



SUSTAINABILITY
SUMMIT

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Leadership
INTERVIEWS • INSIGHTS • INTELLIGENCE



Sustainable Development - Creating a Future

15 October 2024 | Emperors Palace

Programme Director

Prof Onkgopotse JJ Tabane

Editor Leadership & BBQ Magazines



Prof JJ Tabane is a Professor of Communications at the UNISA School of Business Leadership and Adjunct Professor of Media studies at the University of Botswana. He is the Editor of Leadership and BBQ Magazines and anchor of the award-winning “Power to Truth with Professor JJ Tabane” at eNCA TV.

Tabane started crafting his skills in strategic communications since 1989 when at only 25 became a ministerial spokesperson of the then Department of Constitutional Development under former Minister Mohammed Valli Moosa. In 2002 he was selected the inaugural joint winner of the Government Communicator of the year.

Since then, he’s held roles as Communications Advisor for the then Chamber of Mines; Communications Advisor of the African Development Bank for the APRM (AU’s governance advisory body) representing 40 countries; Vice President of Communications for the South African Airways in 2006; consultant to Brand South Africa and Water Research Commission; convener of the National Communications Task Team; First Chief Information Officer of the Congress of the People (COPE); CEO of an investor relations company Graphicor Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of a JSE listed ADCORP, and as Group Executive Corporate Affairs with a mandate to drive a 5- year transformation strategy.

He has served or serves on the boards of the multibillion JSE listed company Altron, Powertech and UWC Foundation; Chairperson of the UWC Media Society, Chair of Finance at UWC and Transformation at North- West University; and as council member of the North-West University and the UWC.

He holds a BA degree from University of Limpopo, a BPROC degree from University of the Western Cape (UWC), a Master’s degree in Political Economy from Nelson Mandela University (NMMU) and PhD in Media Studies from Wits University, and completed leadership programmes at Wits University’s Wits Business School and UCT Business School. A thought leader and sought after speaker, he is author of “Lets Talk Frankly: Letters to Influential South Africans on the state of our nation” (Pan MacMillan) and a biography of Major Madisa Mfeka “ Yes I am a pilot” (Seriti sa Sechaba publishers), has penned more than 300 opinion pieces since 2006 for the City Press Newspaper, Huffington Post, The Mail and Guardian, Daily Maverick, The Star and the Sunday Times, and hosted Frank Dialogue on Ubuntu Radio; Power Perspective on Power 987; Frankly Speaking on SABC 3; “Your View” on Newzroom Afrika and “Power to Truth” on eNCA; and is editor of Leadership Magazine. He delivers sessional lectures in African Media Studies Honours Class; Media and Politics Honours class and Government Communications Course at Wits Business School, and Communications Master class series stages at the University of Botswana. In 2010 he was admitted as an associate of the prestigious Institute of International Business (IIB).

Twitter handle @JJTabane

Opening and Welcome Address



Dhesigen Naidoo

Climate Adaptation Lead, South African Presidential Climate Commission

09:00 - 09:20

Dhesigen Naidoo is a leader, a scientist and activist for positive social change. He is currently Head of the African Climate Risk and Human Security Programme at the Institute for Security Studies, Africa; and Climate Adaptation Advisor at the South African Presidential Climate Commission. He is Board member and past President of the global NGO, Human Right 2 Water, and a Founding Member of the Water Policy Group. He is also a member of the Advisory Board of the University of Stellenbosch School of Climate Studies.



Alderman Nkosindiphile Xhakaza

Executive Mayor, City of Ekurhuleni

09:45 - 10:00

Alderman Nkosindiphile Xhakaza, the newly elected Executive Mayor of the City of Ekurhuleni, brings a wealth of experience and a strong leadership background to the role. Mayor Xhakaza was raised in the Lebeong Section of Thembisa, coming from humble beginnings. He pursued his education at Inxiweni Primary School and later at Masiqhakaze Secondary School. Accounting (Cum Laude) from Vaal University of Technology and a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Management from Regenesys.

