

Water & for growth development

BULLETIN



Water for Growth and Development taking shape!

Welcome to the first WfGD bulletin!

The purpose of this regular bulletin is to keep sector stakeholders up to date on progress made as the sector moves towards complete implementation of WfGD objectives. This first bulletin provides some historical background and introduces readers to the WfGD team.

It is anticipated that the Water for Growth and Development Bulletin will keep sector stakeholders well-informed regarding future sector events, public debates, water summits and functions held under the WfGD banner.

The intention is to disseminate this user-friendly publication each Friday. However, due to the public holiday on 2 May, look out for Issue 2 on Monday, 5 May 2008!

WfGD-A legacy to the water sector

Water for Growth and Development would be adopted as the theme for the third phase of the Masibambane programme (2007-2012). Thus WfGD forms one of the Minister's legacy flagship programmes as the driving paradigm for the water sector.

The concept of WFGD is not new to DWAF but it is about adopting new ways to optimize a drop of water. South Africa is among the driest countries in the world and in the wake of Global Climate change impacting on socio-economic factors; it is an imperative that water usage to meet the needs of growing the South African economy is reviewed.

"...It is quite important that we discuss this topic of Water for Growth and Development in the correct context. I would also urge us all that we relate our deliberations today to the broader government strategy of accelerating development and growth and achieving better levels of empowerment of our people, to mount an effective challenge on poverty and non-employment as articulated in the Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative South Africa (AsgiSA) spearheaded by the Deputy President of our country...." (20th June 2007, Spier Wine Estate).

WfGD is the DWAF's umbrella programme supporting the

national effort toward the eradication of poverty and creating economic growth. Implications of the adoption of this new paradigm include

- Review of existing policies and development of new policies
- Development of economic indicators
- Addressing the availability of resources
- Recognising the effects of climate change on resources
- Water use authorisation processes
- Water use and its support to BEE
- Virtual water and water trading
- Dealing with the impact of HIV/Aids
- Strengthening integrated planning
- Joint water management and transboundary agreements
- Robust implementation of water conservation and demand management

WfGD reframes the debate on water management and provision in South Africa – a legacy indeed!



Mrs. Lindiwe Hendricks
Minister: Water Affairs & Forestry



Water Affairs and Forestry
Provincial and Local Government



European Commission & Member States



WfGD – signature contribution of Masibambane III

The Water Services Sector Support Programme, commonly known as Masibambane, a isiZulu word meaning 'Let's work together', was started in 2000. It signaled a new way of working in the water sector, namely joint decision-making involving all players in the government-led, donor-funded and civil society supported, sector-wide initiative. Through this initiative, a partnership was established between DWAF, SALGA and DPLG as lead support agents supported mainly by the European Union.



DWAF staff and sector members celebrating the launch of Masibambane III on 17 March 2008, at Gallagher Estate

In its first three years, the initiative focused on three provinces which had major water supply and sanitation backlogs – Eastern Cape, Kwa-Zulu Natal and Limpopo. The initial emphasis was on eradication of backlogs however the initiative has evolved and since Masibambane II there has been greater emphasis on sustainability and supporting Water Service Authorities to develop institutional capacity and to address the water and sanitation backlog in their areas. Some of the key principles of Masibambane are sector-based decision making, decentralisation of funding being transferred to the relevant sector partners and achieving a sector approach ensuring effective planning (IDP/WSDP), implementation and monitoring of the water services sector.

Following the successes achieved with the first two phases of Masibambane, the third phase of Masibambane has been launched. The third phase of Masibambane programme was officially launched on the first day of National Water Week 2008 at Gallagher Estate, Midrand, funded in the region of R6,9 billion.

The theme for Masibambane III is 'Water for Growth and Development'. The aim of this phase is to look beyond the provision of basic services and the eradication of backlogs in service delivery, to ways in which water can be used to support social, environmental and economic development through supporting the whole water delivery value chain.

Delivering her speech during the launch, Minister Lindiwe Hendricks expressed delight for the Department and the whole water sector about the new Masibambane III. Minister Hendricks remarked: "We have travelled quite a long road with the European Union (EU) and the member countries and today signifies a further strengthening of a long partnership that started 6 years ago when we embarked on the Masibambane I Programme. It is essential in a water scarce country such as South Africa to make the best shared use of its limited resources to ensure the sustainable growth and economic development to which the country aspires."

The Minister was grateful for both the financial and institutional support of donors, especially the EU that has been a part of this programme since inception of the programme.

Sharing the Minister's sentiment was European Union ambassador to South Africa Mr Lodewijk Briët, who lauded Masibambane for best pioneering practices not only in the water sector but setting an example to so many other sector programmes where strong sector leadership could make an enormous difference to the lives of those most in need of support. "The EU is proud to be a supporter of this ground breaking initiative. With the comprehensive policy framework established, now is the time to intensify the implementation. We support President Mbeki's call for Business Unusual".

Awards

The Masibambane Water Sector Support Programme has been recognized a key achievement for the water sector and to date the programme has won the Globe Water Award in 2002, the Public Service Innovative Award (CPSI Award) in 2006 and the Vuna Award for two consecutive years – 2006 and 2007.

WfGD Leadership Team

Through the office of DWAF's Deputy Director General: Regions, Ms Thandeka Mbassa, a project team has been set up to co-ordinate all WfGD activities. This project team is led by the Acting Chief Director, WSPMS, Mr Kalinga Pelpola, supported by the project team director, Junior Potloane.

