



Department of Water Affairs and Forestry

OVERVIEW OF THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION PROCESS FOR THE GROOT LETABA RIVER WATER DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (GLWaP)

Post-Feasibility Bridging Studies



What is public participation?

Public participation involves a process resulting in improved decision-making.

It is a process leading to a joint effort by I&APs, technical specialists, the authorities and the proponent who work together to produce better decisions than if they had acted independently



Public participation principles

- **Inclusive consultation**
 - **Sufficient, accessible information to allow meaningful contributions**
 - **Information to I&APs in various ways**
 - **Empower people to understand concepts**
 - **Enough time for comment**
 - **Ample time to exchange information/viewpoints**



Objectives of public participation

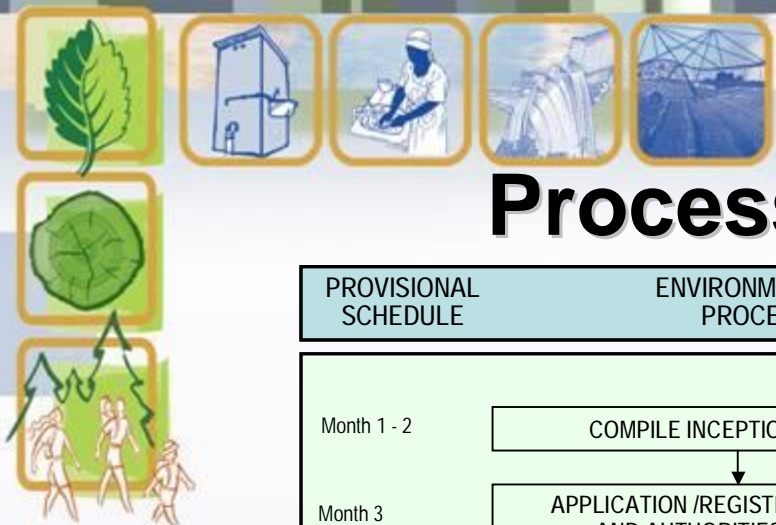
To provide sufficient and accessible information to I&APs in an objective manner to assist them to:

During the Scoping Phase

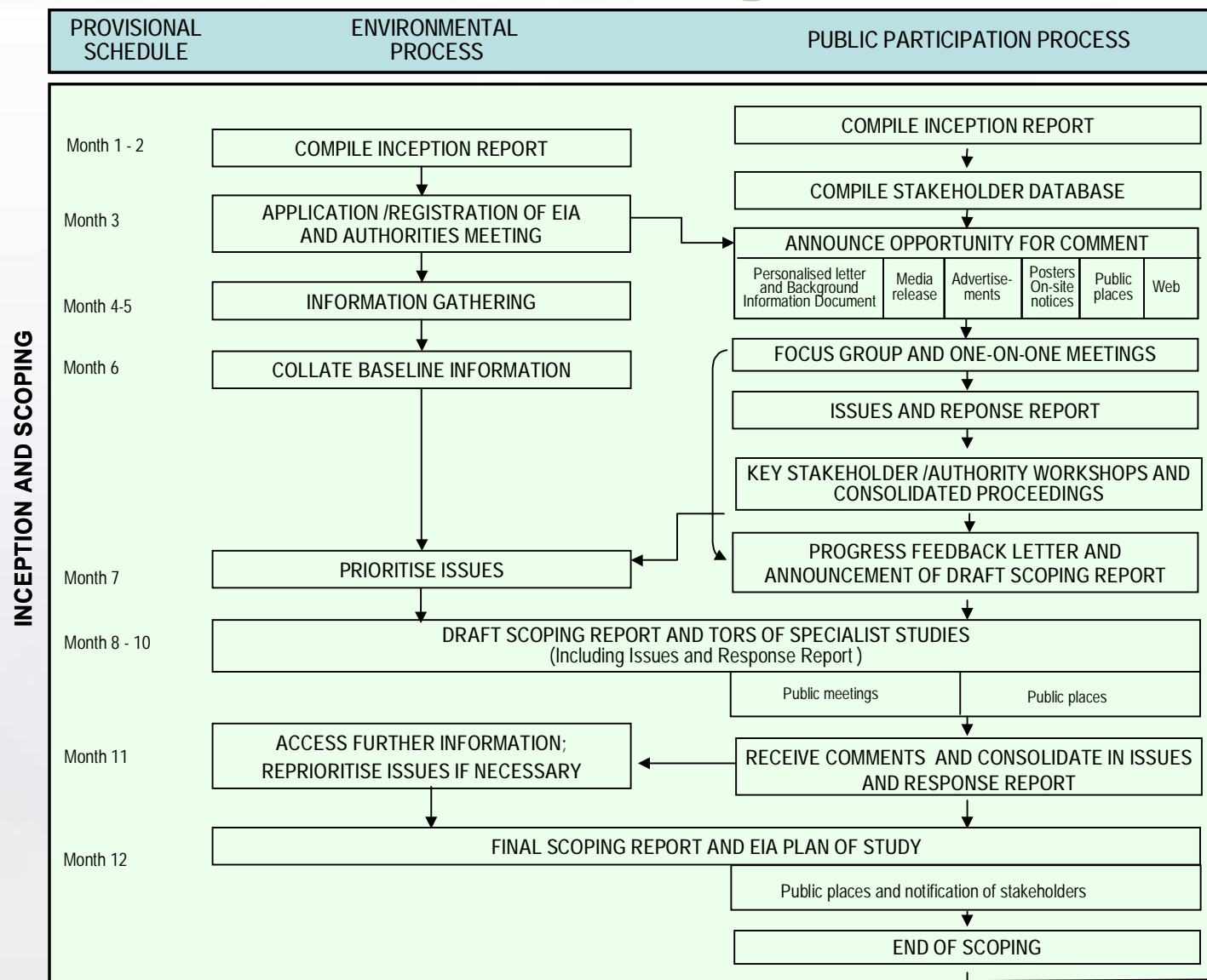
- identify issues of concern, suggestions for enhanced benefits and alternatives
- verify that their issues have been captured

