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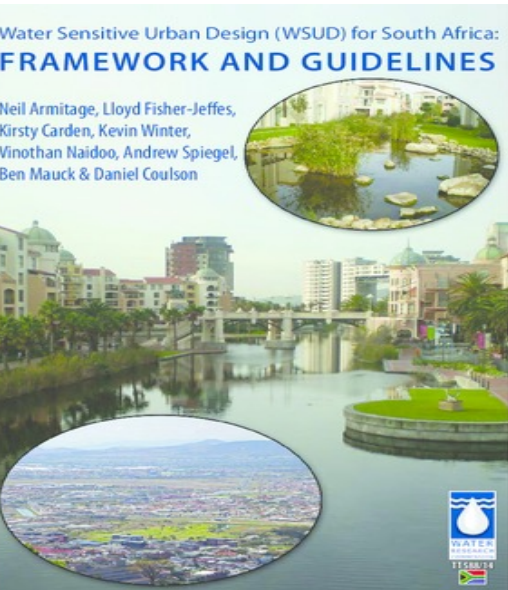
**Scoping the prevailing
conditions for acceleration
towards water resilient
futures through Nature-
based Solutions in
Johannesburg and Cape
Town**

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“What is the current scope for the accelerating the transition towards water resilient futures through WSD in Johannesburg and Cape Town?”

Background



CITY OF CAPE TOWN | ISIXEKO SASEKAPA | STAD KAAPSTAD

THIS CITY WORKS FOR YOU



Strategic Niche Management

Raven, 2007; 2012
Schot & Geels, 2008
Caniëls & Romijn, 2008
Koistinen et al., 2019
Barrie et al., 2017



Expectations and visions



***Formation of social
networks***



Higher order learning



Analysis

- *Socio-material histories of apartheid and resulting deficits constrain current possibilities for WSD, 'Taps-and-Toilets' narrative; declining city revenues*
- *Both cities subscribe to visions of resilience, present in international networks*
- *Several projects and policies directed towards WSD e.g. CPT Resilience Strategy; Source-to-Sea project; Catchment Management Prog*

- *Persistence of siloes as WSD lies in different entities*
- *Idea is well-established but diffuse in CPT, CoJ has one main champion*
- *Provincial government stepping in with WSD.*
 - *Developers, academics, WRC, international organisations and consultants also involved*
- *But networks remain confined to small group of 'usual suspects'*

- *Lack of knowledge and capacity*
- *Lack of harvesting lessons learned from existing WSD initiatives*
 - *Professional liability is a barrier to experimentation*
- *Implementation by consultants, maintenance remains problematic*



Expectations and visions



Formation of social networks

Social Learning



Higher order learning

Preliminary conclusions

- Both cities have strong aspirations to harness NbS for water resilience due to landscape factors
- WSD remains in visions and policies with struggles to implement
- On-going projects and initiatives remain ad hoc; cities yet to harvest the knowledge
- Lack of strong social networking platforms to facilitate learning and experimentation and collective sense-making and agency
- Existence of champions within institutions, however much remains to be done to build a constituency around WSD
- Support from national and provincial stakeholders, international orgs, academics and consultants shows importance of intermediaries
- Socio-material histories matter – Implications discursively and in practice (technological) – Just transitions implications (Swilling, 2019).





Thank you for listening!

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