



Water for Growth and Development

Roundtable Discussion

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water & forestry water & forestry



The Rationale

- International trends

*Growth trends,
poverty challenges,
food security, climate change*

- National Perspective

*History of unequal development
Water a scarce resource*

Economic Growth and redistribution of wealth

Addressing Poverty and rural development high on government's agenda

Policy developments, Industrial strategy ASGISA, ISRDP

Regional and Local Perspective

Regions development challenges- PDGS's and Local Economic Dev Plans

Unique Development challenges of each Province



Theoretical background

- ***Water a strategic resource central to all development initiatives, an enabler, supporter and catalyst for development***
 - ***Access to water is fundamental to development***
 - ***Water a strategic resource that is central to meeting ALL MDG's, e.g. poverty alleviation, education, job creation, health etc***
 - ***Access to water must be People centered, equitable distribution***
 - ***water security enhances sustainability in development***
 - ***Water support social transformation and economic growth without compromising environmental integrity.***



Water for social development

Context

- High and widening gap between rich and poor
- High inequality of access to water for productive purposes
- Over 40% of population live in poverty
- Areas of deepest poverty are the former homelands
- Provision of water to poor households, for domestic purposes and productive purposes, is key part of water for sustainable growth and development
- Need to water for rural development
- High prevalence of HIV and AIDS




Managing water quality

challenges in terms of both raw water quality and drinking water quality leading to:

- foregone exports of crops
- water borne disease causing illness and death
- lost productivity (especially in a context of HIV and AIDS)
- loss of natural capital of aquatic biodiversity and healthy water resources
- impacts on water-based tourism and recreation and
- increasing water treatments costs for municipalities and industry



Proposed Interventions

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- Develop a Plan to accelerate access to basic water and sanitation with following elements;
 - *financing model/ vehicle*
 - *Appropriate delivery model*
 - *Revisit policy-RDP standards*
 - *Infrastructure development plan that will entail multiple use of water infra, development of small rural dams, alignment with Dept of Agr and Land development plans*
 - *Revise MIG policy to allow for use of water for other purposes*
 - Reconsideration of amount of free basic water provided to poor households and HIV and AIDS affected households



Proposed Interventions

- Implementation of water allocation reform including:
 - roll out of rainwater harvesting programme,
 - rehabilitation of existing irrigation schemes, and
 - investigation of appropriate technology such as treadle pumps to bring water to poor households and communities for food gardening and micro enterprise development
- DWAF to drive national programme to encourage Schedule 1 use - for domestic food gardens, watering household livestock and micro enterprise development
- Women should take the “lead” and be regarded as “Ambassadors” for growth and development if the fundamentals of poverty are to be addressed
- Up scaling programmes with multi facet benefits like working for water working for wetlands



Conclusion



- Access to basic water and sanitation remains a priority
- Development and then prosperity-
Balancing Investing in infrastructure for economic growth and investment in social infrastructures
- The Anti-Poverty Strategy (the 7 pillars) to guide and inform WfGD interventions-