During the Impact Assessment Phase (Specialist Studies and EIR)

- verify that their issues have been addressed either by the Specialist Studies, or elsewhere
- comment on the findings of the EIA, whether they agree with them or not



Process of integration

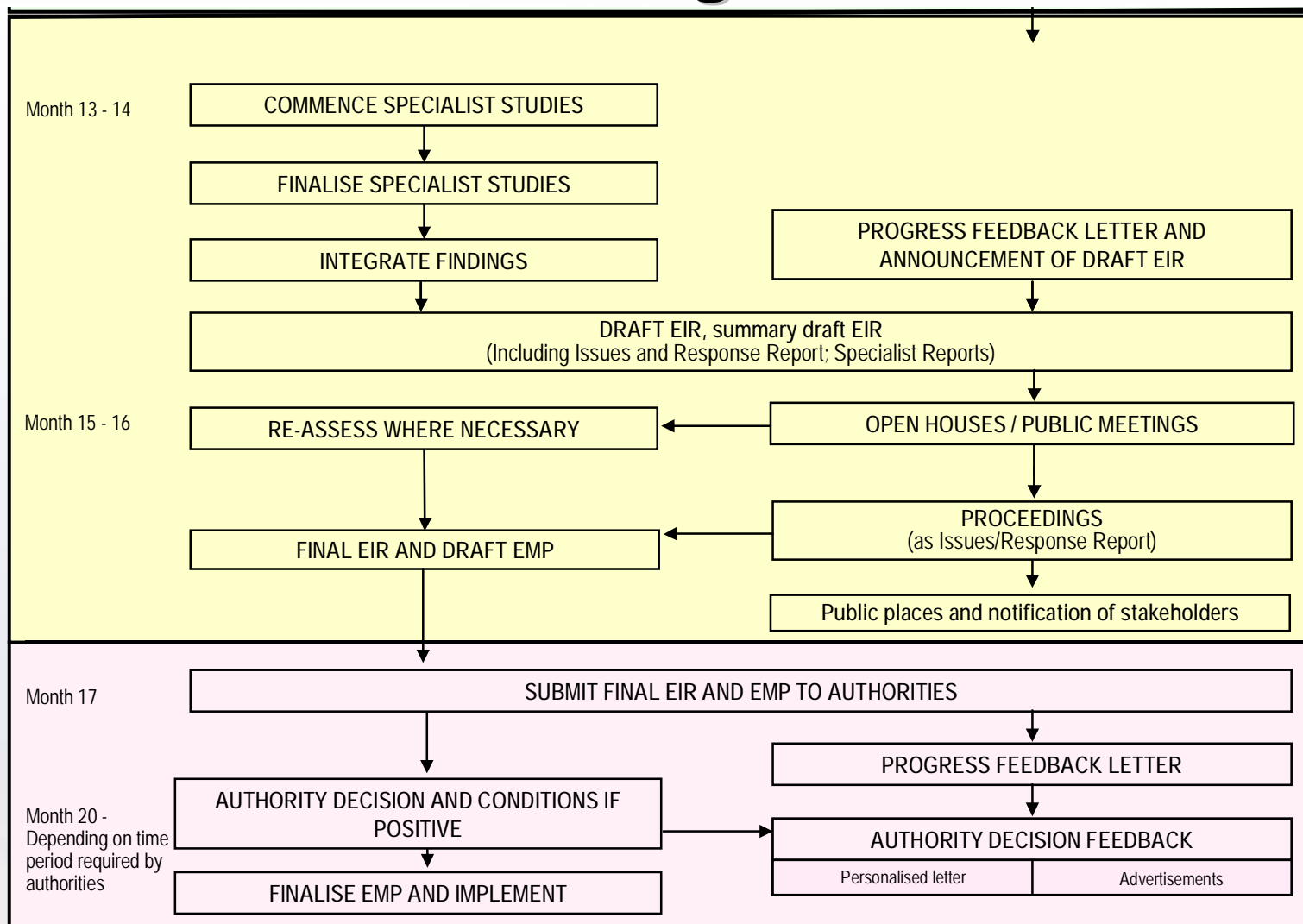




IMPACT ASSESSMENT

DECISION-MAKING

Process of integration(cont...)





Ongoing communication activities

- **Web site**
([www:dwaf.gov.za/projects/GrootLetaba](http://www.dwaf.gov.za/projects/GrootLetaba))
- **GLeWaP Newsletters**
- **Media announcements**
- **Activities that directly coincide with the public participation process**
 - **Media releases**
 - **Advertisements**
 - **Posters**
 - **Documents at public places**



Steps already undertaken

- Identification of stakeholders (ongoing)
- Announcement of the EIA by way of:
 - Advertisements
 - Site notice boards
 - Background Information Documents, comment sheet, letter of invitation
 - Issues and Response Report
 - Announcement meetings



Proposed next steps

- Continue with Issues and Response Report
- Register of interested and affected parties
- Letter to announce availability of Draft Scoping Report
- Making available Summary of Draft Scoping Report and the full Draft Scoping Report
- Public meetings to discuss the Draft Scoping Report
- Continue with Issues and Response Report