



**BRIEF ON NATIONAL MICROBIAL
MONITORING PROGRAMME**

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STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND LEGISLATION

- ★ Chapter 3 of NWA put emphasis on sustainable development (protection, development, conservation of the resource, etc)
- ★ Chapter 14 of NWA mandates Minister to develop national monitoring systems
- ★ Chapter 3 of NWRS requires the implementation of monitoring networks
- ★ It is critical that monitoring network be linked to licensing processes, such as the Reserve, RQO's and Classification of water resources

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND LEGISLATION (continue)

- ✱ Integrated water resource information is essential for effective resource management and protection
- ✱ Recently the Minister of the DWAF launched Thukela Water, KZN she emphasised on improved water management (fit for use), and equitable access to disease free water and adequate sanitation
- ✱ KZN is one of cholera prone regions in the country
- ✱ The NMMP, and other similar programmes on water related and water borne diseases have a major role in this regard
- ✱ The majority of South Africans still rely on untreated raw water supplies from the water courses (surface/underground)

CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNANCE AND CHALLENGES

- ★ “In the spirit of co-operative governance, a national inter-departmental committee will be established to co-ordinate monitoring of water resources.”

White paper on National Water Policy for South Africa 1997.....?

- The issues of co-operative governance **within the DWAF levels** (HO, RO/CMA), **with other Departments** (e.g. DoH) are encapsulated in Acts and the White paper on National Water Policy South Africa 1997
- The NMMP has strong linkages with Water Services section of DWAF
- It is critical that the recommendations of the **Strategic National Monitoring Framework** and its roll-out, **the 5-year Monitoring Plan** (2004) as well other vehicles of co-operative governance be utilised

CAPACITY BUILDING, EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

- ✱ Monitoring must be user-centric, i.e. information generated must be driven by needs, of the clients be accessible
- ✱ Monitoring information generated must be of benefit to the clients and the general public (value for money)
- ✱ If the public knows the **WHY** monitoring, the **HOW** is almost guaranteed (education/awareness/public participation).
- ✱ Some epidemics are not directly related to water in the streams, dams, etc, but basic hygiene
- ✱ The NMMP and other monitoring programmes face the challenge



END