**Ghinwa Chammas**

Global Director of Group Sustainability, BSI

09:45 - 10:00

Ghinwa joined BSI 3 years ago and is BSI Director of Group sustainability, in charge of BSI's own internal sustainability performance and helping BSI become a more sustainable business in its operations. Ghinwa aims to achieve this through the use of sustainability standards and BSI's own commercial sustainability solutions. She leads the Operational Sustainability Excellence team. Under her leadership, BSI has been a finalist for several prestigious sustainability awards in 2023 and 2024 including Reuters Responsible Business awards.

**Mr. Charles Ntsindiso Nduku**

President, The South African Council for the Architectural Profession (SACAP)

09:45 - 10:00

Charles Ntsindiso Nduku is the President of the South African Council for the Architectural Profession (SACAP) and a leading advocate for transformation in South Africa's architectural field. He holds a National Diploma in Architecture (1991) from Peninsula Technikon and both a Bachelor of Architectural Studies (1997) and a Bachelor of Architecture (1999) from the University of Cape Town. Starting his career as an architectural technologist in 1992, Nduku founded NN Architects in 2003, expanding it to multiple locations and handling diverse projects. In addition to his role at SACAP, Nduku serves as a Council Member at the Council of Built Environment (CBE) and as a Board Member of the Housing Association of East London (HAEL).

Sustainable Water Resources

10:45 - 11:30

Sustainable water resource management is essential for ensuring the availability and quality of water for present and future generations while maintaining the health of ecosystems. It involves the careful planning, conservation, and equitable distribution of water resources to meet the needs of various sectors, including agriculture, industry, and domestic use.



Facilitator

Benoît Le Roy, Director of Operations, NEXUS Water Alchemy (Pty) Ltd

Benoît Le Roy is an environmental alchemist with forty years of water engineering experience and is the CEO and co-founder of the South African Water Chamber established to represent the private water infrastructure sector to collaborate with and assist government to implement the national water and sanitation master plans; he is also a founding director of Nexus Water Alchemy and Water Ledger South Africa, both incorporated South African companies at the leading edge of the nexus of water digitisation.



Panel Speaker

Andrew Johnstone, Group CEO, GCS (Pty) Ltd

Andrew is the founder and CEO of GCS (Pty) Ltd. He has over 30 years' experience in the water and environmental consulting for mining, industrial, waste, oil, and agriculture sectors in Africa. He has authored 14 papers regarding groundwater supplies, geochemistry, and the hydrogeological impacts of mining.



Panel Speaker

Jay Bhagwan, Executive Manager, Water Use and Waste Management, Water Research Commission

Jayant Bhagwan, is the Executive Manager of the key strategic area of Water Use and Waste Management at the South African Water Research Commission, which focuses on the management of water and wastewater in the Domestic, Mining and Industrial sector. He continues to be actively involved in a broad range of areas in the field of water supply, wastewater and sanitation

**Panel Speaker****Prof. Anthony Turton**, Founding Board Member, South African Water Chamber

Anthony Turton holds a Professorship at the Center for Environmental Management at the University of Free State. He specialises in water as a national security risk and is currently working in the Middle East.

**Panel Speaker****Hamanth Kasan**, President of the International Water Association (IWA)

Prof Kasan is the President of the International Water Association (IWA). This professional global association has 68 countries as members and some 9 000 members from over 1 00 countries. There are 50 specialist groups which are focused each on a specific topic of water. The vision of IWA is to have a network of water professionals striving for a world in which water is wisely, sustainably and equitably managed. Prof Kasan has been very active in the local, continental and global water sector for over 30 years. He was General Manager of Scientific Services at Rand Water for 22 years. Prior to that he was Dean of the Faculty of Applied Sciences at Durban University of Technology where he established the Institute of Water and Wastewater Research. He is currently Honorary Professor at Durban University of Technology, Distinguished Fellow of IWA, Senior Fellow of WISA and Honorary member at AFWASA.

