**Republic of South Africa Stakeholder Workshop for Sustainable Development Goal 6.5.1**

**Country Workshop Report**

 **November, 2017**

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# Introduction

The Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) asthe water sector leader is supporting Statistics South Africa (Stats SA)with coordinating and providing informationnecessary for monitoring the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals pertaining to water.

The DWS inpartnership with the Global Water Partnership (GWP)RSA, held a workshop from 23 to 24 November 2017,to gather input on the degree to which Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is implemented within the country.

The objectives of the workshop were:

* To assess and take stock of water governance status and priorities.
* To consolidate stakeholder inputs into a single country submission on indicator 6.5.1
* To refine implementation plans for monitoring other indicators

The workshop was attended by key stakeholders from the water sector.

 An overall score of 70 was obtained based on the assessment of four components namely, policies, institutions, management tools and financing.

# Background

Though water is the common thread running through all the SDGs;Goal 6- Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation,is the one that directly reflect on water related issues. This goal has 9 sub indicators and in response, the DWS has established 9 Task Teams to coordinate and provide information.TheTask Team (TT) working on sub indicator 6.5.1 has been established, within the Branch Planning & Information.The TT 6.5.1 has been meeting regularly with other TTs to report on progress and to obtain guidance,see ***annexure 5: Minutes from TT meetings***. Terms of Reference (***see annexure 6***), for theTT 6.5.1was developed and one of the key activities identified was the need to urgentlyconvene a country workshop in order to respond to the questionnaire developed for this sub indicator. With funding from the GWP SA the DWS held the workshop in November 2017.

# Discussion on Country Questionnaire for Indicator 6.5.1

Concept: Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is an approach to managing water in a coordinated way. It takes into account the various users and uses in a given situation, with the aim of maximizing positive social, economic and environmental impacts. It uses water bodies, such as catchments and aquifers, as the principle unit of water management, and stresses decentralization of governance structures and active stakeholder participation in decision making

 The indicator degree of implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), measured in per cent (%) from 0 (implementation not yet started) to 100 (fully implemented) is currently being measured in terms of different stages of development and implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM).

# Methodology

Apresentation was doneto guide the discussion on the SDG 6.5.1. The scoring of the degree of implementation of IWRMwas based on answering a questionnaire for the indicator 6.5.1 through assessing four thematic areas. The process followed was based on theSTEP-BY-STEP MONITORING METHODOLOGY FOR SDG INDICATOR 6.5.1, provided by the UN.**Refer to Annexure4**.

# Results and Discussion

The scores for the four thematic areas by the participants are in Annex 1. Table 2 shows the summary of the average scores of the thematic areas.

In order to reach consensus and to provide adequate motivation based on quantifiable evidence, decision support matrices where prepared and applied to each question were various parameters were identified and then allocated weights before scoring. **Refer annexure 1: Questionnaire discussion**. For each question the participants, guided by the facilitator, endeavored to provide a list of available documentation as evidenceand motivation for a particular score.

**Table 2 Degree of IWRM implementation**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Thematic Area** | **Average Score** |
| Section 1 Enabling Environment | 80 |
| Section 2 Institutions and Participation | 60 |
| Section 3 Management Instruments | 70 |
| Section 4 Financing | 60 |
| **Indicator 6.5.1 score** **= Degree of IWRM implementation (0-100)** | **70** |

**Enabling Environment**:This was awarded a high score due to the fact that, most of the policieslaws and plans are in place at national level. The White Paper on the National Water Policy was developed as a precursor to the National Water Act (Act No. 37 of 1998). This was hailed as progressive piece of legislation promoting sustainability, equity, protection, conservation of the Resource. The National Water Resource Strategy (NWRS) is a legislative mandate developed in a 5 year cycle.

* Major parameters considered for 1.1
* National water Policy White paper (1997
* National Water Act 37 of 1998
* National Water Resource Strategy 1 and 2
* Major parameters considered for 1.2b
* Internal Strategic Perspectives (DWAF 2004)
* Catchment management strategy
* Water Resources Reconciliation Strategies
* Integrated Water Quality Management Strategy and Thematic Plans
* Major parameters considered for 1.2c
* Agreements, Treaties and Commissions
* IWRM plans and trans boundary studies

**Institutions and Participation**: The score was rather mediocre because members felt that coordination between National Government and other sectors is not very vibrant and there are no gender specific objectives for IWRM.

**Management Instruments**: a high score of 70 was awarded to this indicator becauseas country it was felt that most of the instruments are available regardless of the fact that theyare not being implemented.

**Financing**: Members agreed that whilst financing for national water resources development is quite high there is little of water resources development at sub national. The revenue collectionrate to recuperate costs in the whole value chain of the water businessis very poor. Funding for projects is high, but beyond that when it comes to funding for trans boundary institutions it is barely minimal, hence a scoring of 60.

* Major parameters considered for 4.1 and 4.2
* Nationalbudget for water resources project
* Provincialbudget for water resource develop
* Catchment based budget
* Current cost recovery at all3 tiers of governance
* Availability of a designated budget for trans boundary project

# Conclusion

Overly a score of 70% has been obtained by RSA,this indicates that a lot of input has been made by the national government to create a conducive environment for implementation of IWRP through putting up policy establish relevantinstitutions’, developing of instruments and sufficient funding for water resources development.However, a lot ofwork still needs to be done to ensure policies; strategies and plans are implemented on the ground.

# Recommendation

Based on the deliberations during the workshop the participants made the following recommendations:

* There is need for continued capacity building in IWRM especially in human resources and others.
* There is a need to strengthen Gender mainstreaming in the Water sector and empower the vulnerable members of society especially at local levels of water resource management.
* Gaps on the implementation of IWRM need to be identified so as to improve the Country Status report going forward and measures to achieve SDG No. 6 within the 2030 target year.
* There is need for government to allocate more funds towards water resources development at subnational and local levels.
* Local government should put stronger mechanism for cost recovery in order to ensure sustainability in the sector. Non-revenue water supplies should be limited to indigent communities only.

# Way Forward

Results obtained from this workshop are a close indicator of the baseline status of IWRM implementation for RSA, however,the survey process conducted was biased towards academics and departmental officials; little effort was made towards soliciting and mainstreaming the opinions of mostly vulnerable groups as well as water sector industries and organisation. This should be viewed as a gap and the GWP could assist in bridging this gap.

There is also need to access the survey monkey associated with the sub indicator, test it with the water sector and compare with the results from the questionnaire.

# List of Participants

See attached List of attendance register.

# Annexures

## Attendance Register

## Questionnaire Discussion

## Filled Country Questionnaire for Indicator 6.5.1

## STEP-BY-STEP MONITORING METHODOLOGY FOR SDG INDICATOR 6.5.1

## Minutes from TT meetings

## TT Terms of Reference.