

CHAPTER 4 – INTRODUCTION TO THE ISP STRATEGIES

The many issues and concerns identified in the ISP area will be addressed through the implementation of appropriate regional water management strategies. DWAF staff has identified some essential management strategies, and additional strategies may be developed in future.

Ten broad strategy groups, covering all necessary current and future water management activities, were identified from current DWAF Regional Office activities, the requirements of the NWA and the NWRS. These Main Strategies are:

- ⇒ Yield balance and reconciliation;
- ⇒ Water resources protection;
- ⇒ Water use management;
- ⇒ Water conservation and demand management;
- ⇒ Institutional development and support;
- ⇒ Social and environmental considerations;
- ⇒ Integration and co-operative governance;
- ⇒ Waterworks development and management;
- ⇒ Monitoring and information management; and
- ⇒ Implementation.

For each strategy, the following aspects are addressed:

- **Management objectives** in terms of the envisaged solutions for the strategy;
- **Situation assessment**; providing a synopsis of the current situation with a focus on the issues;
- **Strategic approach**; stating the approach or plan that DWAF will follow to reach its objectives for the strategy;
- **Management actions**; states the required actions to implement the strategy;
- **Responsibility**; the responsible offices or Directorates are named;
- **Priority** in terms of the ISP rating system (1 – 5, where 1 indicates the highest priority).

Responsibilities for Main Strategies and individual strategies were assigned to DWAF Directorates and/or Sections within the Eastern Cape RO as part of the “*Implementing the ISP*” Strategy. Responsible people or champions were identified where appropriate.

Twenty four individual strategies were developed for implementation under the ten Main strategy groups. Other strategies may become necessary later on and should be developed as they are identified. Some strategies cover aspects that may need to be further expanded into separate sub-strategies. The effectiveness, issues or problems encountered with water supply and sanitation programs in rural areas were not addressed in this ISP.

The various actions required to implement the ISP strategies have been identified and listed under each strategy. The general lack of adequate human and financial resources will influence the scope of work that can actually be addressed under each strategy. The various strategies have been prioritised, and in many cases specific actions under strategies have been prioritised as well. What is further required, following this study, is that the actions listed under each strategy should be revisited and prioritised to be in line with the available resources and funding to implement each strategy. The redirecting or retraining of DWAF's regional staff resources, to be in line with the identified relative strategy priorities, or of obtaining additional resources, must be seriously considered. Where various implementation options exist, the evaluation of each option should be documented, as well as the approach and decisions on implementation actions that were selected for immediate or later implementation. Specific targets or benchmarks to measure the progress of strategy implementation should also be developed and documented.