

Understanding ...

# Water Allocation Reform (WAR) and Compulsory Licensing



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## Common questions ...

- What is **Water Allocation Reform – WAR?**
- What is **Compulsory Licensing?**
- How will **demands for water be balanced?**
- How will **Compulsory Licensing be put in place?**



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# Water belongs to the nation



Note: will insert finalised drawing of catchment diagram



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# What is Water Allocation Reform?

WAR is a way to **share** our **limited water resources** in the **best interests** of the country as a whole.



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# What is Compulsory Licensing?

- One of the most important **tools in WAR.**
- A mechanism created in the National Water Act to allow the DWAF to **review how water is used** in a catchment and to **reallocate water if necessary.**



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# Compulsory Licensing makes sure

- Water is **shared fairly**
- Everyone, especially HDIs and women, has a fair chance to **benefit** from using water



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# Compulsory Licensing makes sure

- Water is **used in the best way possible**, to benefit the public and the nation
- Our water resources are protected, and kept **clean and healthy**.



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# The “queue” for water resources

- The **Reserve** (basic human need and the environment)
- **International agreements**
- **Social** needs
- **Strategic Users**
- Water for **economic use**



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# Balancing demands for water

- **Impact** on the water resource
- **Benefits** to the public
- (Note: Slide with screening tool will be inserted here)



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# Compulsory Licensing - process

- **Getting Ready**
- **Implementing**



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# Getting Ready

- **Preparing and planning**

The Catchment Assessment Report captures how water is being used, by whom, and its impact on the economy.



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# Getting Ready ...

- **Communication and consultation**
- Making sure water is **being used lawfully**

All water use must be authorised – registration and verification for existing users is part of the planning process.



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# Getting Ready ...

- Making the **best of the water we have**
  - “Increasing the yield” by e.g., ending unlawful use, removing alien vegetation or conserving water
- Identifying **opportunities for new, productive** use of water
  - Link with existing plans, e.g. IDP, and development partners to find the best opportunities for new users to make productive use of water



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# Getting Ready ...

- **Supporting new users**

Co-operative governance: DWAF and other govt depts, local govt, NGOs, development agencies, and private sector, to support new users

- **Productive use of water**

- Creating jobs and incomes that last. This needs land, water, funding, skills and especially **markets!**



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# Getting Ready ...

## The Framework for Allocation

- Practical plan, to balance water allocations between the environment, existing lawful users, new users and the needs of the IDP.



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# Implementing - the legal process

- The **Call for Licence Applications**
  - Published in the Government Gazette and communicated to stakeholders. **Every water user and new user must apply for an allocation.** Some may get General Authorisations
- The **Proposed Allocation Schedule**
  - Compiled by the DWAF. Based on licence applications and Framework for Allocation. Published in Government Gazette and communicated.



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# Implementing - the legal process

- The **Preliminary Allocation Schedule**

- Review any written objections to Proposed Allocation Schedule, revise, gazette and communicate the Preliminary Allocation Schedule

- The **Final Allocation Schedule**

- Gazetted if there are no appeals against the Preliminary Allocation Schedule, or if the DWAF is instructed by the Water Tribunal.



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# Issue licences!

- Licences must be issued as **soon as is possible** after the Final Allocation Schedule is published
- Valid for a **maximum of 40 years** but the period will be appropriate to the type of use and investments required
- Can be **reviewed after 5 years**.



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## Our approach in a nutshell ...

**“We need to make water available in a way that will sustain and grow the first economy while allowing the second economy users to develop into the first economy.”**

Minister Buyelwa Sonjica, Minister of Water Affairs & Forestry, 12 April 2005.



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**Thank you!**

Questions and discussions



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