Sustainable Energy Discussion

11:35 - 13:00

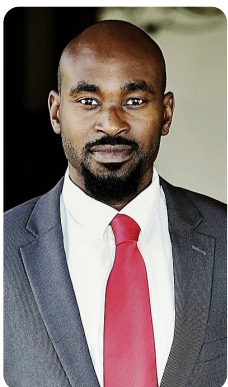
Energy solutions for Africa are critical for addressing the continent's energy challenges and fostering sustainable development. One key aspect is expanding access to electricity, particularly in rural and underserved areas. This can be achieved through decentralized renewable energy solutions like off-grid solar systems, mini-grids, and micro-hydro projects. By embracing a diversified and sustainable energy portfolio, Africa can propel economic growth, improve livelihoods, and create a more resilient and inclusive energy sector for its people.



Facilitator

Thabo Hlalele, Energy Transition, Decarbonisation & Sustainability, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Thabo holds a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in electrical engineering from the University of Pretoria. He is registered as a Professional Engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa and as a member of the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers. Dr Hlalele has extensive experience in project engineering, renewable energy (wind, photovoltaic solar), techno-economic analysis of renewable energy, functional safety design and analysis (safety integrity instrumented functions of control, simulations).



Panel Speaker

Zadok Olinga, President, South African Energy Efficiency Confederation (SAEEC)

Zadok Olinga is president of the Southern African Energy Efficiency Confederation (SAEEC) and has been active in the energy sector in for more than 12 years. He has fulfilled various roles from energy consultant focused on energy related tax incentive and grants, saving clients more than R3.5 billion Rand. He is an expert in Measurement and Verification and is a director of Oelinga, which focuses on resource efficiency and is a SANAS accredited inspection body.



Panel Speaker

Prof. Prathaban Moodley, General Manager, South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI)

Professor Prathaban Moodley is a General Manager at the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI) and heads up the Applied Energy Research Development and Innovation Division. The division conducts energy research in all areas of energy including electricity, gas and liquid fuels. The research covers primary energy, conversion technologies, transmission and distribution, digitalization as well as the end use of energy.

**Panel Speaker****David Nicholls, Chairman of the Board, South African Nuclear Energy Corporation SOC Ltd**

Mr David Nicholls is highly respected in the nuclear industry and regarded as a non-compromising leader who gets things done. He holds a BSc (Hons) in Mechanical Engineering (2-1) from the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon. He was responsible for the nuclear new build programme and overseeing the Koeberg power station until his retirement in December 2018. While at the utility he revitalised the Pebble Bed Modular Reactor (PBMR), an area in which South Africa was a world leader.

**Panel Speaker****Adrian Strydom, CEO, South African Oil and Gas Association (SAOGA)**

Adrian was Director of the Centre for Open Learning at the University of Cape Town where he also served on the UCT Senior Staff Management Group and Higher Education Development Committee. Prior to UCT, he held positions at Cape Peninsula University of Technology (previously Peninsula Technikon) for 17 years, where he was Director of the Centre for Continuing Education (CCE), Senior Lecturer and Lecturer respectively.

Infrastructure for smart cities

14:00 - 14:45

Infrastructure development is crucial for the advancement of smart cities in Africa. With the continent experiencing rapid urbanization and population growth, efficient and sustainable infrastructure is essential to support the evolving needs of its residents. Smart cities in Africa require a robust foundation of digital connectivity, including widespread access to high-speed internet and the deployment of advanced telecommunications networks. Additionally, the development of smart grids and energy-efficient systems is vital to ensure a reliable and sustainable power supply. Smart transportation infrastructure, such as intelligent traffic management systems and the implementation of electric public transportation, can enhance mobility and reduce congestion. Moreover, investing in smart water management systems, waste management technologies, and eco-friendly building designs contributes to the overall sustainability and livability of African cities. By prioritizing the development of smart infrastructure, African countries can harness the potential of technology to improve the quality of life for their citizens and drive economic growth.



