



**water & sanitation**

Department:  
Water and Sanitation  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



INTEGRATED WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM  
THEME: TAKING INNOVATION INTO PRACTICE  
31 May 2017, Centurion

# WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES AND INNOVATION IN MANAGEMENT

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Water Resource Planning System

# INTRODUCTION

## Water of a good quality is fundamental to:

- Food and energy security,
  - Economic growth (construction, manufacture, tourism etc.),
  - Protection of the environment,
  - Maintaining human health and wellness, and
  - Sustaining livelihoods.
- 
- Globally, the availability of good-quality water is considered a condition for alleviating poverty (*Creamer Media (Pty) Ltd, 2011*)





# BACKGROUND

## Water Quality and a Prosperous, Sustainable Nation

- Water pollution has a direct impact on economic growth, human health, ecosystems, job creation and the cost of doing business
- Some examples:



Cost associated with reduction in crop yields



Costs associated with treating affected water



Costs to the public and private health system from diseases related to polluted water



Costs related to clearing of waterways and drainage systems



Costs related to tourism losses



Costs related to loss of ecosystem functions



# **WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES**

# WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES



- Vandalism of Infrastructure
- **Dysfunctional WWTW's**
- Lack of sufficient maintenance plans
- Poor budgeting
- **Lack of** sufficiently adequate / **appropriate urban planning**
- Lack of **sufficient formal sanitation** in all informal settlements.
- **Destruction of ecological infrastructure** (wetlands)
- Flow regime changes (less dilution capacity)
- Use of Inappropriate land management practices
- Lack of adequate litter control and prevention measures
- Lack of sufficient institutional, technical and financial capacity
- Intricate procurement processes (government is slow to react)
- Ineffective monitoring



# WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES



- Uncontrolled discharges from abandoned mines and runoff from discarded mine dumps (legacy issues).
- Inadequate **financial provisioning** for rehabilitation
- Insufficient precautionary planning, regulation and enforcement
- **Insufficient compliance with licence conditions;** inappropriate licence conditions; inadequate enforcement capacity
- Land degradation and over-grazing
- Inappropriate fertilization practices/over-fertilization
- Over-irrigation and in-appropriate irrigation technology
- Lack of **sufficient awareness creation programmes** on water pollution
- Lack of sufficient incentives to treat water or support from government to use alternative technology

# WATER QUALITY STATUS IN SA

## ■ Most predominant constituents of concern in SA:

- Nutrients
- Salts
- Microbial contamination
- Urban Runoff & Litter



## ■ Other issues that have been identified are:

- Acidification,
- Siltation/sedimentation,
- Metals in sediment,
- Persistent Organic Pollutants (including agro-chemicals),
- Radiation,
- Thermal Pollution,
- Nano-particle pollution, CEC and EDC.



## ■ For many of these the exact extent at a national scale is unknown.

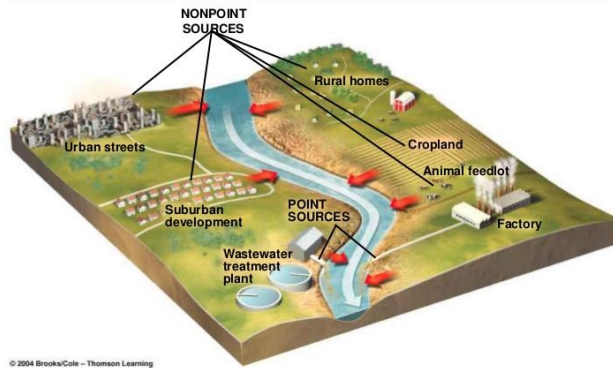
# DISTRIBUTION OF ISSUES VARIES DEPENDING ON THE LAND-USE ACTIVITIES

Sector	Main Associated Contaminant
Mining	Salts pH changes (acidification) Metals Toxins Radiation
Urban Activities	Toxins Nutrients Salts Microbial contaminants
Agriculture	Salts Nutrients Microbial contaminants Toxins/POPs (pesticides, herbicides)
Industry	Salts Thermal contamination Toxins & POPs



# SOME FACTORS THAT MAY CONTRIBUTE TO THE WQM CHALLENGES

## Sources of Water Pollution



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- **Lack of necessary alignment and coordination within and between government departments:** WQM hampered by poor coordination & conflicting approaches
- **Lack of necessary finance for WQM:** Financial resources available are insufficient and do not recognize the investment required to counteract economic harm.
- **Lack of sufficient data and information management:** Data sharing is a challenge, including transboundary-management. There is a challenge in ensuring that the public has access to information
- **Lack of sufficient capacity & skills**
- **Lack of a Sector approach and ownership at all levels:** Self regulation, awareness and accountability

*It is evident that inadequate management of water quality challenges impacts on the environment, peoples' wellbeing, the growth of the economy and the cost of doing business.*



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In response to the country's need to take an **improved INTEGRATED** approach to **Water Quality Management (WQM)**, the Department of Water and Sanitation initiated a project to **revise its current WQM Policies** and **develop a National, Integrated Water Quality Management (WQM) Strategy**.





