

Transforming the formal waste management sector in South Africa

The role of Science, Technology and Innovation

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IETC@30 Webinar on Gender and Waste
7 September 2022



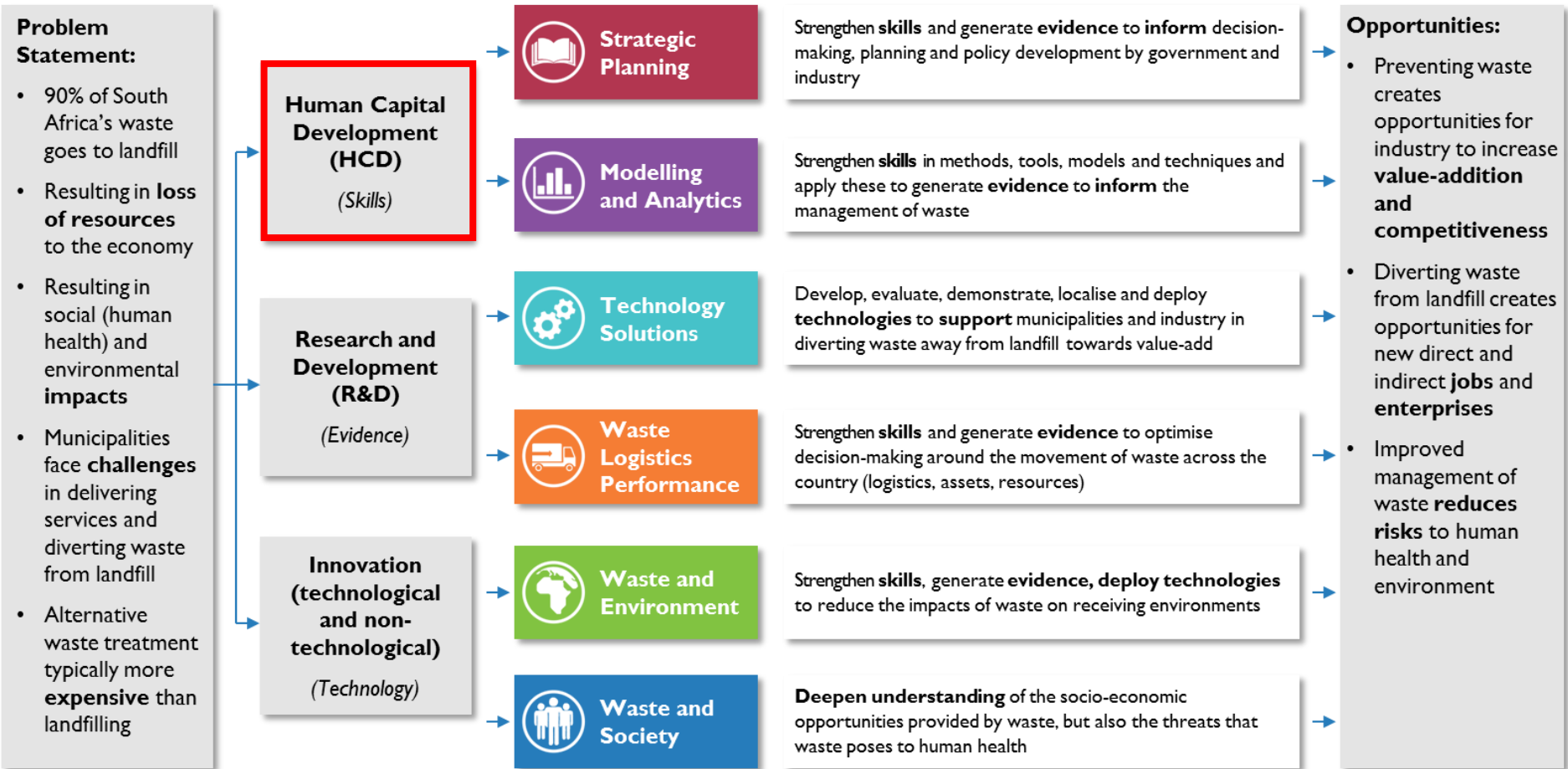
science & innovation

Department:
Science and Innovation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



