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**Institute of  
Municipal Engineering  
of Southern Africa**

# **BUILDING A CAPABLE STATE – SOLVING THE RIGHT PROBLEM**



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Institute of Municipal Engineering of Southern Africa

# 01

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## About IMESA

**Institute of  
Municipal Engineering  
of Southern Africa**

IMESA **promotes the interest of municipal engineers** and their profession

We create a **platform for the exchange of ideas and viewpoints** on all aspects of municipal engineering.

This is done with the aim of **expanding the knowledge and best practices** in all Local Government municipalities.

IMESA **advises Councils on engineering matters** and serves the broader Community through representation on a number of National Bodies, where it provides input from the municipal engineering perspective.

# IMESA AFFILIATIONS

## MEMBER OF

International Federation of Municipal Engineering (IFME)  
This creates a platform to engage at a Global level.

## RELATIONSHIPS

IMESA has a long-standing relationship with CESA, and SALGA which represent the Elected Leadership

With other Engineering Professional Bodies, We are all **responsible for designing and construction of the infrastructure for the future generations** in all aspects of municipal engineering.

# 02

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## Professionalisation of the Client Bodies

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### As IMESA

We **understand the importance** of the professionalization of the Client Bodies, our main focus being the Municipalities.

This will **ensure accountability and ethical conduct** on all engineering work taking place in the Municipal space.

Furthermore, it will **assist CESA members when engaging, trying to come-up with the workable design solutions** which will not only take care of the today but the Future.

IMESA is **currently setting-up meetings** with City Managers / Municipal Managers and Technical Directors to **create a platform**.

Platform will be **used to assist / support technical staff on technical matters** and even assist with necessary training and mentorship to professionally register with ECSA.

# 03

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**Need to continuously  
train our elected  
Leaders**

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I like the theme **“Engineering the Future Now”**.

For all of us to be able to engineer for the future, our **focus should NOT be aligned only on the term of office of our Elected Leaders.**

We should **focus on the appropriate budgeting and the completion of the engineering task.**



# Budgeting

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As difficult as it may be, we have a **huge responsibility to continuously train our Elected Leaders** on this if we are serious about service delivery.

**The cutting of the ribbons is as much as important as taking care of the infrastructure that nobody sees.**

IMESA will **continue to work with SALGA to address this challenge**. In addition to CESA, SALGA is one of our important partner in the municipal space with a long-standing relationship. The IMESA Conference has been **endorsed BY SALGA** since 2017.

# 04

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## Impact of Discounted Professional Fees

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### As IMESA

- We are **concerned about this and are engaging with the National Treasury** in finding a workable and practical solution.
- **Affordability during design and construction** is mostly not a solution.
- It is better to be prepared to invest on the required and appropriate resources earlier, than spending a fortune trying to operate and maintain the recently developed infrastructure.
- **In most cases even difficult to access.**

# IMESA's Responsibility

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As a Client Body, it is our responsibility to make our Members and Treasury Departments within municipalities to understand that **cheaper may turn to be more expensive in a long run.**

We see a lot of new roads being patched now and again and water pipes leaking on **recently developed projects.**

I am sure as a collective **we do not want to be a generation to be known for failing infrastructure.**

This will mean, the **future generation would not have benefited from our existence.**



# 05

## Importance of investing on existing Infrastructure

There is a Global concern that there is **little or insufficient investment on existing infrastructure.**

**We need to help others realise value through asset management.**

The impact of **not paying attention to existing assets** results in issues such as the leaking water and sewer pipes resulting in Bodies responsible for water resources having to invest earlier on developing water resources projects to take care of the water that goes to the ground through high water losses. In some instances, water losses are almost 60%)

These water losses **equating to large amount of monies** which could have been invested elsewhere.



# International Collaboration

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IMESA, in collaboration with the IFME, have **designed seminars/workshops which talks about the Benefits and Drivers of Good Asset Management Practice.**

This is in **assisting our members in understating** that good asset management is about ensuring infrastructure assets and services and community value is delivered efficiently today-while providing certainty for the generations of tomorrow.

# 06

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## Conclusion

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IMESA will **continue to collaborate** with other Voluntary Associations and ECSA to assist SALGA in professionalizing the Municipal Environment.

IMESA will **continue to develop design guidelines for various Municipal Engineering aspects**. Jointly with the Water Research Commission, we recently completed a Water Reclamation & Water Reuse Design Guidelines (Workshops are being rolled out for these Guidelines).

The other project you should **look out for in the near future is the Design Guideline for Flood Estimation** which we anticipate to complete end of March 2023.

# CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

DEADLINE EXTENDED : 17 MARCH 2023

IMESA is calling on individuals to submit abstracts for consideration.

Main categories are focused but not limited to the following: -

- Buildings, Structures & Housing
- Electrical & Electronic
- Transport, Roads & Stormwater
- Ecological, Environmental & Social
- Financial, Legal & Regulatory
- Water & Sanitation



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*Thank you!*



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