

FLOODMAN-Workshop PROGRAMME

25–26 November 2026

Phalaborwa (Limpopo, South Africa)

Hybrid: on-site and online



DAY 1 Wednesday, 25 November 2026

- 07:30–08:45 Registration, welcome and introduction
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- 08:45–09:10** **TBC**, National Disaster Management Centre (NDMC)
SOUTH AFRICA *National perspective*
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- 09:10–09:35** **Dr. Christien Engelbrecht**, South African Weather Service (SAWS)
SOUTH AFRICA *Weather prediction and forecasting*
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- 10:00–10:25** **Thomas Burchert**, SPEKTER GmbH
GERMANY *Heavy Rain: From Warning to Action - Predict floods before they happen. Alert earlier, respond faster, protect lives and infrastructure.*
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- 10:25–10:50** **Dr. André Assmann**, geomer GmbH and DWA Working Group 4.6
GERMANY *Flood Audit • Audit Flood Risk Preparedness – how well is a local authority prepared*
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- 10:50–11:20** **Plenary discussion**
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- 12:45–16:20** **World Café**: Rounds 1–3, three topics in parallel (overleaf)
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- 16:40–17:30** **Plenary: Synergy for Day 1**

DAY 2 Thursday, 26 November 2026

- 08:30–08:40 Review of Day 1
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- 08:40–09:05** **Ingo Nienhaus**, DIE GEWÄSSER-EXPERTEN (DGE)
GERMANY *Build Back Wiser: How Mapping, Prioritising and Costing Pave the Way for Rebuilding Small Streams*
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- 09:05–09:30** **Hermann-Josef Pelgrim**, Aufbau- und Entwicklungsgesellschaft Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler mbH • *Beyond Reconstruction: Building a More Resilient River Landscape in the Ahr Valley, Germany*
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- 09:55–10:20** **Dr. Tony Swemmer**, South African Environmental Observation Network (SAEON) • *Understanding the impacts of past floods to prepare for the next one*
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- 10:20–10:45** **Dr. Mark Napier**, Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) • *Human Settlement Planning and Placemaking in SA: An approach to building flood resilience*
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- 10:45–11:15** **Plenary discussion**
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- 12:45–16:20** **World Café**: Rounds 4–6, three topics in parallel (overleaf)
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- 16:40–18:00** **Plenary: Synergy for Day 2, overall synthesis and closure**

World Café: six break-away rounds

Each afternoon, the three topics of the day run in parallel at three facilitated tables. On-site participants rotate between the tables in three rounds. In each round one table is streamed live, online participants contribute via chat. The number of each topic indicates the round in which its table is streamed.

DAY 1 Rounds 1–3: Topics 1–3 in parallel

- 1 From forecast to action: closing the last mile
- 2 Local preparedness: what does a local government actually need?
- 3 Land use, settlements, and retention in the watershed

DAY 2 Rounds 4–6: Topics 4–6 in parallel

- 4 Data: what we have, what is missing, who can use it
- 5 Damage assessment, prioritization, and funding
- 6 Organizing reconstruction: mandates, institutions, and people

At a glance:

When: 25–26 November 2026 (2-day workshop)
Where: Phalaborwa (Limpopo, South Africa)
Format: hybrid, on-site and online

Good to know:

- ✓ Free participation ✓ Catering included
- ✓ Accommodation to be arranged by participants

Secure your spot!

On-site participation is limited. Reserve your place by emailing to anmeldung@gewaesser-experten.de and indicate whether you will attend on-site or online. Registration closes on 15 November 2026.

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