



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Directorate: National Water Resource Planning

**Continuation of Water Requirements and Availability Reconciliation
Strategy for the Mbombela Municipal Area, including the Crocodile and
Sabie River Systems**

STRATEGY STEERING COMMITTEE

Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference: Strategy Steering Committee (StraSC)

1. Introduction / Preamble

In 2014 the Department of Water Affairs and Sanitation (DWS) and relevant stakeholders, developed a strategy to ensure the ongoing reconciliation of supply and requirement for the Mbombela Municipal Area. One of the recommendations which came out of the Reconciliation Strategy Study was that a Strategy Steering Committee (StraSC) be formed with a clearly defined mandate and scope of work. The primary function of the StraSC is to ensure the implementation of the Reconciliation Strategy and to make recommendations, on an annual basis, on long-term planning activities required to ensure ongoing reconciliation of requirement and available supply in the Mbombela Municipal Area, including the Crocodile and Sabie River Systems.

A number of organisations currently own, operate and receive water from the Crocodile and Sabie River Systems. The main roleplayers to date have been the DWS, various Water Service Providers (WSPs) including the local municipality, various Water User Associations (WUAs) and other users. Although these organisations will continue to play a significant role in future decisions, other organisations need a forum to ensure that their requirements can be clearly conveyed, that they can make contributions when needed, and that they are continuously informed about the development and decisions regarding the water supply system. Organisations represented on the StraSC must ensure that recommendations made in the Reconciliation Strategy document are implemented and they should assume a collective responsibility for ensuring the ongoing reconciliation of supply and requirement.

2. Objectives

The objectives of the StraSC are:

- To ensure implementation of the recommendations of the Reconciliation Strategy.
- To update the Reconciliation Strategy to ensure that it is relevant.
- To ensure that the Reconciliation Strategy and its recommendations are appropriately communicated.

3. Implementation of the Reconciliation Strategy Recommendations

- Monitor the implementation of the recommendations contained in the first Reconciliation Strategy Study.
- Monitor the progress and compliance with set targets and objectives, e.g.
 - Target dates for initiating and completing studies
 - Water Conservation and Demand Management (WC/WDM)
 - Implementation of other interventions
- Assess the implications of deviations.
- Make recommendations on mitigation measures and adjustments to ensure the ongoing reconciliation of supply and requirements.

4. Updating of the Strategy

- Review / update and revise the Reconciliation Strategy.
- Monitor and update water requirements on an annual basis.
- Reassess the available resources and the existing system yield.
- Make recommendations to the DWS on additional studies required to update the water requirement and system yield.
- Undertake an annual reconciliation of supply and requirements.

- Update the scenario planning process to cater for changes in water requirements, yield and potential delays in the implementation of selected interventions.
- Finalise the process for the selection of interventions for implementation
- Make recommendations to DWS, other Water Services Authorities (WSAs) and Water User Associations (WUAS) on the need for further studies and on the need to implement interventions

5. Communication

- Communicate annually, and as and when required, progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the Reconciliation Strategy study to the following authorities:
 - DWS,
 - City of Mbombela local municipality,
 - Bushbuck Ridge local municipality,
 - Sembcorp Silulumanzi
 - Inkomati Usuthu Catchment Management Agency (IUCMA)
- Communicate annually, and as and when required, progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the Reconciliation Strategy Study to other Stakeholders, e.g.
 - Organised agriculture
 - Environmental Non-Government Organisations (NGOs)
 - Bulk Industrial and mining users
- Communicate progress on the implementation of the recommendations of the Reconciliation Strategy study to the general public.
- Liaise with departments involved in producing provincial strategies and provide input into such strategies.
- Brief relevant municipalities on imminent decisions
- Inform politicians of press releases relating to the reconciliation of supply and requirement
- Liaise with the Operation Committee as required.
- Provide information for the DWS website.

5.1 Reporting

The StraSC is a steering committee formed to ensure the ongoing reconciliation of water supply and requirement. Whilst the committee comprises of representatives from national government, provincial government, local government and agriculture, the meetings shall be facilitated and chaired by the DWS: Directorate National Water Resource Planning. As a steering committee, the primary function of the meetings will be to give guidance to DWS: Directorate National Water Resource Planning.

5.2 Administrative and Technical Support Group

A Technical Support Group (TSG) will be appointed to support the StraSC. The TSG will provide administrative, scientific and technical support. This support will be facilitated through the DWS: Directorate National Water Resource Planning.

5.3 Representation

The institutions / agencies to be represented on the StraSC are listed as follows:

- National, provincial and local government;
 - DWS (including the IUCMA)
 - Department of Mineral Resources (DMR)
 - Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs (COGTA)
 - Mpumalanga Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, Environment and Land Administration (MDARDLEA)
 - Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Association (MPTA)

- Office of the Premier
- Municipalities (local and district) in the study area
- South African Local Government Association (SALGA)
- Relevant residents' associations, rates payers organisations, community based organisations, agricultural organisations and NGOs;
 - Mpumalanga Agri (Agri SA)
 - Farmers' Associations
 - Komati Land Forests
- Environmental and water bodies, forums, groups and associations;
 - Mpumalanga Wetlands Forum
 - Birdlife Africa
 - Working for Water
 - Sub Catchment Forums
 - Water User Associations
 - Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA)
 - The Association for Water and Rural Development (AWARD)
 - Rand Water
- Private sector (mining, business, industries) in the vicinity;
 - Sencorp Silulumanzi
 - Sappi
 - PG Bison
 - TSB Sugar
- Parastatals
 - SANParks

5.4 Meetings

It is envisaged that two meetings will be held each year for the duration of this study:

- Meeting 1:
 - To consider / review progress with implementation; and
 - To deal with communications.
- Meeting 2:
 - To consider / review progress with implementation;
 - To update the Reconciliation Strategy Study; and
 - To deal with communications.