



DRAFT CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 27 October 2026	
11h00 – 18h00	IMESA Golf Day
11h00 – 21h00	Conference ONSITE REGISTRATION - <i>Onsite Registration sponsored by uMngeni-uThukela Water</i>
17h30 for 18h00	OPENING FUNCTION & INAUGURATION OF NEW PRESIDENT
Wednesday, 28 October 2026	
07h00 – 08h00	Onsite Registration Open- <i>Onsite Registration sponsored by uMngeni-uThukela Water</i>
08h10	MC opens the 1 st day of Conference - <i>MC sponsored by KABE</i>
SESSION 1	
08h20	Opening by IMESA President
08h30	ADDRESS by SALGA Representative
08h40	ADDRESS by WRC Representative
08h50 - 09h50	KEYNOTE SPEAKER
09h50	ADDRESS BY ANCHOR SPONSOR : <i>uMngeni-uThukela Water</i>
10h00	IMESA YP2
10h10	<i>Promotion of 2027 IMESA Conference</i>
10h15	REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN EXHIBITION HALL - <i>Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS</i>
SESSION 2	
10h55	MC welcomes delegates to Session 2 - <i>MC sponsored by KABE</i>
11h00 - 11h30	PAPER 1 : Christa Liebenberg <i>“Leading calm amidst Chaos: Are you the pressure cooker that is about to explode?”</i>
11h30 - 12h00	PAPER 2 : Shawn Johnson <i>“Cost-Effective flood forecasting for municipal disaster management systems”</i>
12h00 - 12h30	PAPER 3 : Erika Braune & Mike Wiese <i>“Rethinking design compliance: Lessons learned to enhance flood resilience and safety”</i>
12h30	Questions from the floor
12h40	LUNCH SERVED IN EXHIBITION HALL - <i>Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS</i>
SESSION 3	
13h40	MC welcomes delegates to Session 3 - <i>MC sponsored by KABE</i>
13h50 - 14h20	ECSA Presentation
14h50	Questions from the floor
15h00 – 16h00	PANEL DISCUSSION : “Cities Under Pressure: Rethinking Disaster Response”
16h00	REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN EXHIBITION HALL - <i>Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS</i>
SESSION 4	
16h40	MC welcomes delegates to Session 4 - <i>MC sponsored by KABE</i>
16h50 – 17h20	PAPER 4 : Truman Hardon & Roxanne Canny <i>“From Strategy to Implementation: Enabling measurable performance in the eThekweni Water & Sanitation Turnaround Strategy”</i>
17h20 – 17h50	PAPER 5 : James Hough & Theo Kleynhans <i>“Blueprints Reimagined: An integrated water security strategy for a water-stressed municipality – The Prince Albert Town Case Study”</i>
17h50	Questions from the floor
18h00	Close of Conference Day 1
EVENING AT LEISURE	



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Thursday, 29 October 2026

07h00	Coffee in the Exhibition Hall - Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS
08h10	MC opens 2 nd day of Conference - MC sponsored by KABE
SESSION 5	
08h20 - 08h50	PAPER 6 : Samista Jugwanth & Yasheen Harrielall <i>"Digital enablement for municipal resilience: Moving beyond fragmented initiatives to practical, phased progress"</i>
08h50 - 09h20	PAPER 7 : Johan Basson <i>"Engineering Service Response to future densification through backyard dwellers, informal settlements and small-scale rental units"</i>
09h20 - 09h50	PAPER 8 : Vhuhwavho Pertunia Mudau & Marinus Smit <i>"Experimental evaluation of fly ash and steel dust for eco-friendly mortars in low-cost housing in South Africa"</i>
09h50 - 10h20	PAPER 9 : Sihle Ndumiso Ngema <i>"Recent geometric design research: Extracting actionable practices for municipal road upgrades"</i>
10h20	Questions from the floor
10h30	REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN EXHIBITION HALL - Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS
SESSION 6	
11h10	MC welcomes delegates to Session 6 - MC sponsored by KABE
11h20 - 11h50	PAPER 10 : Mike Greatwood <i>"Renavigating the water services amendment Bill: Implications, risks and strategic responses"</i>
11h50 - 12h20	PAPER 11 : Gerhard Vivier & Eyal Hermelin <i>"The Knowledgeable Client: Organisational professionalisation as a strategic enabler of municipal infrastructure delivery, public safety and technical governance"</i>
12h20 - 12h50	PAPER 12 : Chris Wilcock <i>"The Public Procurement Regulations, 2026 – A judiciously reimagined blueprint for effective procurement or the same old SCM roadblock?"</i>
12h50	Questions from the floor
13h00	LUNCH SERVED IN EXHIBITION HALL - Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS
TECHNICAL TOURS for the afternoon	
14h00	Delegates depart for Technical Tours and return from Technical Tours at 17h00
14h30	PLENARY TECH TOUR SESSION
18h30 to 23h30	SOCIAL EVENING VENUE: Durban Undersea Club (DUC) THEME: Beach Fest DRESS CODE: Beach Chic / Casual Set on Durban's beachfront with sweeping views of the Indian Ocean, DUC provides the perfect setting for a relaxed evening of networking. As we'll be right by the sea, we recommend bringing a light jacket or wrap for the cooler evening breeze.



Friday, 30 October 2026	
07h00	Coffee in the Exhibition Hall - Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS
08h10	MC opens last day of Conference - MC sponsored by KABE
SESSION 7	
08h20 - 08h50	PAPER 13 : Rapheal Bamisaye <i>"A discussion on the application of recycled concrete aggregate in the built environment in South Africa"</i>
08h50 - 09h20	PAPER 14 : Anisur Rahman <i>"Optimized flexible linings for a more sustainable riverbank protection comparing to the traditional riprap"</i>
09h20 - 09h50	PAPER 15 : Leonard Balakisten & Seelan Rajah <i>"Smart Skies, Resilient Water: UAVS in Infrastructure Management - The role of drone technology in advancing water and sanitation management"</i>
09h50 - 10h20	PAPER 16 : Joshua Spooner & Ione Loots <i>"Rethinking synthetic design storms: Evaluating clipped SCS-SA and Bimodal rainfall events for small urban catchments in eThekweni"</i>
10h20	Questions from the floor
10h30	REFRESHMENTS SERVED IN EXHIBITION HALL - Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS
SESSION 8	
11h10	MC welcomes delegates to Session 8 - MC sponsored by KABE
11h20 - 11h50	PAPER 17 : Leon Grobbelaar <i>"Blueprints Reimagined: Preserving municipal landfill airspace as a strategic infrastructure asset – Why the cheapest tender often creates the most expensive landfill"</i>
11h50	Questions from the floor
12h00	Conference Summary : Geoff Tooley
12h20	CLOSE-OFF FORMALITIES
12h45	Presidential Conference Closing & FINAL LUCKY DRAW – Lucky Draws sponsored by BLOC CONTRACTORS
13h00 – 14h00	LUNCH SERVED IN EXHIBITION HALL - Exhibition Hall sponsored by LIBER GRIDS CONFERENCE CLOSE