Facilitator

Benoît Le Roy, Director of Operations, NEXUS Water Alchemy (Pty) Ltd

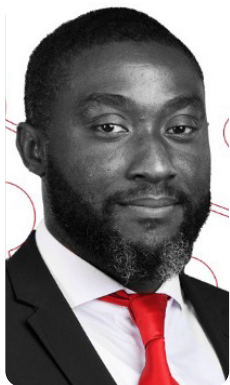
Benoît Le Roy is an environmental alchemist with forty years of water engineering experience and is the CEO and co-founder of the South African Water Chamber established to represent the private water infrastructure sector to collaborate with and assist government to implement the national water and sanitation master plans; he is also a founding director of Nexus Water Alchemy and Water Ledger South Africa, both incorporated South African companies at the leading edge of the nexus of water digitisation.



Panel Speaker

Msizi Mkhize, Professional Architect, Department of Public Works and Infrastructure

Msizi Mkhize is a Pretoria-based architect with over 15 years of experience in both the public and private sectors. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the Tshwane University of Technology, a Master's degree in Architecture from the University of Pretoria, and a Master's degree in Public Policy and Leadership from Yeungnam University in South Korea. Msizi's research focuses on Smart Cities and social issues in South Africa, with an emphasis on identifying opportunities for architectural interventions.



Panel Speaker

Emeka Umeche, Engagement Manager, Ntiyiso Industrialisation Consulting

Professor Prathaban Moodley is a General Manager at the South African National Energy Development Institute (SANEDI) and heads up the Applied Energy Research Development and Innovation Division. The division conducts energy research in all areas of energy including electricity, gas and liquid fuels. The research covers primary energy, conversion technologies, transmission and distribution, digitalization as well as the end use of energy.



Panel Speaker

Dingaan Masango, Senior Researcher, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa

Dingaan Masango is an economist by academic training, with combination of transport research and project management experience. He is currently senior researcher at the CSIR, responsible for the group's research and development outputs in transport systems and operations. Prior to that, he worked for the Development Bank of Southern Africa as a project manager for (Strategic Infrastructure Projects) within the Infrastructure Delivery Division.



Panel Speaker

Chris Campbell, CEO, Consulting Engineers South Africa (CESA)

Chris began his engineering career 43 years ago. He obtained various engineering and management qualifications, has been employed in an engineering management position in Transnet, held senior positions in consulting engineering companies and was an executive in a large precast concrete manufacturing company both locally and internationally. He assumed the role as CEO of Consulting Engineers South Africa in 2015. He has been involved in engineering and built environment institutional work for 26 years.



Panel Speaker

Frans Dekker, Managing Director, The South African Institute of Architectural Technologists NPC (SAIAT)

Frans Dekker is the Managing Director of the South African Institute of Architectural Technologists NPC (SAIAT) and a SACAP registered Professional Senior Architectural Technologist with a private architectural practice in Vryheid, Northern Kwazulu-Natal. He was elected to the National Committee of SAIAT in 2005 and in 2009 became the Administration and Finance Officer. In 2013 he was elected as the Executive President of SAIAT and in February 2020 as the Managing Director.

Agriculture & Food Security

14:45 - 15:45

Agriculture and food security in Africa are of utmost importance for the continent's development and well-being. With a predominantly agrarian economy, Africa relies heavily on agriculture to sustain livelihoods and ensure food availability for its growing population. However, numerous challenges persist, including limited access to modern farming techniques, inadequate infrastructure, and vulnerability to climate change. To address these issues, Africa can focus on promoting sustainable agricultural practices such as agroecology, conservation farming, and precision agriculture. These approaches emphasize the efficient use of resources, soil conservation, and climate-resilient techniques. Additionally, investing in irrigation systems, storage facilities, and rural infrastructure can enhance productivity, reduce post-harvest losses, and improve market access for farmers. Strengthening agricultural research and extension services, as well as providing access to affordable credit and insurance, are also crucial for supporting smallholder farmers. By prioritising agriculture and food security, Africa can enhance food production, reduce hunger, alleviate poverty, and create sustainable rural livelihoods for its population.



Panel Speaker
Wynand Espach, COO, Agricolleges International

Wynand Espach is a seasoned agricultural expert from rural Limpopo Province, South Africa. His lifelong passion for soil and agriculture, combined with a desire for education and development, led him to accumulate over two decades of experience in the field. With an innovative approach to solutions, Wynand has become an online curriculum development expert, leveraging technology to create accessible and engaging educational opportunities for students across the African continent.



