

New water resources assessment study launched

The Water Resources 2012 (WR2012) study was launched at Emperors Palace, on the East Rand, in March. It is the sixth national study to be undertaken in the country to assess South Africa's

national water resources since 1950. The main purpose of the new study, which started in April, is to update the previous assessment (WR2005). It will also create a Web-based and interactive reporting system

to continually quantify both surface and groundwater resources of South Africa. Such a system will be essential in the continuous update of the National Water Resource Strategy. Also read the article on page 12.



Prof Andras Bardossy of the University of Stuttgart, in Germany, provided the keynote address on the future of hydrological research globally.



The main guests at the WR2012 launch (front left to right), Dhesigen Naidoo, Prof Andras Bardossy, Prof Geoff Pegram, Prof Roland Schulze, Mbangiseni Nepfumbada, Prof Denis Hughes, Wandile Nomqophu and Allan Bailey.



Prof Geoff Pegram of the University of KwaZulu-Natal provided insight into the challenges of hydrological research in a developing country.



DWA Acting Deputy Director-General Mbangiseni Nepfumbada signing a certificate of endorsement as a token of the department's support for the project while WRC CEO, Dhesigen Naidoo, looks on.



WR2012 project leader Allan Bailey; WRC CEO Dhesigen Naidoo; DWA Acting Deputy Director-General Mbangiseni Nepfumbada, and WRC Research Manager Wandile Nomqophu.

(All photographs by Lani van Vuuren)