PROJECT NAME	Sustainable Bio-environment
DESCRIPTION	1. Scientific Contribution: The Sustainable Bio-Environment research group aims to engage in research of an inter-disciplinary nature in the environmental health fields of water quality, occupational health and safety, waste management, epidemiology and biotechnology. Research projects will be aligned to the University's research clusters and learning programmes in the Department of Life Sciences. The research will focus on issues of particulate interest to the central region of South Africa, but research will also be conducted on issues of a broader interest to South Africa. The research will be slanted towards basic and applied research, and social and technological innovations. Research will mostly be conducted by postgraduate students supervised by staff members in the group. 2. Innovation: This group does research addressing unique issues in the central region of South Africa. 3. Competitive advantage: This is the only group that addresses the sustainability of the biosphere, particularly the health aspects in the central region. Furthermore, the inter-disciplinary nature of the research brings together many disciplines to collectively solve problems in the environment.
DURATION	On-going
FIELD(S) OF STUDY/FOCUS AREAS	Dentistry, Preventive Dentistry, Primary Dentistry, Higher Education, Curriculum Development, Infection Prevention and Control, Compliance, Dental Assisting, Oral Hygiene
INTERNAL PROJECT PARTNERS	Environmental Health and Dental Assisting programme members
EXTERNAL PROJECTS PARTNERS	Other Institutional Faculties, e.g. UKZN, TUT, UP, WITS, UWC, Rhodes, UFS International partners, such as OSAP, IUPUI, CDC, Boston University Texas, University of Birmingham, University of Glasgow, College of Dentistry, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Griffith University and others Dental Associations – international, national, as well as regional branches
FUNDING	NRF South African Dental Association CUT OSAP Industrial partners
PROJECT LEADER(S)	Prof. A Fossey
PROJECT TEAM	Environmental Health and Dental Assisting programmes
PUBLICATIONS	• Oosthuysen J, Fossey A (2015) Assessment of the audit-feedback instrument for oral health care facilities in South Africa. South African Dental Journal, 2015 August;70(7):282-290. Available from http://www.sada.co.za/sadj/vol70_issue_7_aug15/files/basic-html/page8.html • Oosthuysen J, Potgieter E and Fossey A (2014) Compliance with infection prevention and control in oral health-care facilities: a global perspective. International Dental Journal,

	2014 Dec;64(6):297-311. doi: 10.1111/idj.12134. Epub 2014 Sep 22. Review. • Oosthuysen J (2014). “Global Panel Presentation: Infection Prevention and Safety Best Practices in South Africa.” Congress proceedings: Organization for Safety & Asepsis Procedures (OSAP) 2014 Annual Symposium Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA. • Oosthuysen J, Potgieter E and Blignaut E (2010). Compliance with infection control recommendations in South African dental practices: a review of studies published between 1990 and 2007. International Dental Journal June 2010, 60(3), 181-189. • Oosthuysen J, Potgieter E and Blignaut E (2009). Compliance to infection control recommendations among South African Dentists. Congress proceedings: Organization for Safety & Asepsis Procedures (OSAP) 2009 Annual Symposium Dallas, Texas, USA. • Oosthuysen J, Veldman FJ, Williams WP and Dusé AG (2003). Infection control techniques used in South African dental practices. Highlights Divisional Abstracts: South African Division. Journal for Dental Research. • Oosthuysen J and Potgieter E (2001). Quality control in dental practices – monitoring autoclave performance. Highlights Divisional Abstracts: South African Division. Journal for Dental Research 80 (4), 1359 – 1371. • Potgieter E and Oosthuysen J (2000). Bacterial Counts from hands, surfaces and equipment in dental practices. Highlights Divisional Abstracts: South African Division. Journal for Dental Research 79 (5), 1306.
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