

# Water & for growth development

## BULLETIN



### WELCOME

#### STAKEHOLDERS AND SECTOR PARTNERS!

A lot of activities, meetings and events have taken place since our last bulletin! Between planning, preparing and participating at these events and meetings, we captured some of the highlights to publish in this bulletin.

We highlight feedback from the Water for Growth and Development plenary and workshops that were held during the Institute of Southern Africa (WISA) Biennial Conference that was held at Sun City. We share the views and insights from our interview with one of the experts who was at the meeting that was held with a panel of experts on the 15th of May.

The stream leader from the Social Pillar shares a few words with our stakeholders. From the Ground, we learn about the rainwater harvesting program from eThekweni.

Our stakeholders are advised that the WSLG: Stakeholder and public consultation meeting that was scheduled for 11th-12th June has been postponed. We will communicate new dates as and when we are advised.

## FEEDBACK ON THE 2008 WISA BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

A special workshop on Water for Growth and Development was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2008 as part of the WISA Biennial Conference which took place at Sun City from the 19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2008.



Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry, Mrs Lindiwe Hendricks, MP, addressing delegates at the WISA Biennial Conference at Sun City.

This special session was held under the theme "Targets and implementation challenges". Given progress on the development of the Strategic Framework, it became important for water sector stakeholders to utilise the WISA opportunity to further obtain inputs on how to address key challenges and opportunities highlighted from the previous conventions National Water Summit which discussed WfGD concepts (held on 17 March 2008) and the special WSLG meeting held on 24 April 2008 to deliberate on the Discussion Document. The challenge was to identify key actions, targets and implementation mechanisms in moving forward with the water for growth and development. The inputs formed part of the finalisation of the draft Strategic Framework on Water for Growth and Development.

The workshop was chaired by Ms Noleen Morris (CEO: Bloem Water). Ms Henrietta Anderson (DWAF) started



Water Affairs and Forestry  
Provincial and Local Government



European Commission & Member States



the opening session by highlighting key strategic water resources infrastructure investment plans and how these would eventually contribute to socio-economic development of the country. This presentation was followed by Mr Kalinga Pelpola's outline of the draft Strategic Framework on WfGD to set a platform for deliberations. Mr Jay Bhagwan (WRC) concluded the morning session by presenting a critique of current WfGD thinking based on international perspectives and seeking to ensure that South Africa's direction is not guided by technical considerations but by well-considered planning models that seek to balance social, economic and environmental value perspectives.



Mr Kalinga Pelpola Programme Manager

The workshop broke into three commissions discussing:

- The challenges of increased water demand and climate change
- Unlocking practical solutions to meeting MDGs
- Integrated planning and strategic partnerships

The workshop ended with brief presentations of the inputs from the commissions. It was agreed that the inputs will be fed into the revision of the draft Strategic Framework on WfGD and that stakeholders will still be allowed to comment on the draft. The final draft will be presented to the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry at the 2008 (date has been moved from June 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>) WSLG meeting before final presentation to Cabinet Lekgotla in January 2009. It was also agreed that written comments on the second draft should still be sent to the draft team. To date, four stakeholders have submitted written comments and input into the Strategic framework for Sustainable Growth and Development. The submissions were made by: The Chemical and Allied Industries Associations, the CSIR and the Chief Directorate for Water Use.

## WATER FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT MEETING WITH A MULTI-DISCIPLINARY GROUP OF EXPERTS

A Water for Growth and Development meeting with the industry experts was held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 at the DWAF offices in Pretoria. The distinguished experts who attended this meeting included representatives of the sectors aligned to the four pillars (economic, environmental, social and spatial development) of Water for Growth and Development (WfGD). Industry, energy sector, academia and other illustrious sector stakeholders were also represented.

The objectives of the meeting were to start discussion on the draft WfGD framework and to brief the panel of experts on WfGD. The role of the expert group is to critique the Strategic Framework on WfGD. The next date of the meeting with the experts will be communicated in due course.

It is at this first meeting that we quickly caught up with Professor Roland Schulze (School of Bioresources



**Front Row:** Rosetta Simelane; Jacqueline Roos; Deborah Mochotlhi; Nicky Naidoo; Alinane Phiri; Raj Pandaram; Mandisa Mangqalaza; Gugu Mazibuko; Kathy Eales

**Middle Row:** Jabu Mtolo; Barbara van Koppen; Nancy Maluleka; Nandha Govender

**Back Row:** Junior Potloane; Roland Schulze and Mahomed Jahid.

Engineering & Environmental Hydrology KwaZulu-Natal University) before his departure back to KwaZulu-Natal!!