The WfGD leadership team includes champions for each of the four WfGD pillars



Ms. Pam Yako
Director General



Ms. Thandeka Mbassa
Deputy Director General

Announcement



Economic: Mr Silas Mbedzi
Social: Ms Mandisa Magqalaza
Environmental: Ms Deborah Mochotlhi
Spatial: Mr Lehasa Moloi



Dr Sizwe Mkhize
Deputy Director General

The WfGD Bulletin is pleased to report that the newly appointed DDG: Policy and Regulations, Dr Mkhize, has pledged his support to WfGD. Welcome, Dr Mkhize!

WfGD Stream Leaders



Mr. Kalinga Pelpola
Acting Chief Director



Mr. Silas Mbedzi
Economic



Ms. Mandisa Magqalaza
Social



Ms. Deborah Mochotlhi
Environmental



Mr. Lehasa Moloi
Spatial

WfGD – anticipated Masibambane III outcomes

Stakeholder collaboration is in place and focused on sustainable water management for all South Africans

This will require national, provincial and catchment level collaborative structures being enlarged to accommodate all relevant water sector stakeholders; the adoption and implementation of WRM principles (protection, use, development and management) in stakeholder activities; and national, provincial and catchment level representatives visibly influencing policy and decision making processes. These actions will necessitate national and provincial sector collaboration being directly linked by the Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act.

Catchment management agencies are established and operational

By the end of Masibambane III, 2011/12 all 19 Catchment Management Agencies identified, should be established, and the composition of their Boards should reflect all relevant water sector stakeholders, and the agencies would be well on the way to financial self-sufficiency as reflected in the budgets and audited accounts.

Municipalities are proficient in their designated water resource management and water services roles towards their communities

Municipalities provide services to the people of South Africa and for water service and resource management there are regulatory requirements that need to be fulfilled. Support will be provided to assist municipalities achieve these requirements. Masibambane will support detailed training needs analyses, the design, execution and evaluation of relevant training programmes. In addition it will be necessary to conduct post training skills assessments to monitor and guide the institutional capacity building programmes.

The institutional capacity building programme will capacitate local government to assist water services authorities meet the targets of Strategic Framework for Water Services; local government institutions participate in CMA governing boards providing the drive to growth and

development planning processes in the interest of sustainable development.

Masibambane would also support water services managers in South Africa gain accreditation to meet minimum competency requirements for their positions.

DWAF is a strong, capacitated leader providing policy direction, regulation and support to the water sector

Masibambane would support DWAF to develop an appropriate business plan and accompanying business processes and systems to facilitate its new role as Sector Leader providing policy direction, regulation, and technical support to the sector. This will be a process and within the business plan a robust and appropriate change management plan should be prepared. While having the support of the Director General, the drive and momentum for the transformation will invariably come from the Deputy Director General Regions' office.

Civil society organisations are able to provide training and support to, and advocacy in the water sector

Participation of CSOs in water sector consultative bodies at catchment and other relevant local levels will be essential to assist, implement and support the water for growth and development policies. Masibambane can support CSOs to facilitate appropriate training programmes to targeted local institutions. This will entail support for detailed training needs analyses, the design, execution and evaluation of relevant training programmes. In addition it will be necessary to conduct post training skills assessments to monitor and guide the institutional capacity building programmes.

Review of alternative financing mechanisms for sustainable delivery of water services and water resource management

Government's financing support to the water sector has been central to the success of Masibambane to-date. However, Treasury has indicated that the sector activities should seek alternative sources, and approaches involving a multiplicity of options and models. Different operations in the sector may well

require different solutions and so DWAF could play a pivotal role by reviewing and advising of alternative finance mechanisms, assisting water operators to establish and source finance, and advising sector stakeholders of the various mechanisms available.

Water service providers are operating in an effective and efficient manner, meeting norms and standards.

Municipalities are ultimately responsible for the delivery of physical services according to local authority requirements. They will need to engage with service providers to meet these obligations and will thus need to manage contracts so that the financial execution of service delivery accords to national targets, the terms of contract and business plans. Masibambane would support both municipalities and water service providers in this regard and importantly, the Programme could assist with the incorporation of cross cutting issues in business plans and practices (gender

mainstreaming, HIV/AIDS, environment, appropriate technology, employment creation, health and hygiene) in-line with Government strategies and programmes.

Sustainable, ecosystem based IWRM is contributing to social development

Water resources have been classified and Reserves set. Understanding of water use is significantly improved such that Water Allocation Reform is being implemented and contributing to the social upliftment of disadvantaged communities. Developmental projects at varying scales not only contribute to social development but also to an improved awareness of IWRM. The impact of climate change upon vulnerable communities is being considered in both planning and project initiatives.

Key Milestone Dates Since 2007:

2007

20th June - Public debate at Spier Wine Estate, Stellenbosch
December - WSLG Meeting at Birchwood

2008

10th-12th March - IWRM Conference: International and national Experts input

17th March - WfGD National Water Summit: Stakeholder input

28th-29th March - African Water Week

24th April - Special WSLG Meeting to debate the draft Strategic Framework for WfGD at Gallagher Estates

18th -22nd May - WISA Conference: Expert and Stakeholder input

11th-12th June - WSLG: Stakeholder and public consultation

July - Cabinet Lekgotla

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