



Marketing and Communication
Private Bag x1106, Sovenga 0727, South Africa
Tel: (015) 268 2430/2625 I Email: victor.kgomoeswana@ul.ac.za

MEDIA INVITATION

Friday, March 06, 2026

Imagining Futures 2026: Art and Science Converge to Rethink Water, Energy and Food

University of Limpopo | 09 – 14 March 2026

How do we address the most pressing challenges of our time? The answer lies at the intersection of creativity and evidence-based inquiry.

The University of Limpopo (UL), in collaboration with the National Research Foundation, the University of Venda, the Dutch Research Council, the University of Fort Hare, and the University of the Witwatersrand, is proud to host the *Imagining Futures Conference 2026* from 09 – 14 March 2026.

Under the transformative theme, *Imagining Futures: Art/Science Perspectives on Water, Energy and Food*, the conference will examine how artistic practice and scientific scholarship can converge to respond to the interconnected challenges of the Water-Energy-Food (WEF) Nexus.

The WEF Nexus is more than a policy construct; it underpins livelihoods, economic stability, and environmental sustainability. At this landmark gathering, scholars, artists and practitioners will move beyond conventional disciplinary boundaries to co-produce knowledge and generate contextually relevant solutions for Africa and the global community.

Showcasing Impact-Driven Research

The conference marks the culmination of two major international research programmes, *Ecolmaging* (Lenore Manderson and Eileen Moyer) and *MineLives* (Hannah le Roux and Franse Hooimeijer). These initiatives conclude four years of grounded research into water, energy, and food systems.

Supported by the Merian Fund for international cooperation with emerging science countries, both programmes adopted an impact-driven approach to addressing broad societal challenges, contributing meaningfully to the advancement of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The conference aims to share research findings, foster interdisciplinary dialogue, and catalyse new conversations on creative methodologies, transdisciplinary innovation, and policy pathways towards sustainable futures.

Event Details

Dates: 09 – 14 March 2026

Venue: University of Limpopo, South Africa (Science Education Centre)

Focus: Sustainability, Climate Resilience and Transdisciplinary Innovation

#ImaginingFutures2026 #ChooseUL #WEFNexus #SustainableDevelopment
#ArtAndScience #WaterEnergyFood #AfricaInnovation #ClimateAction

End.

Media enquiries:

Johannes Selepe

Acting Senior Publications Practitioner

Tel: +27 15 268 3210 / +27 82 882 5818

Email: mosela.selepe@ul.ac.za

Issued by: Department of Marketing and Communication, University of Limpopo