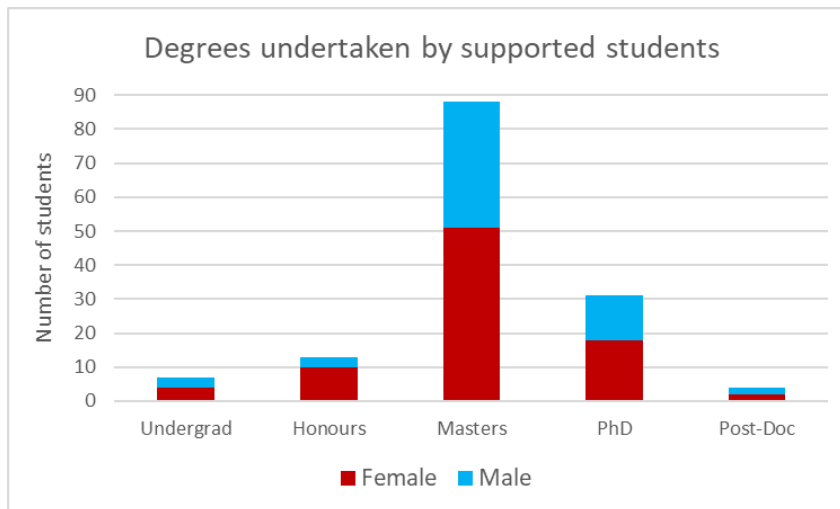
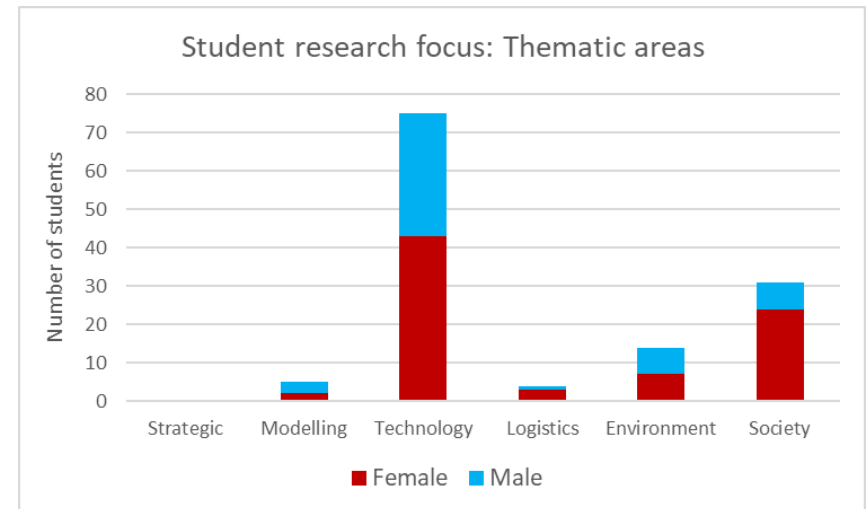
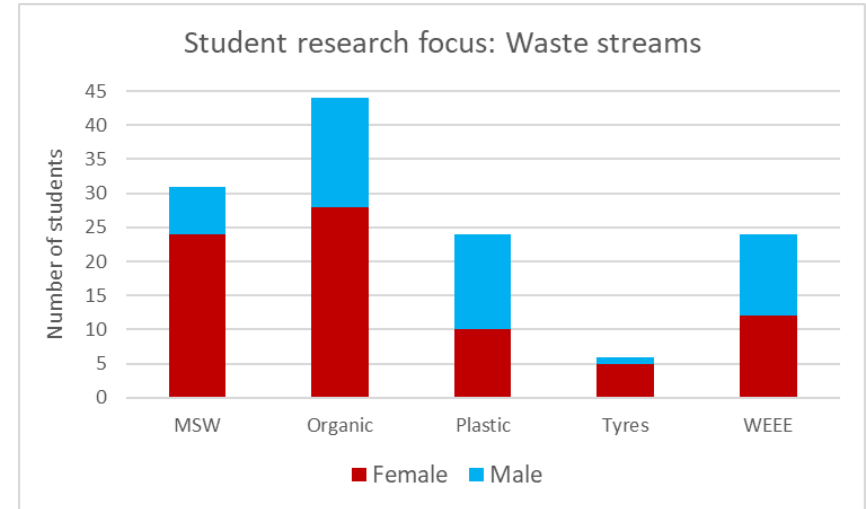
South Africa's Waste RDI Roadmap