# **INTEGRATED WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY “INNOVATION”**

# INNOVATION

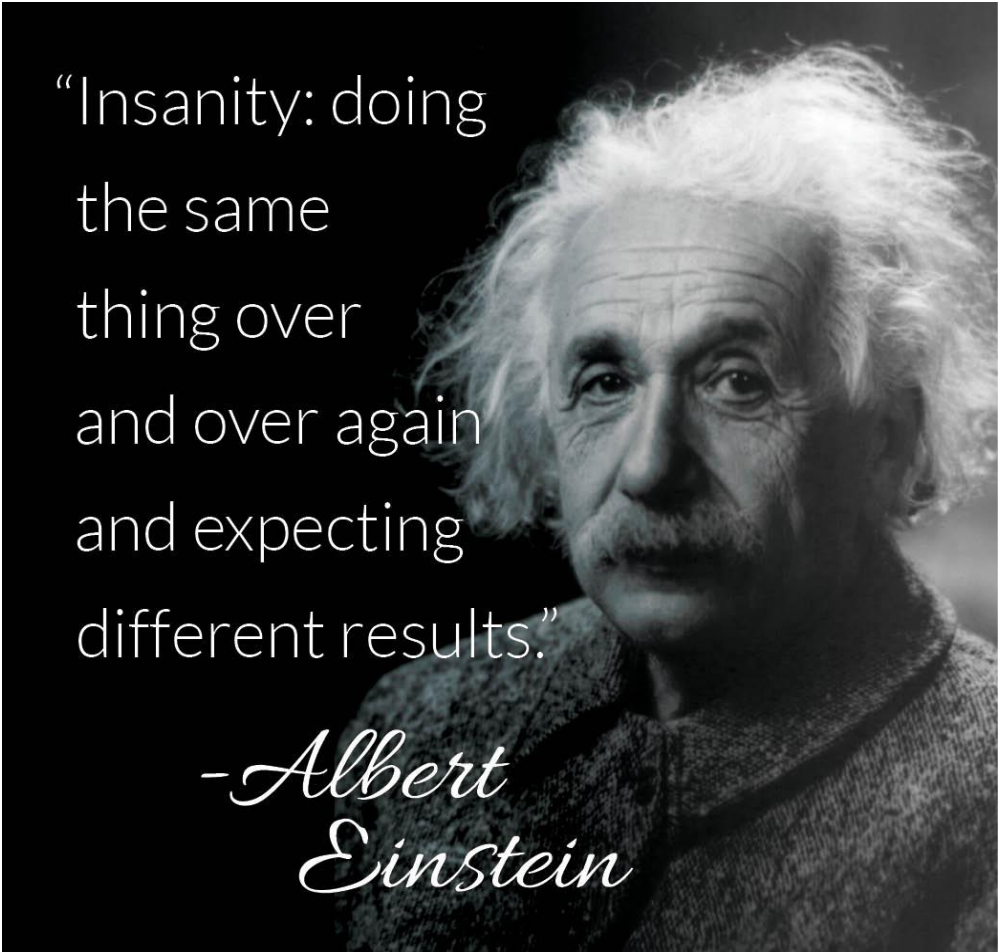
There is a need to:  
**Institutionalise Water  
Quality** (PV, 2016)

*“Integrated Water Quality Management is  
not new but we need to make it **COMMON**  
practise”*

Institutionalise

*verb*

1. establish (something, typically  
a practice or activity) as a  
convention or norm in an  
organization or culture.

A black and white portrait of Albert Einstein, showing his characteristic wild white hair and mustache. He is looking slightly to the side with a thoughtful expression.

“Insanity: doing  
the same  
thing over  
and over again  
and expecting  
different results.”

*- Albert  
Einstein*

# PROJECT: POLICY/STRATEGY BRIEF

## INTEGRATED Water Quality Management

### THE PROJECT CHALLENGES ARE TO: INNOVATE

TO  
INSTITUTIONALISE  
WATER QUALITY  
MANAGEMENT  
OPERATIONAL AND  
INSTITUTIONAL  
INTEGRATION

TO ENSURE THAT  
PEOPLE  
UNDERSTAND  
THAT WATER  
QUALITY IS EVERY  
BODIES  
RESPONSIBILITY

TO STOP DOING  
THE SAME THINGS  
OVER AND OVER  
AGAIN AND THEN  
EXPECT A  
DIFFERENT  
OUTCOME

TO ENSURE THAT  
WATER QUALITY IS  
ON THE AGENDA  
OF OTHER  
DEPARTMENTS  
AND THE SECTOR

TO ENSURE THAT  
WHAT NEEDS TO  
BE MANAGED GET  
MEASURED

Policy Response A:

?

Policy Response B:

?

Policy Response C:

?

Policy Response D:

?

**DWS Vision: “a dynamic, people centred department, leading the effective management of the nation's water resources, to meet the needs of current and future generations”**



# HOW DOING THINGS DIFFERENTLY CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

## NATIONAL MONITORING POINTS COMPLIANCE TO PLANNING LIMITS AND COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS STUDY (2011 VS 2015)

EC 2015	27	26	18	29
EC 2011	30	25	17	28

SO4 2015	5	10	18	67
SO4 2011	11	9	10	70

Cl 2015	18	7	32	44
Cl 2011	19	8	29	44

PO4 2015	27	7	54	12
PO4 2011	71	25	3	1

NH3 2015	10	7	16	68
NH3 2011	7	5	33	55

pH 2015	59	31	10
pH 2011	42	40	18

# INNOVATIVE: PROTECTION-BASED CLASSIFICATION OF WATER RESOURCES

## SECTION-12: Prescription of the classification system

The system for classifying water resources may:

- 12(2)(b)(iii) set out water uses for instream or land based activities which **activities must be regulated or prohibited** in order **to protect the water resource**; and
- 12(2)(c) **provide for such other matters** relating to the protection, use, development, conservation, management and control of water resources, **as the Minister considers necessary**.