Panel Speaker
Sakhumzi May, Chief Agricultural Economist, Landbank

Sakhumzi is a seasoned agricultural economist and credit risk specialist with a combined experience of more than 27 years' experience in banking and agricultural finance. He spent his career at Land Bank and Absa where he has been responsible for conducting due diligence for credit applications, as well as distressed clients, business development, valuation of farm properties, project financing in rural communities and facilitating skills transfer to developing farmers.



Panel Speaker
Chris Wild, Executive Director, Food & Trees for Africa

With a background in economics, he was an Analyst before finding more meaning in social development, the environment and food security. His first FTFA project was in 2008 and within a few years he was their Official Partner in the Eastern Cape. He was appointed to Executive Director in November 2014. Interests include: Technology; Bio-Intensive Agriculture and Bee-Keeping.



Panel Speaker
Dr Thulasizwe Mkhabela, Consultant-at-Large

Dr Thulasizwe Mkhabela is the founder and director of Outcome Mapping – a company specializing in agricultural development consulting and investment mainly in the SADC region. Thulasizwe Mkhabela is an Advisory Board Member for the African Centre for Food Security (ACFS) – UKZN and is an Honorary Research Fellow for the School of Agricultural, Earth, and Environmental Sciences at the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN).



Panel Speaker
Thapelo Phiri, Founder, Ag Beyond Sustainability

Thapelo Phiri is a founder of a company Ag Beyond Sustainability a company focusing on helping farmers transition to sustainable and regenerative agriculture. He is a renowned agripreneur, innovator, and a prominent advocate for regenerative agriculture. His exceptional contributions to the field have garnered recognition from prestigious institutions such as Scientific American, AfricaLive.Net, Forbes, Google, solidifying his position as a thought leader within the agricultural sector.

Sustainable Transport and Mobility

15:45 – 16:30

Around one-quarter of global CO2 emissions come from the transportation of people and goods. Creating sustainable transportation solutions is one of the greatest challenges facing cities today but also a great opportunity for the low-carbon development of cities. Sustainable urban mobility requires a mind shift: where transport in private cars and trucking give way to different modes of public transport. Like bicycle and pedestrian lanes, electric vehicles, car sharing and rail freight. More and more cities around the world are rising to the challenge. Creating solutions that ensure the vital flow of people, goods and services. While mitigating climate change and creating climate-safe cities.



Facilitator

Dr Mathetha Mokonyama, Lead: Transport Systems and Operations, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Dr. Mathetha Mokonyama leads the transport systems and operations impact area at the CSIR. He is a professionally registered engineer with the Engineering Council of South Africa. He continues to write and teach on the application of systems dynamics modelling in decision making and leadership within the built environment domain.



Panel Speaker

Elvin Harris, President, The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILTSA)

Elvin Harris CMILT, President of the Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport South Africa (CILTSA), is a pioneering force in logistics. With over 20 years in the field, Elvin shapes strategic initiatives and fosters innovation. His leadership at CILTSA drives transformative programs, promoting excellence and sustainability in transport and logistics. A respected figure, Elvin champions technology and industry best practices to tackle challenges, inspiring advancements in the region's logistics, transportation, and supply chain management.



Panel Speaker

Hiten Parmar, Executive Director, the electric Mission

Hiten stands as a lead expert and renowned thought leader extending over 19+ years in profession. He serves as liaison for multiple sector related forums within the region as well as internationally on advancing the electric mobility ecosystem. His broad-based professional expertise is encompassed with a Master's Degree in Electrical Engineering and Honours in Business Administration, and is mission driven on contributing to technological advancements within the industry.

**Panel Speaker****Gavin Kelly, CEO, The Road Freight Association**

Gavin Kelly Appointed as the CEO of The Road Freight Association (RFA) in 2019, Gavin joined the Association in 2007, as its Technical and Operations Manager. He has been involved in the resource, strategy and operations field for 42 years: from operations leadership, co-ordination and training—to leadership development, lateral management, operations and business survival training. Over the years, Gavin has played a key role in developing standards and procedures for the transport industry.