Celebrating the role of water and sanitation research in SA's democracy

On 26 November 2014 the Water Research Commission (WRC) launched its latest special publication, *South Africa's 20-year Journey in Water and Sanitation Research*. The book intertwines the country's journey since democracy with the journey and developments in water research and democracy. It also presents a story of scientific transformation.

In a message read by Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) Ministerial Advisor, Dr Thele Moema, at the event Minister Nomvula Mokonyane said that the 'treasure' of the South African water sector was the water science and technology community led by the WRC. "The science brothers and sisters in this water family have grown the science and technology base, and have ensured that in these 20 years of our democracy we have become a global player of note." The audience also heard reflections from long-time WRC researcher, Prof Graham Jewitt of the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), former WRC Research Manager, Dr Nozi Mjoli and WRC-supported student, Tercia Strydom of South African National Parks (SanParks).

WRC CEO, Dhesigen Naidoo, on the podium.

Learner, Aneeq Naidoo, WRC Executive Manager Eiman Karar, WRC Executive Manager, Dr Inga Jacobs-Mata and independent consultant, Dr Nozi Mjoli.

Former WRC Research Manager, Dr Nozi Mjoli, reflected on her experiences as the Commission's first black woman in a managerial position.

Independent consultant, Dr Marlene van der Merwe-Botha with DWS DDG Anil Singh.

Dhesigen Naidoo (WRC), Prof Graham Jewitt (UKZN), Dr Thele Moema (DWS), Aneeq Naidoo (learner), Tercia Strydom (SanParks), Lani van Vuuren (WRC), Anil Singh (DWS) and Dr Inga Jacobs-Mata (WRC).