Agua South Africa
Environmental Monitoring Group (EMG)
Rethink the Stink
Friends of The Liesbeek
Friends of the Rivers of Hout Bay
Friends of Zandvlei
Zandvlei Trust
African Water Commons Collective
Philippi Horticultural Association
WaterCAN
The Beach Coop
Centre for Environmental Rights



Miscellaneous Rights
Socio-Economic Rights Institute of South Africa
ILRIG International Labour Research and Information Group
Tshisimani Centre for Activist Education
Co-operative and Policy Alternative Centre
Social Justice Coalition
Jamma International