

Notes from the IWRM MOU Partners Workshop

Action List and Notes of Meeting
on 19 January 2009 from 9H30 to 16H00,
at the Technopark Protea Hotel in Stellenbosch

Attendance:

Roger Short	Senior Technical Advisor to IWRM / DWAF
Ashia Petersen	DWAF Western Cape
Nosie Mazwi	Olifants Doorn Catchment Manager, DWAF Western Cape
Ella Bisset	Olifants Doorn Community Development Officer, DWAF Western Cape
Nolitha Zuzani	Olifants Doorn Water Quality, DWAF Western Cape
Gazelle McDougall	Goedgedacht Agricultural Resources Centre (GARC), Malmesbury
Herschellele Milford	Surplus People's Project (SPP), Cape Town
Ricardo Jacobs	Surplus People's Project (SPP), Cape Town
Nik Wullschleger	IWRM Project Coordination on behalf of DWAF Western Cape
Gus Pickard	IWRM Project Coordination on behalf of DWAF Western Cape
Gisela Wullschleger	IWRM Project Coordination on behalf of DWAF Western Cape

The session followed the Programme:

1. Introduction and Welcome
2. IWRM Retrospect – From IWMR 1 to IWRM – poverty alleviation and community wellbeing
3. Immediate Objective 1 Capacity Building
4. Immediate Objective 3 Pilot Projects
5. Immediate Objective 2 Operational Tools for replication
6. Partners roles and responsibilities in leaving a legacy
7. Way Forward

1. Nosie and Roger clarified the aims of the workshop:
 - a) How the different groups represented could work together to achieve more for within IWRM in the coming year
 - b) What can be funded to get the most effective use of available resources in the coming year
 - c) What can be left behind at the end of the Danida funding term to strengthen IWRM as the core business of the DWAF (relationships, documentation, learning resources, ability and structures within which role players can engage)
2. Roger spoke to a presentation which covered the background of IWRM, and the role of Danida, as well as opened discussion on the legacy of the Danida support to IWRM
3. The handout to all participants was also briefly introduced as a document which should be studied and some thought put into answering the questions posed
4. Nik highlighted that what has made the use of the Danida funds unique is the way in which community groups have been contracted to achieve goals for IWRM
5. Gazelle said that the need to keep building capacity and strengthen the role of the Emerging Farmer Forums (EFFs) in the area as well as within IWRM, is key. The EFFs also need to be

- informed about opportunities, and also assisted in raising funds for their role as “mouthpiece” for their members.
6. Herschelle said that more work needs to be done among government departments in getting them to understand the opportunities represented by IWRM, and the empowerment model that has been applied in applying the project funds at grassroots level. Working together becomes more important in the face of up scaling IWRM, where a rights-based and holistic approach is being employed to ensure community development and growth.
 7. Roger asked; “How do we organize the participants, take them from food gardens to be something else?” Roger used the European example of the development of co-operatives to elaborate on the question, saying participants need to develop the things that they are good at, markets need to be developed.
 8. Ashia said that the big challenge for IWRM in DWAF is on how to move away from working in silos. The most effective platform on which to tackle these structural constraints would be within the budget planning cycles as determined by the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA, Act 1 of 1999). The PFMA places budgeting and financial management within a performance management context. By ensuring that IWRM is recognized in budgetary frameworks, performance by government officials will be influenced. The following suggestions followed:
 - a) DWAF needs to participate effectively in government financial planning cycles (Medium Term (3 year) Expenditure Framework (MTEF))
 - b) DWAF’s primary role in these budgeting processes would be to hold provincial partners accountable for spending and budgeting effectively
 - c) DWAF’s second role would be to look at the prioritization of projects and budgets in the IDP processes at Local Government level – DWAF and MOU partners can get involved with this stage through the IWRM approach, checking that community participation in IDP processes is being done effectively. The criteria for community engagement need to be accepted by Local Authorities, and the community groups can play a role in ensuring that the criteria are being met by their municipal processes.
 9. Roger asked for more discussion on engaging with the IDP processes and Nosie asked that the group develop a clear plan of action with goals and dates:
 - a) DWAF Water Services look at the IDPs and Catchment Managers do not get to comment on the reports – Nosie will seek to address this internally
 - b) Herschelle suggested that the Local Government Portfolio Committee be targeted at parliament. She will investigate and report on a proposed strategy as the timing has to be very good if interventions are to make any impact.
 - c) Aisha suggested that the Review Forms for the IDPs from DPLG should be assessed for inclusion of IWRM (Water for Growth and Development) goals as well as Water Infrastructure (which is historically the only category under “Water Services”).
 - d) The National and Provincial Treasury IDP assessment template should also be influenced to include Water for Growth and Development. More information is needed to ensure that the right meetings are attended and the proposals for these changes are put on the agenda.
 - e) Herschelle reported that SPP is working with the UWC Fair Share Unit (Department of Governance) to offer training to community groups on how the IDP works, etc. This would be a good point of contact to develop a strategy for IWRM and the IDP framework. Nik suggested that an hour-long input could be delivered at the planned National Water Act training workshops (1 – 6 February, Citrusdal). This opportunity will be investigated and reported back to the group.
 10. Planning for the coming months would depend on the focus areas for each roleplayer
 - a) SPP’s Focus was reported to include for 2009:
 - i. Land for Food Sovereignty Campaign – the work started in 2008 will be grounded and expanded upon to create further momentum behind the goals of accessing land and water for emerging farmers and food producers