## INTERVIEW



Professor Roland Schulze  
School of Bioresources  
Engineering &  
Environmental  
Hydrology  
KwaZulu-Natal  
University

### Insight from Expert Panel

Professor Schulze is a hydrologist and his input and major contribution to the Water for Growth and Development programme will mainly fall under the environmental pillar, with a focus on the resource background to this initiative. His inputs will be on how much water South Africa has; where is the water in the country; the impact of land use as well as the impact of climate change.

We solicited his thoughts and opinions on a number of issues that were addressed during the meeting.

Here are some of the insights he shared with us:

#### 1. On Water Resource Planning

It is difficult for South Africa to effectively implement water resource planning for the future, because South Africa does not know what its actual population numbers are. This is largely because South Africa has in the past decade, and particularly in the last two years, become a "refugee country" for people from the neighbouring countries. So, often in the census data and in planning South Africa does not take into account all the people who are known to be there but are effectively not registered in the books. From a water perspective, they need water in as much as everyone else needs water in the country.

#### 2. On Climate Change

When we consider climate change in the water sector, we need to be careful that we do not simply think about the quantity of rainfall (whether it is more or less); or if there is less run-off or more run off. We actually need to think smarter because any change in the rainfall patterns

is amplified in the hydrological response. The hydrology responds differently whether it is surface-flow or ground water recharge or rainfall. It becomes complicated. We also need to consider that there may just not be shifts in run-offs but we need to consider when the run-off occurs and how the run-off occurs. Does it occur as storm-flow or is it a recharge? Is there more sediment yield with it?

Many of our rivers flow eastwards into other countries; so what are the ramifications of climate change to the water sectors of our down-stream neighbours? These are what we would call higher-order impacts of climate change in the water sector.

Also, what will climate change do to water quality; to water and health and to the environment?

#### 3. On Bio-fuels

There has been a thrust in South Africa and throughout the world to grow crops for either bio-diesel and generally for bio-fuels. We need to be careful that the bio-fuels crops do not replace crops that are needed for food security in South Africa. We have many poor people to feed, so we need the food security and we cannot always import food. Bio-fuels crop must not become another crop in competition with food crop. Furthermore, many of the bio-fuels crops may in future be planted in climatically marginal areas. When the areas are climatically marginal, the impact on the water resource is more severe than when they are planted in optimal areas.

#### 4. On The use of Ground Water

In the document there was quite an emphasis on the use of ground water on the premise that South Africa may be under-utilising ground water resources at the present time. We need to be very careful that when we utilise ground water that the ground water is actually recharged at a rate that exceeds the utilisation, otherwise it is not sustainable. The problem with ground water is that we only appreciate the unsustainability of over utilisation a decade or two decades later. It is not immediately evident as it would be if we over-utilised surface water. When we over-utilise surface water, you immediately see it in the reduced levels of a dam. The levels of the dam go down. You do not see this in ground water because ground water is invisible. The impacts - pollution impacts and over-utilisation impacts occur much further down the line. We will need to be careful and remember to factor that into our planning when ground water becomes a thrust.





WfGD Stream Leader - social:  
**Ms. Mandisa Magqalaza**

**The  
social  
pillar**

## A STREAM LEADER'S PERSPECTIVE...

The social pillar is under the legendary leadership of Ms Mandisa Mangqalaza, who is based in the Cape Town office. She is supported by core team members, namely Ms Laila Smith, Mr Gugu Mazibuko and Ms Vatiswa Mafika. Added to the core team is also a group of 6-10 Social experts from various institutions. Social experts are those people who hold senior positions in their establishments with regard to social responsibility functions, namely, social development in the country, both in the rural, formal and urban areas. The institutions involved with the Social Pillar include the departments of Agriculture, Health and Education; The Development Bank of Southern Africa, The department of Arts and Culture, Science and Technology, CSIR, CSO's, The Department of Social Development, , National Agricultural Farmers' Union, municipalities and DWAF itself.

The Social Pillar is aligned with WfGD in the sense that all issues and solutions for the social pillar are integrated into the main strategy document for water for growth and development. It is aligned with regards, to the issues and challenges and solutions with regard to social issues, namely sustainable livelihood, food security, social aspects of service delivery, HIV/AIDS, sanitation, alignment and cooperation to achieve integrated social development.

As with the other three pillars for Water for Growth and Development, the Social Pillar has its' work laid out for it! The amount work to be done largely depends on the inputs required from various stakeholders, including consulting more with the social experts. As the social pillar, they have consulted with a number of social development stakeholders, and have held workshop with regard to the solutions to the social development challenges and issues. A draft document has been developed based on the contributions received from the consultations and workshops.

