

# MINUTES OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> KWAZULU – NATAL DWAF IWRM PROJECT MANAGEMENT GROUP MEETING

Date of Meeting: Friday, 30 May 2008  
Venue: DWAF Regional Office, Durban (Board Room, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Present: (DWAF DURBAN) Jay Reddy, Pravitha Jairam, Shaun Naidoo, Bhabha Mkhungo, (DWAF NATIONAL) Derek Weston, (Ethekwini Metro) Micheal Singh, Enver Buckas.

Please find the attachment (Annexure A) for the attendance register and database.

The chairperson, Mr. Jay Reddy, opened the meeting and welcomed all those in attendance to the third meeting of the KwaZulu –Natal Project Management Group. A round of introductions took place.

## Agenda Confirmation

### ITEMS

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Adoption of Minutes: 18 February 2008
4. Feedback from Parliament
5. Ethekwini projects
6. IWRM coordination
7. Mvoti Community projects for KZN
8. Community projects for KZN
9. Inanda Projects
10. Way Forward and date of the next meeting

### 2. Approval of Agenda

The Agenda was approved with the following changes and additions:  
Agenda Item 6: IWRM coordinator, the word **coordinator** changed to **coordination**.

### **3. Adoption of Minutes: 18 February 2008**

Minutes were prepared by the former coordinator, Ms. Mosa Molapo, and was adopted.

### **4. Feedback from Parliament**

Mr. Derek Weston reported that seven community members were invited as guests of the Minister representing various projects. They presented a DVD in Sandton. The Minister was impressed and feedback was positive. On the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September 2008, Mr. J. Reddy stated his intention to profile IWRM at a meeting with the DG in KZN. All was in agreement that by profiling IWRM will result in education and awareness creation. DWAF will provide the funding. There was indication from the Director General that these projects have secured funding and support.

**Action:** Mr. M Singh to put a proposal for an IWRM seminar with funding from Masibambane. Nick and Dave to be briefed.  
Mr. J. Reddy was tasked to liaise with the regions Chief Director regarding a date for a site visit of the Ethekwini Projects.

### **5. Ethekwini Projects.**

Mr. Michael Singh reported that there is a need to develop a model to enable Municipalities to roll out IWRM. Mr. Enver Buckas supported this idea insisting that Local government has to form a partnership with Provincial and National Government in order to achieve corporate governance.

#### **5.1 Cottonlands project**

Mr. Michael Singh reported that this project is located in the vicinity of Verulam- (within the area of operation of the Umdloti CMF) and rapid progress has been made. There are currently thirty families directly involved and benefiting from the project. The crops produced have already secured a market until next year. Mr. E. Buckas also raised that through this project they have managed to market expensive mushrooms: Tishaki/ Shitaka crops for the next three to ten years for both local and international markets. One of the positive outcomes of the project has been the training of staff on how to prepare mushrooms for production and commercial purposes. Mr. J. Reddy emphasized that the project must be documented and a surplus of funds may be invested in the next production. Some of the funds will be put aside for bursaries and the development of resources. Mr.

E.Buckas was concerned that funds are limited and the request for more funds was unsuccessful.

**Action:** Resources such as pamphlets and posters should be developed on the Cottonlands project.

## **5.2 Wetlands Education Project**

Mr. M Singh reported that wetland areas are dehydrated therefore one of the objectives of the project is to:

- To deal with the rehabilitation and the maintenance of wetlands.
- To look at any potential economic beneficiation by utilizing the wetland
- Direct community beneficiation from direct use of the wetland

## **5.3 Planting of Fruit Trees Project (part of 2010 initiative)**

Mr. M Singh reported that the purpose of the project is to encourage planting of approximately 2-3 fruit trees in social housing. He was concerned about the utilization of potable water to irrigate these trees, as this is not sustainable. He promised to speak to Mr. Speedy Naidoo to identify alternative technology to provide water for the trees, possibly investigating the use of grey water or rainwater harvesting technology.