# IWQM POLICY RESPONSE

## Vision

/vi-zhun/

The image or insight of how something could or should be in the future

**Government, in partnership with private sector and civil society, secures water that is fit for use, for all, forever!**

### PILLAR A:

Taking an inclusive approach to IWQM

### PILLAR B:

Applying integrated, adaptive IWQM

### PILLAR C:

Financing IWQM

### PILLAR D:

Building the knowledge and capacity base for IWQM



IWQM Policy Values, Goal and Principles

Relevant Legislation, Policies and Strategies related to WQM

Constitution of South Africa

**CONSTITUTION OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA,  
1996**

### CHAPTER 2: BILL OF RIGHTS

24. Environment. - Everyone has the right:

(a) to an environment that is not harmful to their health or well-being; and

(b) to have the environment protected, for the benefit of the present and future generations, through reasonable legislative and other measures that—

(i) prevent pollution and degradation;

(ii) promote conservation; and

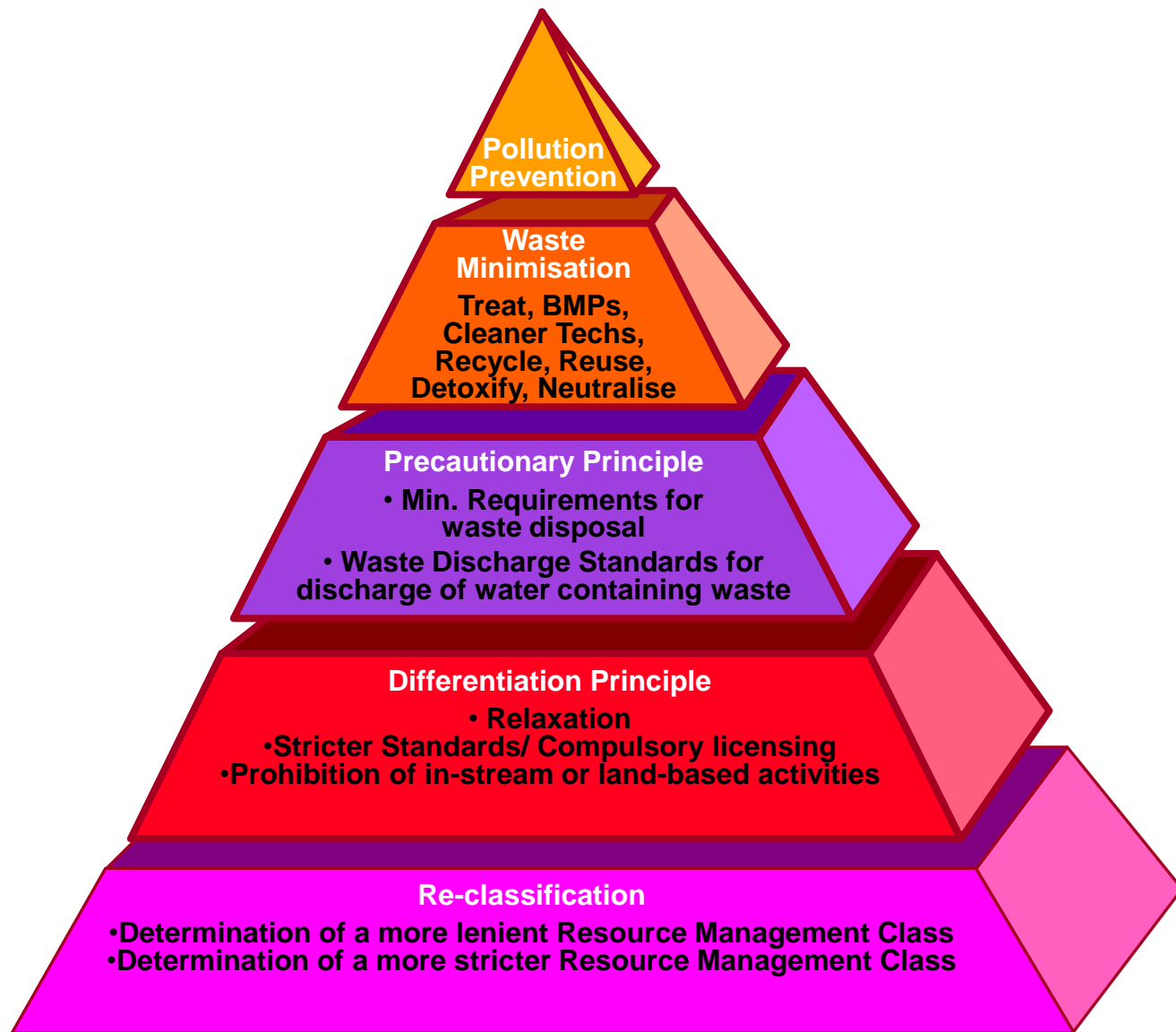
(iii) secure ecologically sustainable development and use of natural resources while promoting justifiable economic and social development.