- ii. SPP will continue to manage the adversarial relationships that the Campaign is causing with some government departments
 - iii. Within IWRM, work with partners to align interventions for best impact, while respecting and appreciating the approaches of GARC, Informage and DWAF / IWRM. The focus for everyone should be to reduce the potential for causing divisions in the communities that we are all serving. Look toward IWRM Footprint workshop to provide more inputs behind what the work done so far can effectively leave behind.
- b) GARC's focus was reported to include for 2009:
- i. Sustainable Livelihoods – prove that the model presented at Malmesbury in July / August 2008 is workable, and start implementing it at project sites in the Olifants Doorn, see the development of co-operatives;
 - ii. Food Security – Plan to group the projects to work together, grow their own local micro economies as well as that of the region while getting all roleplayers on board and involved (including the Department of Agriculture, of Social Services, of Land Affairs and the DWAF)
 - iii. Support the Drivers of Change i.e. the Emerging Farmer Forums (EFFs) helping them to become an effective mouthpiece for their members (emerging farmers and those involved in food production on a small scale)
 - iv. Assist the community projects to gain access to government department funds
 - v. Experience cooperative governance in all aspects of the work being done in 2009 especially in order to tackle issues like Municipal vs Agricultural Water
 - vi. Encourage the community projects to focus on using alternatives to water polluting pesticides and fertilizers
- c) DWAF's focus for 2009:
- i. Running out of time in terms of the Danida funding, as the window of opportunity starts closing the department needs to be sure that the money was well spent, and that the projects that were supported are sustainable;
 - ii. Ensure inter-governmental cooperation built up over the period since 2007 is strong enough to secure supportive structures for the longer term, making sure that the partners stay with us until the end
11. Way forward discussion concluded:
- a) A joint planning session is needed between MOU partners for IWRM to:
 - i. Expand on their shared objectives
 - ii. Ensure that efforts are not being duplicated or do not become contradictory
 - iii. Combine calendars so that dates are not double booked
 - iv. Ensure mutual supportiveness is embedded in all aspects of the relationship
 - b) SPP are planning to set up MOUs with all role players so that the relationships can be managed effectively at community level
 - c) SPP research on “Engaging in process that strengthen accountability” has been completed and the documents will be shared by Herschelle after this meeting
 - d) SPP has been appointed under IWRM to perform an internal review of the Danida funded project, with the goal of identifying features of the implementation framework that can be scaled up. The review methodology will be circulated at the Footprint Workshop next week. Ricardo added that the review will:
 - i. Learn lessons
 - ii. See how processes can be improved
 - iii. Work toward measuring the impact of the project
 - iv. Be performed via Focus Group Discussions
 - v. Look at Self Assessments of roleplayers as well
 - vi. Include sector specific interviews for state departments
 - vii. Work toward elements of a cost benefit analysis and balance off against qualitative aspects of the review

- viii. Focus on 4 IWRM Evaluative Criteria (Environment, Health, Food Security, Emerging Farmers)
- ix. See the instruments finalized in January 2009
- x. Start the actual work in February 2009
- xi. Employ a participatory approach
- xii. Work toward recommendations for implementation model for up scaling

Next Events / Meetings:

1. ILO Gender Audit Workshops on 26, 27 and 28 January

Programme being circulated by e-mail in coming days

2. IWRM MOU Partners Meeting 28 January from 16h00 to 17h00 (depending on the end-time of the ILO session that day)

AGENDA

- Joint Planning Session
 - Expand on and list shared objectives
 - Ensure that efforts are not being duplicated or do not become contradictory
 - Combine calendars so that dates are not double booked
- 3. IWRM Footprint Workshop 29 January from 9h00 to 17h00 (Determine the legacy of IWRM as funded by Danida)

Refer to handout from Roger Short (IWRM Footprint Workshop Preparatory Material Immediate Objective 3)