## **5.4 Development of Urban Agriculture Institutional Memory Project.**

Mr. Michael Singh reported that Municipalities have been involved in urban agriculture and this remains their core mandate over the last three years and have a broad consultative body within their Metro. He stated that the relationship with Traditional Authorities is imperative as 67% of the Metro is rural. A Professional Service provider has been appointed to work very closely with the rural people. The city has established external stakeholder participation however there are problems with the registration of the Service Provider to undertake the inception study. All projects need to be assessed, and the involvement of the community is a high priority. The community's needs must be identified.

## **5.5 Reviewing Water Forums Projects**

Mr. Michael Singh reported that there are Forums focusing on water resources as well as forums that focus on water services issues. There is a need to develop synergies between water resources and water services focus groups. There are constraints with space and availability of people to mobilize this objective. Currently there is no proposal to secure funding.

## **5.6 Organic Zero Cost Farming Model**

The team of experts have not been able to meet, as they are committed in Eastern Cape. There are about 700 villages and 23,000 farms targeted. The intention is to break the poverty circle.

Mr. J. Reddy emphasized that plans to assist other municipalities such as Ilembe Municipality and Ugu Municipality, must be developed.

**Action: Mr. E. Buckas to coordinate the spreading of IWRM to other municipalities and integrate it into other projects.**

## **6. IWRM coordination**

Mr. E. Buckas reported that Ethekwini has now adopted an area based approach; selecting diverse experiences and social models for

- Different types of irrigation methodologies
- Different types of production methodologies
- Testing of different models of engagements
- Investigate potentially fifty or sixty in an area
- Fundamental to the approach is the capacitation and skilling of people
- The median we chose to use to relay the message is agriculture.
- Area of concern was the capacitation of communities to allow them to articulate their voices and these were identified.
- Khanyisa project
- KZN project
- Teacher education project
- Customer care training project

For the effectiveness and implementation, time frames were set (2- 3 months).

**Action: Site selection, procurement agencies Mr. J Reddy. (Regional office) Mr. D. Weston (National office)**

## **7. Mvoti Community Initiative**

Mr. John Colvin was not present however, Mr. J. Reddy gave a short report on the project in this area ie the Mvoti Dialogue and also the KZN Water Course.

It was also stated that the budget requested for the possible project (as per the proposal submitted) in this Catchment was too high.

### **8. Community projects for KZN**

Due to the concerns about the project proposals submitted, it was decided that the Ethekewini Reference group will review these proposals in terms of the economics, marketing and other key issues that need to be addressed to ensure sustainability. Mr Singh stated that this Group normally meets on a Sunday and agreed to dedicate a day for the purpose of the above.

**Action: DWAF to fund the expenses or alternatively Mr. Michael Singh will speak to the City Manager**

It was stated that there should be consistent input by the Reference Group into the process.

Mr. Michael Singh was concerned about the number of projects and Mr. J. Reddy responded that only five projects will be chosen and implemented.

### **Up scaling of IWRM**

Mr. D. Weston stated that there should be a meeting whereby the following concerns are addressed:

- What is meant by the term upscale?
  - What do you want to upscale?
- A workshop with the extended PMG should be the first step.

Mr. E. Buckas

- Mobilize it to all levels.
- DWAF is the leading Agency therefore it has the mandate to resource for implementation
- SALGA – is absent in the process: “ Please use DWAF Logo”

Mr. Michael Singh raised the motion of paying a visit to Western Cape in order to see projects and share ideas as well. The issue of the coordinator was raised and it was concluded that:

Mr. D. Weston suggested. “ Go formal process of finding the coordinator” this is the critical resource person. Mr. Michael Singh requested the terms of reference with regard to the selection of the coordinator.

**Action: Mr. J. Reddy and Ms. P. Jairam to circulate terms of reference and set a panel responsible for the appointment of the coordinator.**

## 9. Inanda Project

Mr. S. Naidoo reported on the Resource Management Plan (RMP)  
-The action plan developed for implementation of the RMP includes a variety of projects.

**Action: Mr Naidoo was tasked to identify projects which could be IWRM funded.**

## 8. Closure

Mr. J Reddy thanked everyone for their attendance and valuable input. The meeting closed at 13:00.

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