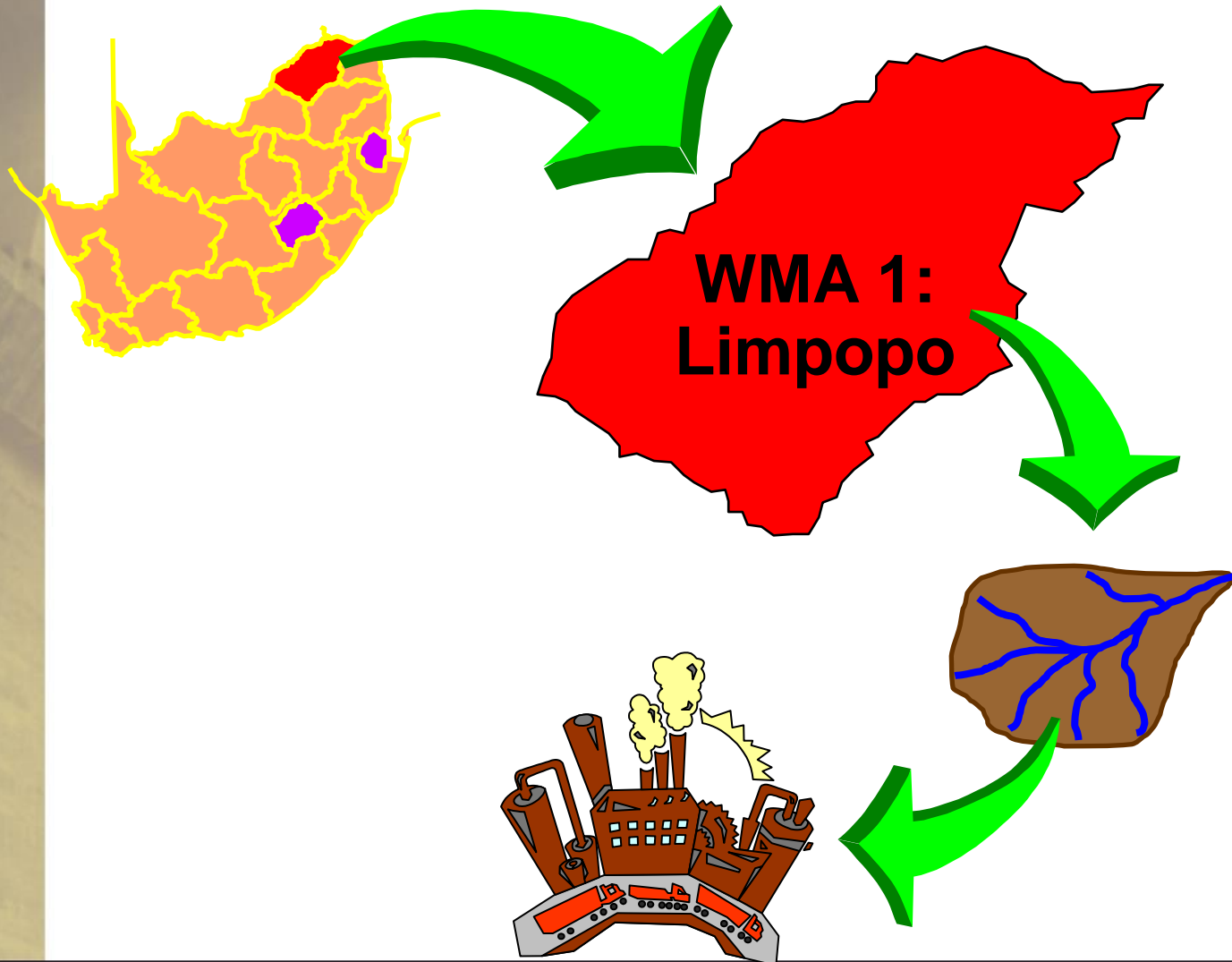
# CONTEXT AND MOTIVATION FOR THE PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES

- The vision for water quality management in South Africa is captured in the concise statement **“Fit for use, for all, forever”**,
  - **Fit for use** - A scientific judgement, involving objective evaluation of available evidence, of **how suitable the quality of water is for its intended use** or for protecting the health of aquatic ecosystems.
  - **For all** - This indicates a fundamental commitment to equitable utilisation. It is accepted that water resources will be utilised in ways which will **benefit all the people of South Africa**.
  - **Forever** - This acknowledges the **commitment to sustainable management**: the willingness to balance the needs for long term access to the water resource, against the needs for short term development and utilisation.

