

Dear members of the UCT community,

Welcome to the University of Cape Town!

Cape Town is facing the worst drought in over a century and stands at risk of running out of water by mid-April, a day dubbed as "Day Zero". If the dams levels were to reach 13,5%, Day Zero would be implemented. The prospect of such a day, should it arrive, is alarming, but it can and must be avoided. The UCT community must be part of the solution by reducing its water use by 45%. We can only do this with everyone's effort in saving water.

The level 6B water restrictions implemented by the City of Cape Town limit each person to no more than 50 litres of water per day. This daily water allocation includes what you use in your place of residence as well as what you use while on UCT's campuses.

UCT's Water Task Team is helping to drive down the water demand. The guiding strategy to managing water at UCT begins at the top level of the diagram (below). It starts with a commitment to use less water and depends on your efforts. A longer term programme is in place to reduce, reuse and make use of alternative water source, but for now the greatest saving is in reducing the water demand. We are urging you to respond to the key message: 'STOP DAY ZERO - let's save water while we still have it'. Please be our eyes and ears on campus, report leaks immediately and motivate those around you to be water-wise.

