

Commission 5:

WATER & SANITATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Chairperson – Rob Childs

Facilitator – Siphosiso Mosai

Rapporteur – Moshoi Motebele

Guest Speaker – Minister Mmamoloko Kubayi

Friday 18 February 2022

Panel of experts:

Mr Khulekani Nxumalo – Sydwalt (Pty) Ltd

Mr Logan Reddy – Analog

Dr Pilate Moyo – UCT

Mr Mthobeli Kolisa – Municipal Infrastructure SALGA

Dr Limakatso Moorosi – Bloem Water

Ms Mpho Mookapelo – CEO of Energy SETA

THEMES

- Focus on existing infrastructure
- Operating conditions
- Pursuit of best practice
- Determining strategies and **ACTIONS**

Underlying Sub-themes

- Condition assessments
- Operations and maintenance
- Vandalism and community asset management
- Green Drop, Blue drop and No-drop
- Capital projects
- Technology and innovation
- Skills development, sector skills audit
- Regulations
- Asset Management
- Optimising service potential
- Revenue enhancement, funding & alt technologies

Feedback: Commission 5 – Infrastructure

❑ Needs / observations

- Risks relating to sufficient capacity and effective timing of infrastructure provision
- Need for effective infrastructure risk management and follow through with effective risk mitigation implementation
- Capacitate local government, drive skills development on a broad front, not just engineers
- Need to make good decisions in the haze of complex issues
- Improved infrastructure asset management practice can provide significant benefits – needs structure, form and drive
- Suggestion of reduced target for maintenance budget from 8% to 5% for small municipalities
- Need to ENFORCE municipal compliance with WCDM and AM requirements
- Request from farmers to build canals – unlock economic potential
- Grants overlap and not always used as intended – eg MIG funds for water infra going to roads
- No information / discussion on the establishment of NWRA
- Ageing infrastructure
- More actively identify bankable initiatives to address water sector infrastructure needs
- Leverage technology advances to provide the data required to determine evidence-based strategies and effective tactics for infrastructure asset management
- Need greater public accessibility to voice concerns with feedback loop on actions taken

Feedback Commission 5 – Infrastructure

☐ Recommendations

- Establish an integrated national, Provincial and LG water infrastructure asset management framework (with standardised models for assessment of infrastructure condition, performance, life-cycle management and bankability – and risk management...) with capacitated planning and risk response capability
- Implement a national Monitoring and Evaluation system for infrastructure across all government spheres
- Establish structures for improved coordination of infrastructure planning and implementation (3 spheres); examine ways to reduce red tape
- Review grant funding structures and measures to ensure seamless and application is as intended
- Establish a communications plan around the establishment of the NWRA – to generate confidence in the follow through and the benefits
- Establish a national training and mentoring programme for the water sector – courses in consultation with universities and training providers, and professional registration in asset management – from school leavers through to experienced professionals
- Maximise creation of sustainable jobs and local businesses to support infrastructure-based service provision
- Establish regional resource centres to provide expert support and mentoring to drive the development of competency