Problem — Means — How — Opportunities

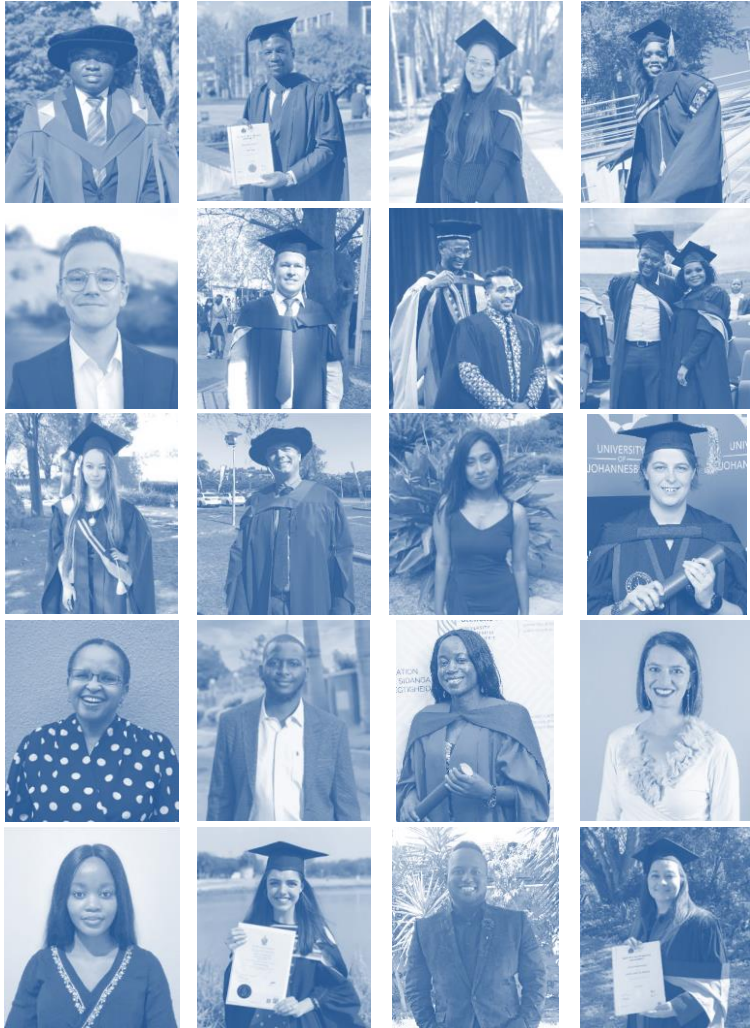


Transforming the waste sector through investment in students

- Out of the **143 students** (undergraduate and postgraduate) supported to date, **60% are women**
- Reaching across all waste types and all research focus areas
- **Leadership** role in waste STI



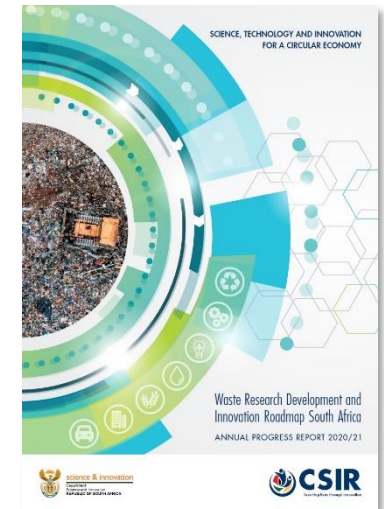
Retention of graduates in the waste sector



- Started a **track-and-trace** study to assess if we are retaining our graduates in the South African waste sector, or whether we lose these skilled youngsters to other sectors
- Recently launched a **waste internship programme** to provide workplace experience to retain graduates
- Of the 15 students that were financially supported and **withdrew** from their studies, **73% for women**
- Female students face a unique set of **challenges** which directly impact their studies, e.g., family responsibility (in addition to the broader set of challenges facing South Africa's youth)

Thank you

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