



Water for all: CSIR water researchers under the spotlight for Women's Month 2023

Every year in August, South Africa marks Women's Month. This year, the theme under which we are celebrating women relates to women's socioeconomic rights and empowerment. In a developing country like South Africa, one of the first building blocks in the development and empowerment of women, is water.

We invite you to join us in celebrating a team of female researchers who have committed their careers to ensuring that we have access to the best quality water in the country, now and in the future. Together, they represent some of the CSIR's female researchers who have been leading research projects as part of the CSIR Water Research Centre.

They are the women who are making massive contributions to water science. Through each of their stories, we'd like our readers to gain insight into their career journeys as scientists, and how every one of them serves as a reminder to us all how water is central to socioeconomic development and that ensuring access to water is a priority for women to access any opportunity.



Dr Zanele Ntshidi

Women know the value of water. For Dr Zanele Ntshidi, this conviction comes from growing up in a small village called Mtyu near the town of Libode in rural Eastern Cape, where women were leading households and domestic chores, instinctively knowing the full benefit and quality of water needed to maintain healthy bodies.

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Dr Yolanda Tancu

Dr Yolanda Tancu views the world from a chemistry perspective, mainly thanks to her PhD in analytical chemistry from Rhodes University. Acquiring this academic expertise in chemistry laid the foundation that she is now able to apply in her work as a water scientist.

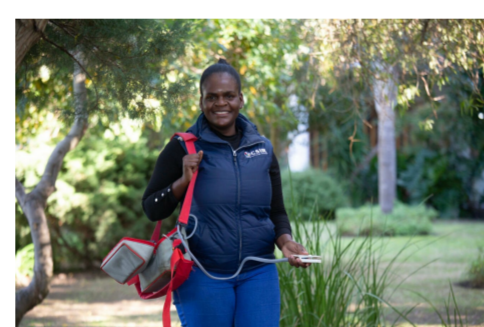
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Maronel Steyn

Since her days as a student, Maronel Steyn has held a real passion for human health issues and the connection to water. Today, she is a CSIR senior researcher with deep-seated knowledge in water epidemiology and water resources management.

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Dr Nompumelelo Mobe

Dr Nompumelelo Mobe's research focuses on water conservation in agriculture and the water use for crops – also known as agricultural water management. Few understand the significance of access to water as well as Mpumi does.

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Dr Chavon Walters

Dr Chavon Walters is a CSIR senior researcher in a predominantly women-based water research team based in Stellenbosch in the Western Cape. She has carved out a career in water and wastewater quality, ecotoxicology and the potential of water reuse.

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