

POST-MINING TRANSFORMATION THROUGH THE FIBROUS PLANT ECONOMY

Sustainable Economic Diversification of Mining Land and Infrastructure: The Case of Fibrous Plants

CoP WORKSHOP | 28 May 2018 | OM House, Cape Town

Speaker Bios



Haroon Borhat is Professor of Economics and Director of the Development Policy Research Unit at the University of Cape Town. He holds the SARChI Research Chair in Developmental Economics. Prof Borhat has served as an economic advisor to past Ministers of Finance, is a Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Brookings Institution, sits on the World Bank's Advisory Board of the Commission on Global Poverty, and was Head of Research for the UN's High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. His research interests cover labour economics, poverty and income distribution. He has studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and has a PhD (Economics), from Stellenbosch University.



François Steenkamp is a Senior Researcher at the Development Policy Research Unit at the University of Cape Town. He has worked as a lecturer at the UCT School of Economics, where he taught international trade and macroeconomics. He has a MSc (Economics) from the University of KwaZulu Natal and is currently working on his PhD at the University of Cape Town. His PhD research focuses on South African export patterns and the developmental implications of these export patterns. Mr Steenkamp's research interests include international trade and labour economics.



Jennifer Broadhurst is the Deputy Director and chief research officer of the Minerals to Metals Initiative in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Cape Town. She has been involved in a number of research and capacity development activities relating to the environmental and other sustainability issues of relevance to the coal-based power generation and primary metal production industry sectors. Prof. Broadhurst has a BSc, BSc Hon (Inorg. Chem.), and MSc (Inorg. Chem.) from UPE, and a PhD from UCT.



Sue Harrison is the Director of the Centre for Bioprocess Engineering Research (CeBER) in the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Cape Town. She holds the SARChI Research Chair in Bioprocess Engineering. Prof Harrison's research in bioprocess engineering spans bacterial, fungal, archaeal and algal bioprocesses with application in biohydrometallurgy, acid mine drainage prevention and treatment, maximizing resource productivity, bioenergy products, biocommodities from wastes, fine chemicals, nutraceuticals and expression of niche peptides and proteins. She has a BSc (Chemistry & Microbiology) and BSc Hons (Microbiology) from UCT; and a PhD from Cambridge University.



Hanri Mostert holds the SARChI Chair for Mineral Law in Africa (MLiA) at the Department of Private Law, University of Cape Town. Prof Mostert is also a Visiting Professor, Department of Private Law and Notary Law, Groningen Centre for Law and Governance, Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. She has also held fellowships of the Commonwealth Programme, the Max Planck Foundation, the German Academic Exchange Service and the Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation. The South African Department of Science and Technology nominated her as a finalist for the Young Women in Science Award 2012. Her qualifications include: BA LLB LLM LLD (Stell).



Mike Solomon is a mining engineer of 36 years of experience and an expert on mining investment risk. An Adjunct Professor with Minerals to Metals, he is the Chairman of the Mineral Economics Division of the Southern African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy. As a member of the Global Agenda Council for the Future of Mining and Metals of the World Economic Forum, he has championed UCT's engagement with the Global Sustainability Goals. He is participating in the project operationalising the United Nations (SDGs).



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Expert Speakers



Fanus van Wyk is CEO and Executive Director of Agreenco BioEnergy. He is a geo-environmental rehabilitation specialist, and has worked as a corporate executive, academic, engineering consultant and advisor, and entrepreneur in the mining environmental services field. His formal qualifications are graduate and post-graduate degrees in Earth Science, Business Leadership and Administration, Bio-Entrepreneurship, and Corporate Innovation from NWU, UNISA, UP and STANFORD university respectively.



Hamman Oosthuizen is an Agri Economist at OABS Development. He has experience in the Agricultural sector working in different fields including National Department of Agriculture, the Commercial Banking sector and private consulting. Dr Hamman has also been involved in retail business for fifteen years as owner and manager of various retail businesses. He has a B Comm, Hons and MComm (Agricultural Economics) from the University of Pretoria. He holds a number of diplomas, and a Ph.D. Agric. (Agricultural Economics) from the University of Stellenbosch.



Willem De Lange is a principal researcher at CSIR with research interests including decision support in natural resource management, valuation of natural and social capital stocks and flows (including ecosystem goods and services valuation), the economics of pollution and waste, water allocation policy analysis and development, multi-criteria decision-making, behavioural economic applications to natural resource management decision-making, green agriculture, multi-period stochastic budgeting, risk profiling and investment management decision-making in agriculture. He holds a PhD in Environmental and Resource Economics from Stellenbosch University.