



**6<sup>TH</sup> Annual National Postgraduate Student Conference**

***MUNICIPAL SERVICE DELIVERY IN SOUTH AFRICA 27 YEARS  
AFTER THE WHITE PAPER ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT (1998):  
Opportunities, Challenges, and Pathways to Sustainability***

**Dates:** 10 - 11 September 2025

**Format:** Hybrid (In-person & Virtual)

**Venue:** SARChI: North-West University, Potchefstroom Campus **B14<sub>B</sub>** (CLES Building), Next to Gate 4

**Online Access:** MS Teams – [Join the meeting now](#)

Meeting ID: 333 425 667 646

Passcode: Ji6KU2L8

*Please use the same link for both Day 1 and Day 2 of the conference*

Conference registration on / before:

02 September 2025 @ <https://forms.gle/trunU9Sqhp4upD2C8>

## DAY 1: WEDNESDAY, 10 SEPTEMBER 2025

MS Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

\*Please use the link for both Day 1 and Day 2 of the conference.

**08:30-09:15 Registration & Tea/ coffee**

**09:15-09:20 Introductory Note**  
**Dr Fredua Agyemang**  
(CLES, NWU)

**09:20–09:25 Words of Welcome**

**Prof Oliver Fuo**  
*South African Research Chair: Cities, Law and Environmental Sustainability*  
(CLES, NWU)

**09:25– 09:30 Introduction of Keynote speaker**

**Dr Fredua Agyemang**  
(CLES, NWU)

**09:30–10:00 Opening Address**

**Mr Burgert Gildenhuis (Pr. Pln | MIAM (London) | ILGM | B(TRP) |**  
*BAdmin – Municipal Administration*  
*Director (Infrastructure Investment, Spatial Planning, Municipal, Financial &*  
*Economic Specialist Services)*  
*Spatial Data Services Africa (Pty) Ltd*

**10:00-10:15 Engagement from participants**

### SESSION I

**Theme: Constitutional and Legislative Frameworks for Urban Service Delivery**

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*Chair: Mr Krisdan Bezuidenhout (North-West University)*

**10:15 – 10:35 Constitutional Mandates for Local Government Autonomy in Nigeria**

*Victor Ayodele*  
*North-West University (in-person)*

**10:35– 10:55 Critical Analysis of the Right to Housing in the Context of Illegal Occupation of Private Property**

*Thapelo Mampshe Magomarela*  
*UNISA (Black Lawyers Association) (in-person)*

**10:55 – 11:15 Fostering City-Level Transitional Justice in South Africa through Land Expropriation for Housing Delivery**

*Mpho Moniatse*  
*North-West University (in-person)*

**11:15 – 11:35 Assessing the Trends of Corruption in South African Local Municipalities with Specific Reference to Mahikeng Local Municipality**

*Nthabiseng Mokhatla*  
*North-West University (online)*

**11:35 – 12:00**      **DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS**

**12:00 – 12:45**      **LUNCH**

## **SESSION II**

**Theme: Water, Sanitation, Electricity, and Housing in Post-Apartheid Cities**

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*Chair: Dr Lourens Erasmus (North-West University)*

**12:45 – 13:05**      **The Cost of Austerity: Neoliberal Governance and the Right to Have Access to Sufficient Water in Post-Apartheid South Africa**

*Anneri van Rooyen  
North-West University (in-person)*

**13:05 – 13:25**      **Integrating Energy Efficiency into Municipal Service Delivery: A Pathway to Sustainable Local Governance**

*Inocentia Mahlangu  
North-West University (in-person)*

**13:25 – 13:45**      **Water Service Delivery and Infrastructure Development: Lessons Learnt**

*Meeschka Diedericks  
North-West University (in-person)*

**13:45 – 14:05**      **DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS**

**14:05 – 14:25**      **Tea/ coffee break**

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## **SESSION III**

**Theme: Smart and Sustainable Infrastructure, Climate Resilience, and Environmental Sustainability**

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*Chair: Dr Wendy Muzangaza (North-West University)*

**14:25 – 14:45**      **The Role of South African Cities in Advancing Climate Justice**

*Thato Mphahlele,  
North-West University (in-person)*

**14:45 – 15:05**      **The Role of South African Municipalities in Regulating and Managing Food Waste**

*Ledile Sekwakwa  
North-West University (in-person)*

**15:05 – 15:25**      **Adapting Developmental Local Government to Changing Conditions: Pathways to Gender-Sensitive, Disaster-Resilient Cities in South Africa**

*Nesia Chido Manguleni,  
North-West University (in-person)*

**15:25 – 15:45**      **Municipal Planning Powers and Coastal Urbanisation Challenges**

*Viandrie Robertson,  
North-West University (in-person)*

**15:45 – 16:10**      **DISCUSSION & QUESTIONS**

## END OF DAY 1

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**17:30 Braai/Social Gathering / Networking Session B14B (SARChI: CLES BUILDING)**

## DAY 2: THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2025

MS Teams Link: [Join the meeting now](#)

\*Please use the link for both Day 1 and Day 2 of the conference.

**08:00 – 08:30 Tea/coffee break**

**08:30 – 08:35 Welcoming Note**  
**Dr Fredua Agyemang**  
*North-West University*

**08:35 – 08:50 Introducing CLES*InPress***  
**Meeschka Diedericks (Member of CLES Editorial Team)**  
*North-West University*

### SESSION I

**Theme: Informal Settlements, Inclusive Urban Planning, and Comparative Insights**

*Chair: Prof Oliver Fuo (North-West University)*

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**08:50 – 09:10 Bridging the Urban Housing Gap: A Systematic Literature Review on Modular Construction for Sustainable Urban Housing Development in South African Cities**  
**Nqaba Tyali, Nelson Mandela University**  
*Nqaba Tyali,*  
*Nelson Mandela University (online)*

**09:10 – 09:30 Digital Governance and Reputation: A Literature Review of Social Media Frameworks in African Local Government**  
*Pikolomzi Qaba*  
*Durban University of Technology*

**09:30 – 09:50 Local Governance and Basic Services: Assessing the Impact of Decentralization on Water and Sanitation in Rustenburg**  
*Otshepeng Mazibuko*  
*University of Pretoria (Online)*

**09:50 – 10:10 The Environmental Consequences of Ineffective Local Government**  
*Thandolwakhe Mokotedi,*  
*North-West University (in-person)*

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**10:10 – 10:30 DISCUSSION & QUESTION**

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**10:30 – 10:50**      **Reflections on Governance and Urban Service Delivery:  
Challenges and Pathways Forward**

*Collective Insights*

**10:50 – 11:05**      **Award Ceremony**

**11:05 – 11:15**      **Word of Thanks**

**Dr. Rumbidzai Wendy Muzangaza**  
*(CLES, NWU)*

**END OF DAY 2**

**NOTE:**

Considering ongoing electricity instability and other unforeseen challenges, some connectivity and other technical issues may arise during the conference for which we apologise in advance.

All possible measures will be taken to ensure a smooth delivery of the conference programme.