During the last workshop on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May, HIV/AIDS unit from DWAF made very astute contributions on how a drop of water makes a difference in the life of affected and infected people. Further consultations and workshops will still be held to strengthen their case.

The Social Pillar, as with the other three pillars submits progress reports to the Project Coordinator Junior Potloane. The Social Pillar's targeted audience outside DWAF are the

individuals playing a role in social development issues, for example, HIV/AIDS, food security, water supply and sanitation, sustainable livelihoods, etc. Within DWAF, there are four members that have been identified to be part of the Social Pillar by providing guidance on social issues from a water perspective.

The pillar has hosted consultative meetings, including the first meeting held on the 28<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 at Mvula Trust in Johannesburg. There is still a lot of ground to be covered within DWAF. Depending on the timeframes provided, more Consultative meetings and one on one interviews are planned with the Social Pillar experts. It should also be noted that the contributions will mostly be around providing solutions to issues raised under the social pillar.

A lot of information has already been collated and the team has contributed to the first and second drafts of the Strategic Framework for WfGD and are now finalising the contributions received during the workshops for contribution toward the third Strategic Framework on WfGD draft document. Progress has been achieved but more could be done as not all the issues that require solutions have been covered.

The pillar has contributed to the main strategy document for WfGD, and have held meetings for expert contributions. The outcomes will feed into the main strategy document.

The mining sector, civil society, community based organisations, NEPAD, the departments of Agriculture, Health and Education; The Development Bank of Southern Africa, The department of Arts and Culture, Science and Technology, CSIR, Civil Society Organisations, The Department of Social Development, , National Agricultural Farmers' Union, municipalities and DWAF itself include the stakeholders whose contributions will be solicited.

Getting the Social Pillar experts to attend the planned workshops at the same meeting can be challenging, given their hectic schedules, the vast geographical divide as well as the diversified structure of the social pillar in the country. Nonetheless, the pillar intends to obtain all the various inputs required in order to cover all the social development issues as experienced by the varied communities of our society and communities in South Africa.

## eTHEKWINI'S WATER AND SANITATION ROLLS OUT THE RAINWATER HARVESTING/GARDENING PROGRAM INTO THE RURAL AREAS.

The pilot project was to construct 500 tanks of 5 000 litre capacity within the INK area which was successfully completed and in progress is the education program to educate each of the tank owners on the methodology of preparing seedlings and growing vegetables in structured door gardens. A door garden is the size of a standard door (2m x 1m) where a structured pattern is used to grow various vegetables. This is sufficient to supplement the household needs and the excess is sold to the neighbour.

The tanks are 5 000 litres in capacity and constructed from a cement and sand mixture with a small diameter reinforcing wire and "chicken mesh". Each of the ferrocement tanks is a viable long term option for the storage of rainwater and can be constructed in seven to ten days. There will be a proper gutter system and overflow channel installed. Some of the benefits are:-

- to facilitate opportunities to benefit SMME's and previously disadvantaged individuals.
- strengthening and unifying ward structures.
- encouraging Black Economic Empowerment on local contractors.
- promoting project ownership and community participation.
- encourage skills transfer.
- promote competent and productive contractive contractors in higher levels.
- an economic sustainable water project. to build capacity and empower the local community to understand the management of water resources within the region.

- an effective and efficient use of water resources within their area.
- provide a number of temporary employment positions during the construction of the scheme.

### RAINWATER HARVESTING TANK CONSTRUCTION



The objective of the door garden would be to develop sustainable homestead food gardens through training and active participation by householders.

- Participating residents receive the following materials and equipment to assist them with the establishment of their gardens:-
  - spade, fork, hoe
  - seedlings
  - seeds
  - compost and other organic material

## FROM THE GROUND CONT....

### DOOR GARDEN PROGRAM



Training



Seedlings



Planting of seedlings



Community participation

The beneficiaries are targeted in groups of 25 to 30. Each group receive 3 to 4 days of practical training as well as one classroom based training session. Projects based in the INK area that have been completed are:-

- 500 rainwater tanks for householders
- 120 tanks for sixty schools
- 4 tanks at clinics

The rainwater harvesting has been extended to the rural areas with Mzinyathi being first for the construction of 1 000 tanks. Planning has also begun to roll out tanks to all wards located beyond the Urban Edge.

## 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

**19th - 21st May** - WISA Conference: Expert and Stakeholder input at Sun City

**11th - 12th June** - WSLG: Stakeholder and public consultation - **postponed till further notice.**

### Upcoming Events

**17th - 23rd August** - Stockholm World Water Week Conference

### 2009

**January 2009** - Cabinet Lekgotla

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SCENES FROM THE WATER FOR  
GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT AT THE  
WISA BIENNIAL CONFERENCE

PHOTO  
GALLERY

