



Western Cape National Groundwater Strategy Workshop-comments

Theme	Comments	Sector
0	Groundwater remediation is not sufficiently covered in the water act, this can be learnt from other countries that have guidelines for known contaminants	
1	There is a need for departmental task team to drive implementation process of the strategy and this should involve groundwater champions from all sectors.	CSIR
1	For the NGS to be a success there should be an implementation strategy in place and it should improve stakeholder engagement which is difficult to achieve. The main challenges with stakeholder engagement include lack of knowledge; ignorance and lack of understanding of groundwater and to overcome these challenges, awareness raising campaigns are needed.	Private sector (GEOSS)
2	NGS should how will DWS develop a strong national groundwater leadership and how will the capacity be distributed.	DEA and DP
	Where groundwater has potential, groundwater projects need to be promoted to municipalities so that it can be seen as a reliable resource.	
2	There is a need for groundwater champion within DWS to promote groundwater.	
2	The NGS should address the issue of fragmented groundwater arrangements in DWS Head office. There should be one entry point in the department to avoid confusion.	DWS
3	Regulation of groundwater should be goal-based as opposed to prescriptive regulation.	
3	The norms and standards for management practices should relate to quality and quantity guidelines for a specific geological setting or locality.	Academia
3	The groundwater unit in DWS that was disbanded in 2003 should be fixed.	
3	For assessment of groundwater, long term paleo data should be used to gain understanding of groundwater resources	
3	Groundwater regulation should be at local CMA level.	
3	Protection of groundwater should be through distinction of groundwater resources and RDM methodology. There is a need for updated groundwater quality and quantity maps to assist with accurate EIAs. GRA (II)	

3	There should be an improvement on groundwater monitoring and all WMAs	
4	For groundwater resource protection, activities relating to this should be added to national KPI and local government should report on the initiatives/ monitoring.	
4	In terms of groundwater protection, the Waste Act provides a regulatory framework that should be aligned with the Water Act and the strategy.	
	The NGS should be published in a proper policy context with reference to legislation therefore it would be ideal for the strategy to be published as part of NWRS.	NGO
	The lessons learnt from Groundwater Strategy 2010 should be incorporated in the NGS.	Private/Consulting
4	Pollution of groundwater by industries should be considered	DEA & DP
4	In terms of groundwater protection, there should be a central database in which data of groundwater assessment can be captured. Hydrogeologists should work with local government to manage groundwater. Groundwater data generally, all sectors should have access to the data.	
4	Protection of groundwater should be source based more than resource based	NGO
4	The NGS should influence other implementation tools from a practical point; it should influence other intergovernmental avenues to act against groundwater pollution.	
4	There is an dire need for protection and effective compliance monitoring of groundwater resources	DEADP
4	There is no legislative mechanism in the NWA providing for the declaration of protected areas or no go areas; this should be highlighted in the NGS.	NGO
4	For groundwater protection, the waste management industry should be involved as they are the ones that mostly contaminate groundwater resources.	
5	The accumulated abstraction of groundwater should be validated and verified.	
6	The NGS should address the issue of fragmented groundwater arrangements in DWS Head office. There should be one entry point in the department to avoid confusion.	DWS
6	For aquifer management; shared aquifer resources should be in sector plans so that they can be incorporated into regional spatial development plans. This will allow enforcement of funds at local level	EADP
7	Consider future scenarios as a means to secure funds and raise awareness for groundwater such climate change adaption, ecosystem-based adaption as well as disaster risk reduction.	Academia, UCT

7	There is a need to raise awareness to local authorities, Funding model to municipalities which should cover groundwater planning budget.	CMA
8	Where groundwater has potential, groundwater projects need to be promoted to municipalities so that it can be seen as a reliable resource.	
8	Town planning and developments depending on groundwater, a capacity study based on the potential of groundwater should be done before commencement of any development.	
	Municipal bylaws in all municipalities need to be updated	
	NGS should address how the groundwater strategy implementation should be enforced since DWS has a lack of enforcement.	DEA & DP
	NGS should be unlike most strategies which focus on strategic governance level, it should focus more on local actions and critical path for strategic actions.	Private/consultant
8	Water protection and conservation should be put in place in the planning phase of a project	
8	When planning for groundwater, future climate change and its impacts should be taken into consideration.	
9	The center of data is very important and it should be easily accessible.	
9	A strategic meeting is need between DWS, Municipalities and consultants to discuss and agree on the format of all groundwater related data and how it should be captured.	
9	Geohydrology report should be done for every borehole and it should include risk assessment and risk management and linked to KPIs.	
9	DWS should facilitate data release from compliance monitoring.	
11	There is still a lack of knowledge on groundwater al local level as a result stakeholders should be collectively informed about groundwater then they can respond so promotion, protection publicizing groundwater still needs to be done, it should be a bottom-up approach.	GEOSS
12	Awareness raising campaigns are critical.	
12	The NGS should be made practical through implementation	
12	DWS can expand on the one on one approach that the Bellville has started which is based on groundwater management particularly for municipalities and regular follow ups to ensure implementation.	DWS
12	Action plan should accompany the NGS or it should be incorporated within the strategy with clear roles and responsibilities as to which sector is responsible for what.	GEOSS

	It should be stipulated somewhere in the strategy if there are any funds allocated form implementation of actions.	
12	To incorporate action plans in the strategy, the NGS can be called NGS and Action Plans	EAADP Jefferson
12	The NGS should be accompanied by an implementation plan because all the actions are very strategic and high level; there is a need for clear roles and responsibilities linked to institutions.	DEA & DP
12	The NGS should be published in a proper policy context with reference to legislation therefore it would be ideal for the strategy to be published as part of NWRS.	NGO