



water & sanitation

Department:
Water and Sanitation
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

The Determination of Water Resource Classes and RQOs in the Inkomati: Background

Public Meeting no.2

Presented by:

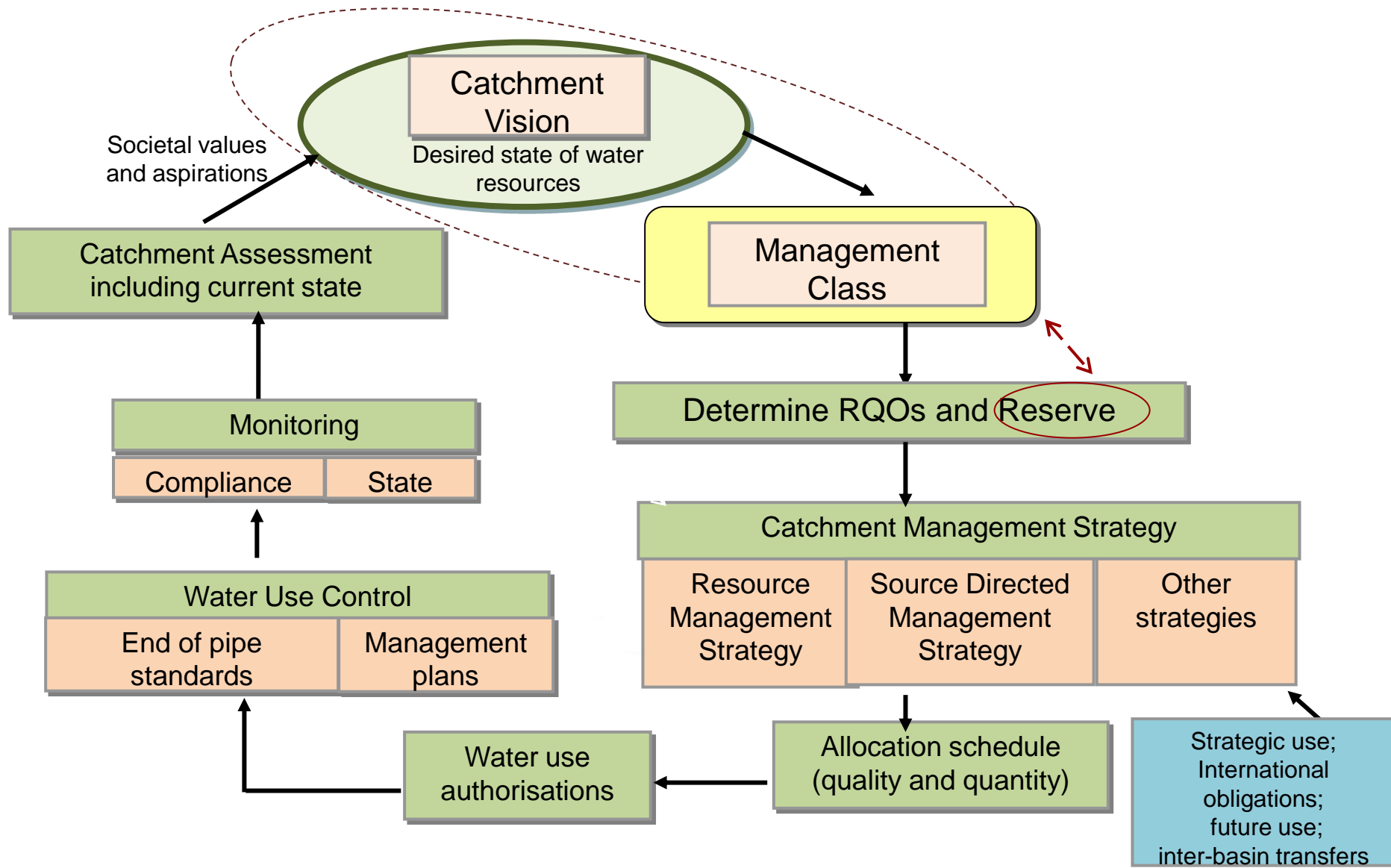
Name Surname: Mohlapa Sekoele

Designation: Scientist (Production)

Directorate: Water Resource Classification

Date: 04 March 2015

INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



Legal Mandate

- National Water Act requires:
 - Classification of water resources
 - Prepared in accordance with the National Water Resource Classification System.
 - Resource Quality Objectives
 - Defines the goals to achieve the Management Class, numerically and as narratives.

What is Classification?

- Classification defines the desired state of the water resources by setting a Water Resource Class , commonly known as Management Class (MC);
- Recommended MC reflects a balance between protection and use of the water resources;
- This balance was determined by taking into account the social, economic & ecological landscape;
- Process requires co-operation & transparency with all stakeholders.

What are the classes?

Classes	Description of use	Majority of ecological categories
Class I	Minimally used	A & B
Class II	Moderately used	C
Class III	Heavily used	D

Ecological Category (EC) - means the assigned ecological condition to a water resource . It is measured by determining how much the ecosystem has changed from natural (pre-development condition). The scale is A (near natural) to F (critically modified)

What are the Resource Quality Objectives?

- RQOs are numeric or descriptive statements of conditions which should be met in the receiving water resource;
- RQOs are the objectives or goals which can be measured or monitored to determine whether the Class is being achieved;
- The RQOs are intended to give effect to the Class determined.

DETERMINATION OF CLASSES AND RQOS IN THE INKOMATI

- **The study was initiated in April 2013**
- **Timeframe: 24 months**
- **IWR Water Resources was appointed to assist
DWS**
- **The objective of the study is to determine
classes and RQOs in the Inkomati**

Stakeholder Involvement

- Public Meeting to announce the project (June 2013)
- Established a Project Steering Committee to guide process
 - 3 meetings (August 2013, March and November 2014)
- Technical Task Group meetings
 - 2 meetings (16 October 2013 and 28 August 2014)
- Catchment Management Forums
- Information dissemination:
 - Advertisements and invitation letters
 - BIDs
 - Meetings with sectors

Where are we in the process?

- Draft Water Resource Classes and Resource Quality Objectives have been compiled and will be presented.
- Publishing in the Gazette is underway.



Thank You