

2026

WASTE RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT AND

INNOVATION ROADMAP CLOSURE CONFERENCE

3-5
MARCH

PROGRAMME

Waste Research, Development and Innovation Roadmap Conference

“A ten-year showcase of waste research, development and innovation in South Africa”

3 – 5 March 2026

14:30 – 16:30

3 March 2026 – Human-centered

Time	Speaker	Waste Roadmap Grant Project
14:30 – 14:33	Prof. Linda Godfrey (CSIR)	Welcome and introduction
14:33 – 14:53	Prof. Rinie Schenck (UWC)	Implementing governance and innovative interventions at village level to address indiscriminate diaper disposal
14:54 – 15:14	Prof. Melanie Samson (UJ)	Lessons from waste picker integration initiatives
15:15 – 15:35	Anton Nahman (CSIR)	Towards understanding the impacts of marine plastic debris on ecosystem services and the economy in South Africa
15:36 – 15:56	Prof. Claudine Roos (NWU)	Perspectives on the future of waste management in South African protected areas
15:57 – 16:17	Dr Valentina Russo (CSIR)	Guidelines and product category rules to enable and expedite the application of life cycle assessment under the Extended Producer Responsibility Regulations in South Africa
16:18 – 16:30	All	Questions and closure

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4 March 2026 – Organic waste

Time	Speaker	Waste Roadmap Grant Project
14:30 – 14:33	Prof. Linda Godfrey	Welcome and introduction
14:33 – 14:53	Prof. Riaan den Haan (UWC)	Valuable products from organic wastes: Engineering an antimicrobial yeast as an industrial platform for non-sterile bioprocesses
14:54 – 15:14	Prof. Robbie Pott (SU)	Converting sugarcane waste into mannosylerythritol lipids
15:15 – 15:35	Adebola Oyedeji (WSU)	Medicinal and economic potentials of citrus waste
15:36 – 15:56	Dr Jerome Andrew (CSIR)	Production of high-value dissolving wood pulps from sawdust waste material
15:57 – 16:17	Dr Pamela Welz (CPUT)	Bioplastics from local agri-industrial residues
16:18 – 16:30	All	Questions and closure

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5 March 2026 – Metals, E-waste and Plastics

Time	Speaker	Waste Roadmap Grant Project
14:30 – 14:33	Prof. Linda Godfrey	Welcome and introduction
14:33 – 14:53	Prof. Bernard Bladergroen (UWC)	Metal recovery from lithium battery waste
14:54 – 15:14	Prof. Kuveneshan Moodley (UKZN)	Urban mining of neodymium, dysprosium and samarium from rare Earth magnets
15:15 – 15:35	Prof. Jochen Petersen (UCT)	Co-processing of printed circuit board (PCB) leach solutions with effluent streams from PCB manufacturing
15:36 – 15:56	Refiloe Mokoena (CSIR)	Waste plastics in road construction
15:57 – 16:17	Dr Sudhakar Muniyasamy	End-of-life options of biobased plastic materials
16:18 – 16:30	All	Questions and closure