

Cape Town hosts World Sustainability Forum this week

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THE world's leading minds on sustainability will this week descend on the Mother City for the 6th World Sustainability Forum, where the water crisis among various other burning issues will be discussed.

The event, which starts tomorrow and ends on Saturday, is being hosted for the first time on the African continent, is set to see research experts from various universities across the world, along with government leaders, work towards a sustainability plan. The two-day conference, taking place at a city hotel, will discuss and debate issues around sustainability such as water scarcity, waste management, mining, poverty, climate change, and urbanisation.

The University of the Western Cape and the University of Cape Town (UCT) are among the 10 universities that will form part of the forum.

UWC communications officer Aiden van der Heever yesterday said: "The world is set to experience major changes as we witness shifts in the relationships between global economics, nations, and the environment.

"These global developments will impact Africa heavily and the people of this continent will play a central role, for better or worse, in creating their own opportunities and risks.

"The 6th World Sustainability Forum will be a space for fruitful exchange and critical debate to sensitise South African and international communities to both the global urgency and specifics of sustainability."

The two-day forum will see internationally-renowned professor of economics, sustainability and poverty expert, and UN adviser Jeffery Sachs, professor of health policy and management at Columbia University will share his expert thoughts at the forum.

Klaus Leisinger and Max Bergman from the University of Basel, Tebogo Moja from New York University, Lidia Brito from Unesco, Marc Rosen from the University of Ontario, Prof Tyrone Pretorius from UWC, Mamokgethi Phakeng from the University of Cape Town, Aldo Stroebel from the National Research Foundation, Joyene Isaacs from the Western Cape government, Norman Duncan from the University of Pretoria, Francis Petersen from University of the Free State and Voster Muchenje from the University of Fort Hare, are among many delegates who will be in attendance.

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