



science  
& technology

Department:  
Science and Technology  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



National  
Research  
Foundation

# Towards Resilient Futures Community of Practice

Workshop 30 July 2019



The CoP initiative is aimed at establishing collaborations amongst research chairs:

- ❖ Form strategic partnerships within the research community
- ❖ Conduct evidence-based research solutions to societal challenges
- ❖ Translate research findings into actionable policy

SARChI Chair:  
Developmental Economics  
Haroon Borhat



SARChI Chair: Mineral Law  
in Africa  
Hanri Mostert



SARChI Chair: Bioprocess  
Engineering  
Sue Harrison



SARChI Chair: Minerals  
Beneficiation  
Dee Bradshaw



# Developing a Fibre Micro- industry to Generate Economic Growth from Degraded Land

Driving Post-mining Industrial Development through Fibrous Multi-Product Value  
Chains

# Study Objective

Explore whether fibre-rich plants, such as bamboo and bast fibres, can be used to remediate degraded land in a way that:

- is economically feasible,
- leads to enhanced economic complexity
- promotes the establishment of a fibre micro-industry
- creates higher value-add outputs
- provides employment opportunities

# Research Approach

1. **Environmental perspective**: What are the environmental factors that influence the ability of rapidly growing, fibre-rich plants to remediate damaged and polluted land?
2. **Engineering perspective**: What are processing alternatives and implications for downstream recovery of multi-value products?
3. **Economics perspective**: How can economic complexity be built on the basis of an understanding of local socio-economic linkages?
4. **Legal perspective**: What regulatory barriers exist, and how can they be addressed?

[www.resilientfutures.uct.ac.za](http://www.resilientfutures.uct.ac.za)