

## Dr Eng Valentina Russo, Ph.D.



Senior Engineer, Smart Places | Sustainability, Economics and Waste RG, CSIR (South Africa)

Dr Valentina Russo is a System Engineer by education, specialised in Life Cycle Assessment and System Thinking. She holds a Senior Engineer position at SEW Research Group (CSIR) as well as she is registered engineer with the ECSA. She has been working on multidisciplinary topics in the field of System Analysis, ranging from Biotech to Sustainable Development in the past 17 years, with a strong focus on Life Cycle Assessment related projects. Her areas of expertise are System Analysis and Modelling and Environmental Sustainability.

### EDUCATION:

#### TERTIARY EDUCATION

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|-------------------|--|
| <b>2012 Dec</b>   | PG Master Degree in Homeland Security: Systems, methods and tools for security and crisis management (IV edition), at the Campus Bio-Medico University of Rome |
| <b>2011 April</b> | PhD in Systems Engineering (XXIII cycle) at the Sapienza University of Rome  |
| <b>2006 Dec</b>   | Engineering Degree in Computer and Automation Engineering at the Roma Tre University of Rome   |

#### PROFESSIONAL COURSES (INCLUDING CPD ACTIVITIES<sup>1</sup>)

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| <b>2022 Oct/Nov</b>  | Social Value Assessment- PRé Sustainability B.V., online   |
| <b>2019 Nov</b>      | Life Cycle Sustainability Assessment and SimaPro Training course, CSIR (Stellenbosch)  |
| <b>2018 Nov</b>      | Waste as a Resource – International Training Seminar and Summer School – University of KwaZulu-Natal Extended Learning (Durban)                                |
| <b>2016 Aug/Sept</b> | Southern African Systems Analysis Centre (SASAC), High-level Capacity Strengthening Programme, University of Witwatersrand and Limpopo & IIASA2 (Johannesburg) |
| <b>2016 May</b>      | Towards a South African LCI database withecoinvent – Workshop, SARCC (Cape Town)   |
| <b>2016 March</b>    | Life Cycle Management – Capability Maturity Training, NCPC-SA (Cape Town)  |
| <b>2015 Feb</b>      | Water Foot-printing and Life Cycle Management, NCPC-SA (Cape Town)   |
| <b>2014 Sept</b>     | LCA and SimaPro Training Course, The Green House (Cape Town)   |
| <b>2013 Sept/Nov</b> | Writing in the Sciences, Stanford OnLine   |

### EMPLOYMENT RECORD:

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|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Nov 2019 – ongoing</b>   | Senior Engineer at CSIR, Sustainability, Economics & Waste research group, Smart Places Cluster, CSIR   |
| <b>Aug – Oct 2019</b>       | Senior Research Scientist at SARChI Chair in Waste & Climate Change, School of Engineering, University of KwaZulu-Natal                                 |
| <b>Oct. 2014 – Jul 2019</b> | Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Environmental & Process System Engineering Group, Chemical Engineering Department, EBE Faculty, University of Cape Town |
| <b>July 2016 – Aug 2018</b> | Water TAG at FAO LEAP Partnership for Water footprinting in Livestock: Guidelines for assessment; Food and Agriculture Organisation                     |
| <b>Jan 2013 – Sept 2014</b> | Adjunct Research Fellow at Chemical Engineering for Sustainable Development Group, Faculty of Engineering, Campus Bio-Medico University of Rome         |

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<sup>1</sup> Continuing Professional Development

<sup>2</sup> International Institute for Applied System Analysis

**Apr 2011 – Dec 2012** Postdoctoral Research Fellow at COSERITYLAB Group, Faculty of Engineering, Campus Bio-Medico University of Rome

**Oct – Nov 2012** Internship at the Vitrociset S.p.A. Projects Defining, Planning, and Designing in the field of Security

**Jan 2007 – May 2008** Research Fellow at COSERITYLAB Group, Faculty of Engineering, Campus Bio-Medico University of Rome

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:**

**2017 March** Registered to ECSA (Engineering Council of South Africa) – reg. no. 201750094

**2016 August** WFRA (Water Footprint Research Alliance) member

**AWARDS:**

**2024 March** Recipient of The Outstanding Article Award 2023 from South African Journal of Science [Outstanding Article Awardees | South African Journal of Science \(sajs.co.za\)](#)

## **William Stafford, Ph.D.**



Principal researcher, Sustainability, Economics and Waste research group, Council for Scientific Research (CSIR) and  
Extraordinary Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Stellenbosch University.

1992-1996 PhD. University of London, U.K

1996-1999 Postdoctoral research fellow. University of California, Berkeley, U.S.A

2000-2006 Research Associate. University of Western Cape, Cape Town, South Africa

2007-2008 Research Associates, Chemical Engineering Department, University of Cape Town, South Africa

2009-present Principal Researcher. Council for Scientific Research (CSIR), Stellenbosch, South Africa and Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Stellenbosch University

William is employed at the CSIR as a Principal Researcher in the Sustainability, Economic and Waste research group and is appointed as an extraordinary Associate Professor in the Department of Chemical Engineering at Stellenbosch University. His research applies Industrial Ecology to develop nature-based solutions in support of the green economy and sustainable development.

Journal Publications: 33

Conference Proceedings: 19 (International and local)

Research Reports: More than 96 research and specialist reports (lead author or co-author)12

**Luanita Snyman-van der Walt.**



Environmental Geospatial Scientist, Environmental Management Services (EMS),  
Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), South Africa.

2013 MSc. Environmental Science, North West University, South Africa

2021 MSc. Geographic Information Science, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam,  
Netherlands

2014 - Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

Luanita is an environmental geospatial scientist at CSIR and is registered with the South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (Reg. no. 400128/16). She has 11 years' experience in strategic environmental assessment, management, and planning, with a focus on Geographic Information System (GIS) analyses for environmental assessment and decision-making on sustainable development. Her specific interests include spatial analysis, systems-thinking and science-society-policy interface processes for sustainability transitions.