# DECISION-TAKING HIERARCHY

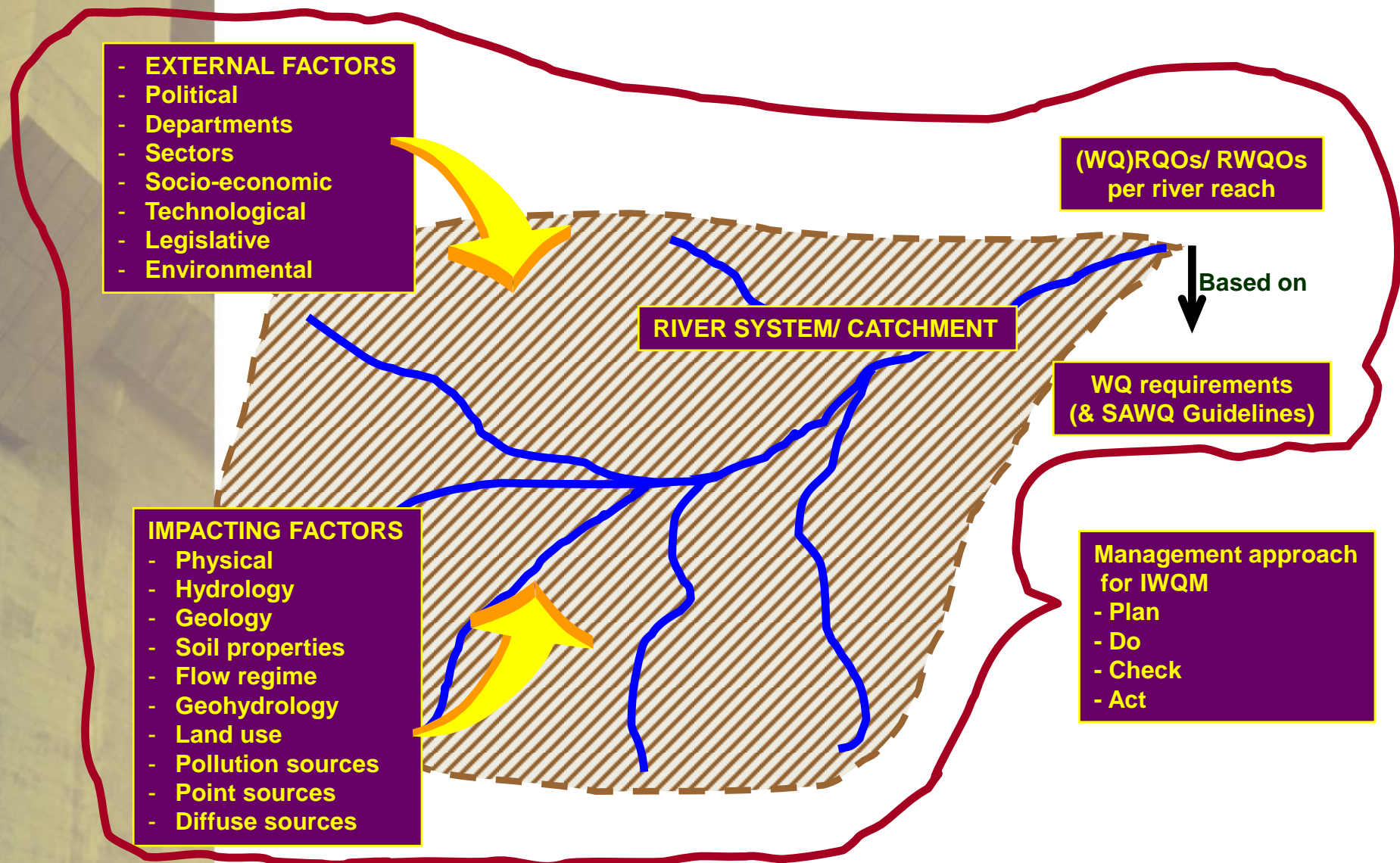


# WQM NEED TO INTEGRATE AT VARIOUS LEVELS FROM A NATIONAL TO WMA, CATCHMENT AND SSI





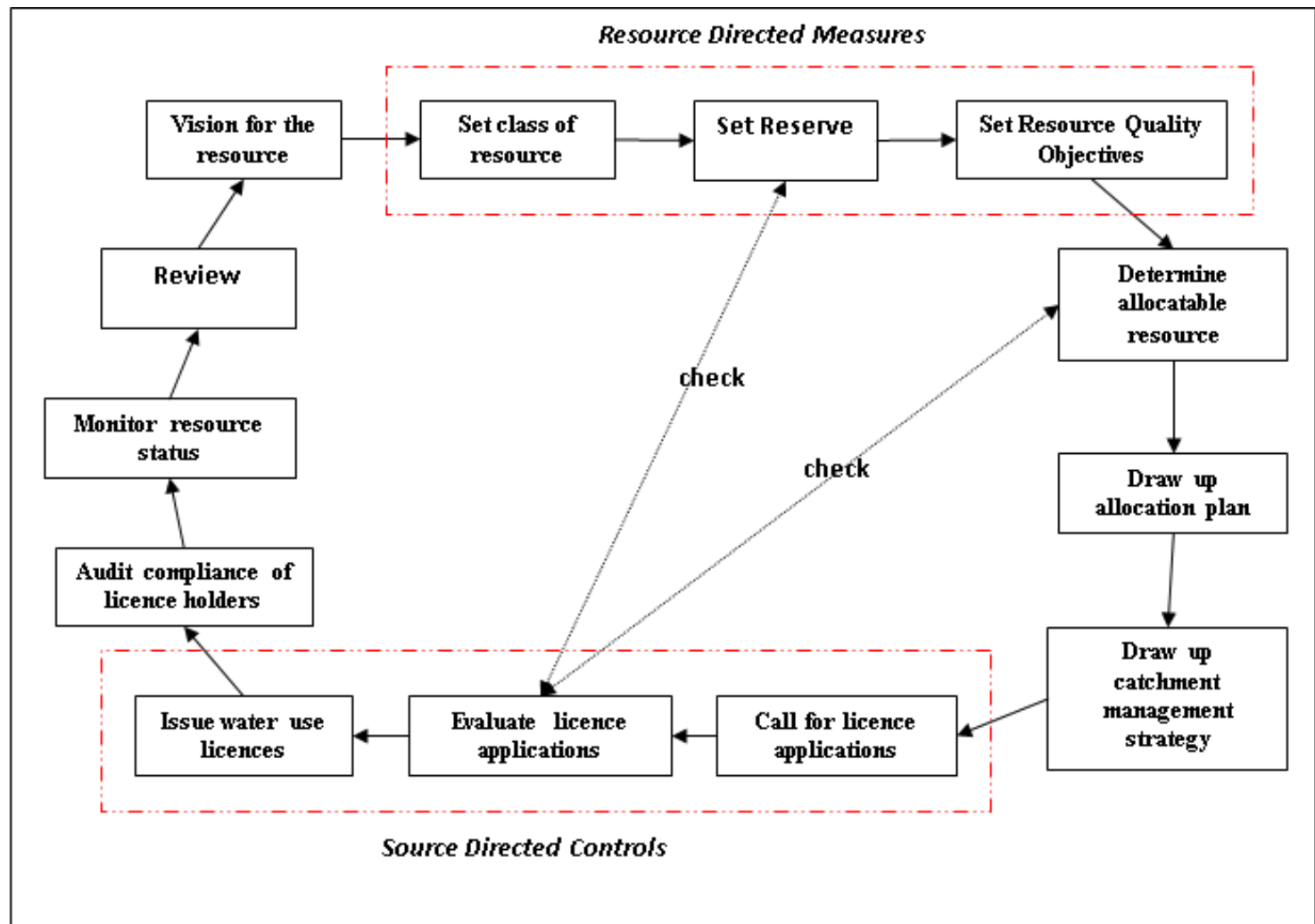
# THE CATCHMENT CONTEXT OF IWQM



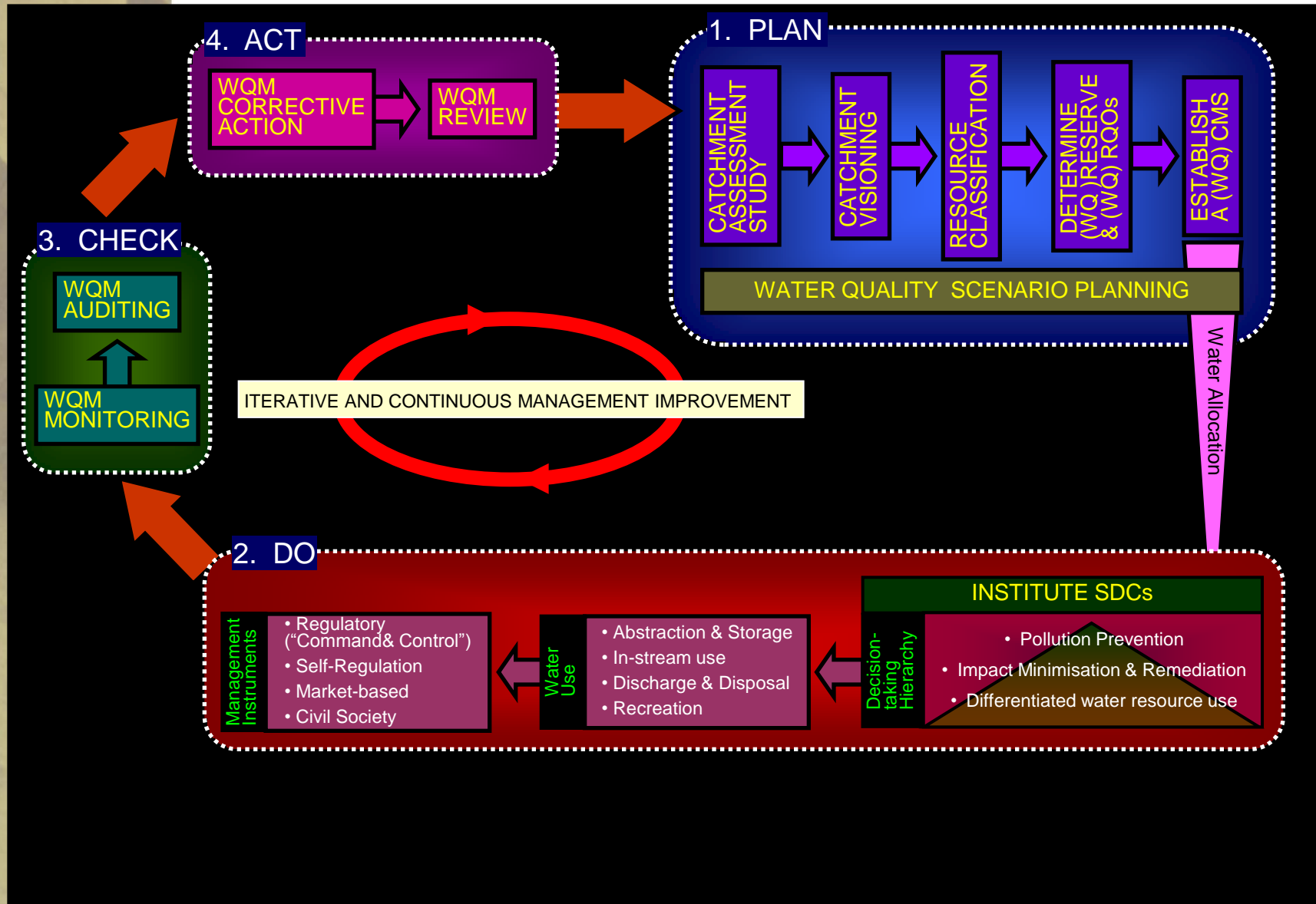


# FRAMEWORK FOR INTEGRATION

# RESOURCE DIRECTED MEASURES FOR PROTECTION OF WATER RESOURCES: INTEGRATED MANUAL (1999)

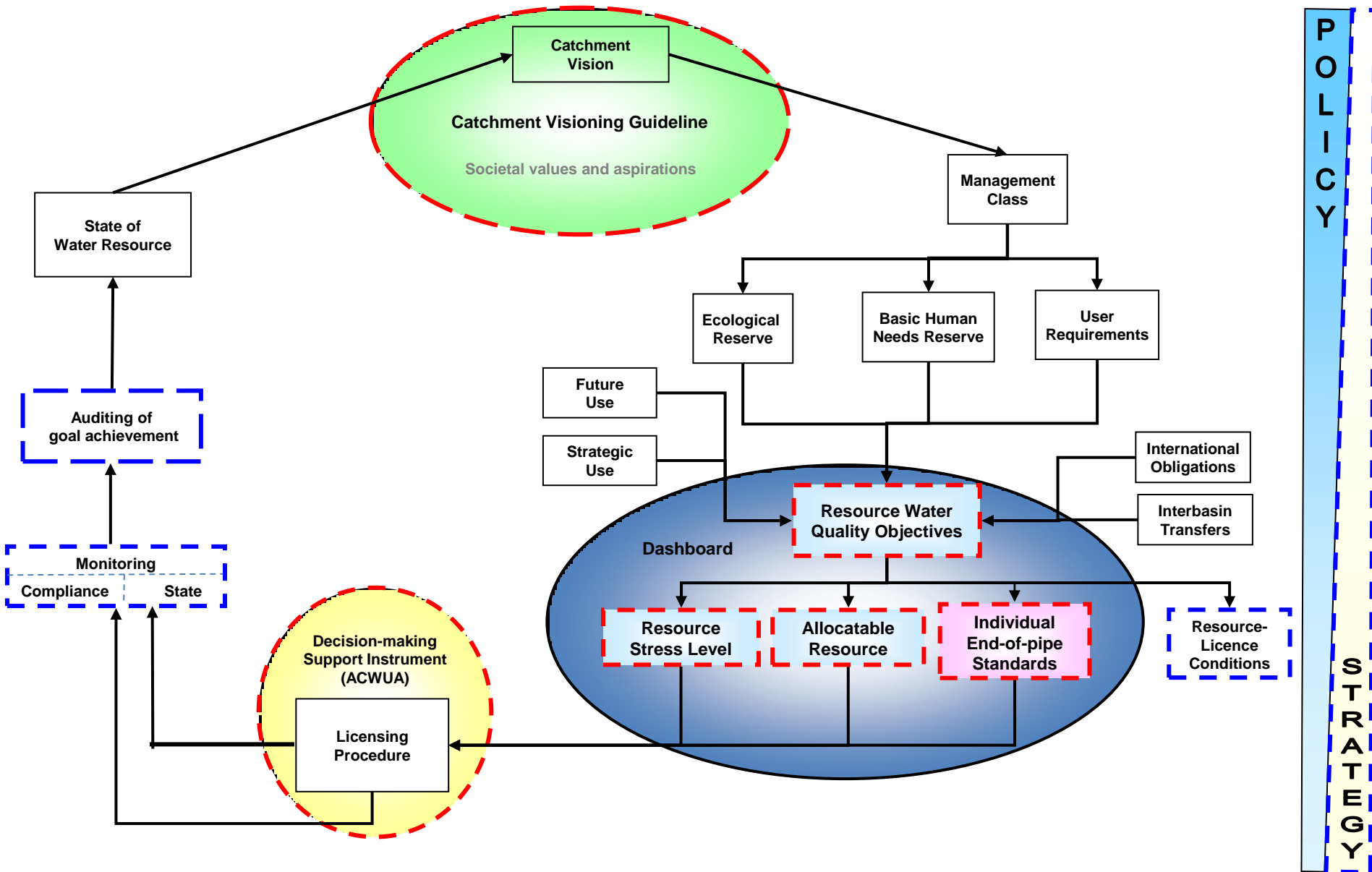


# IWQM PROCESS DIAGRAM (2003)

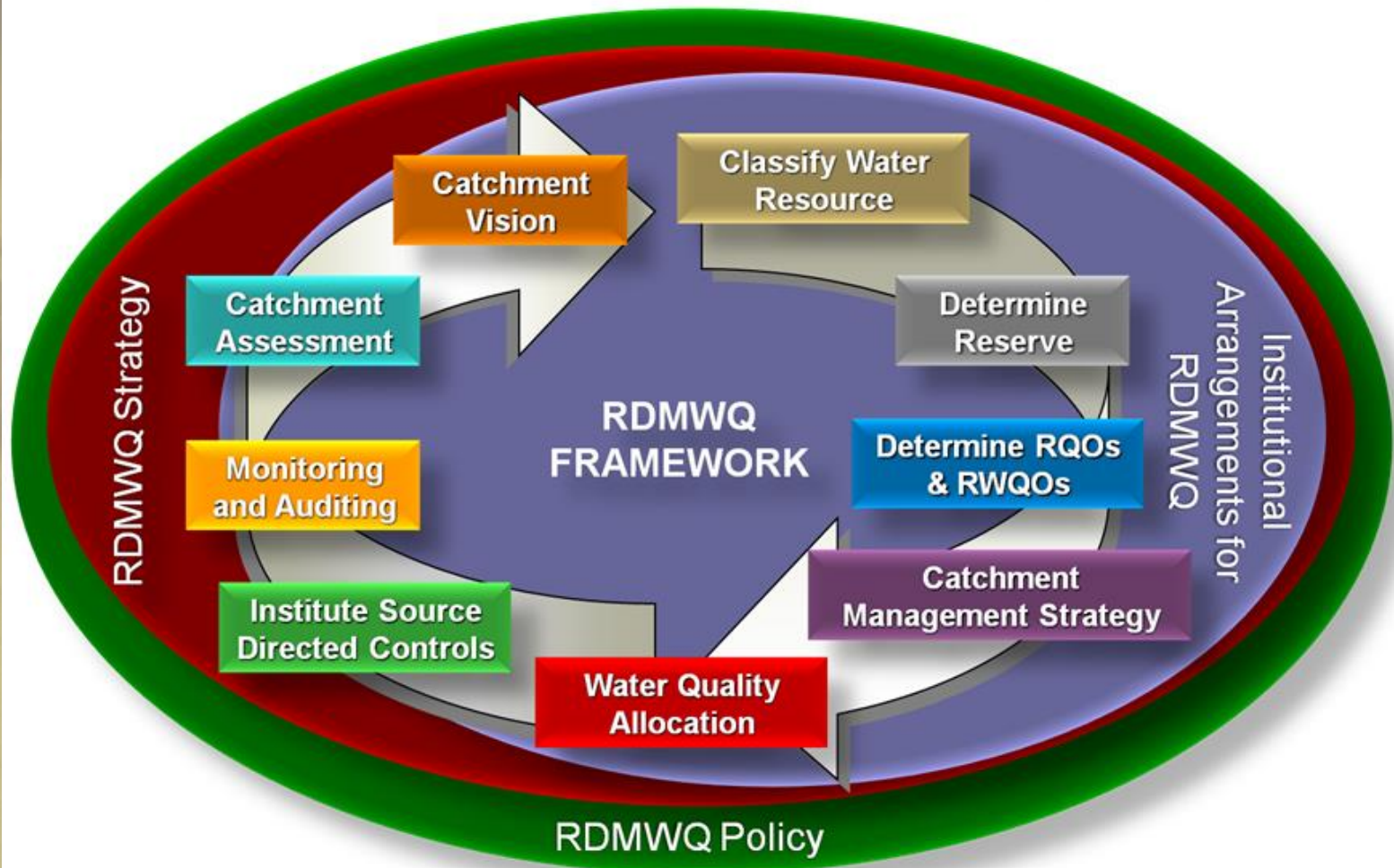




# RDMWQ FRAMEWORK FOR MAKING RDM OPERATIONAL: 2004



# RESOURCE DIRECTED MANAGEMENT OF WQ PROCESS: 2006



# 1. PLAN

## Integrated Water Quality Planning

### CATCHMENT ASSESSMENT STUDY

#### ANALYSE THE RESERVE

ECOLOGICAL COMPONENT

A B C D E F

BASIC HUMAN NEEDS COMPONENT

I A T U

#### ANALYSE OTHER USER REQUIREMENTS

“BULK” DOMESTIC

I A T U

AGRICULTURE

I A T U

INDUSTRY

I A T U

RECREATION

I A T U

#### EVALUATE

- Institutional status
- Any other applicable PPPs

#### ASSESS

- Social attributes
- Economic attributes
- Bio-physical attributes

#### CATCHMENT FORUMS

#### CATCHMENT VISIONING

#### DETERMINE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CLASS

### CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

CLASS I  
Minimally used  
Water Resource

CLASS II  
Moderately used  
Water Resource

CLASS III  
Heavily used  
Water Resource

#### DETERMINE RESERVE & RQOs

### WQ SCENARIO PLANNING

- Decision support for Catchment RQM;
- WQM foresight;
- Reconciliation of water resource potential and demand;
- Influencing land-use planning and development; etc.

### STRATEGIC WQM

### ESTABLISH A (WQ)CMS

Determine incremental  
RWQOs

Determine incremental  
SMOs

Develop Sectoral  
WQM Plans

Develop Single Source  
WQM Plans

### ITERATIVE AND CONTINUOUS MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENT

## 4. ACT

WQM REVIEW

WQM CORRECTIVE ACTION

## 3. CHECK

WQM AUDITING

WQM MONITORING

## 2. DO

### INSTITUTE SDCs

Decision-taking  
Hierarchy

Pollution Prevention  
Impact Minimisation & Remediation  
Water resource use

Self-regulatory  
Management  
Instruments

- ISO 14001 Certification

Regulatory  
Management  
Instruments

- Water Use Licensing
- EMPR Process
- Landfill Permits

Market-based  
Management  
Instruments

- WDCS

#### KEY:

A,B,C,D,E,F = ECOLOGICAL CATEGORIES, PPPs = POLICIES, PROGRAMMES & PLANS, I = IDEAL, A = ACCEPTABLE, T = TOLERABLE, U = UNACCEPTABLE, WQ = WATER QUALITY, PP = PARTICIPATIVE, WQM = WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT, RQOs = RESOURCE QUALITY OBJECTIVES, RWQOs = RESOURCE WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES, SMOs = SOURCE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES, (WQ)CMS = WQM COMPONENT OF THE CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, SDCs = SOURCE DIRECTED CONTROLS, WDCS = WASTE DISCHARGE CHARGE SYSTEM



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# IWQMS PROJECT PHASES



**Project Commenced : 4<sup>th</sup> October 2015**

**Completed**  
**Oct 2015 -Jan 2016**

## Inception

- Clarify the expectations and scope for the project

**Completed**  
**Jan 2016 – Mar 2016**

## Assessment

- Comprehensive literature survey
- Identification of the WQ and WQM Challenges in SA

**Completed**  
**Aug 2016 – Feb 2017**

## Policy

- Define Policy Principles
- Revise, update & integrate existing WQM policies

**Completed**  
**Aug 2016 – Feb 2017**

## Strategy

- Revise, update & integrate existing WQM strategies based on inputs from Stakeholders & assessment phase

**March 2017 –**

## Policy into Practice

- **Develop a pragmatic plan to implement, monitor and evaluate the execution of the policy and strategy.**





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# Thank you