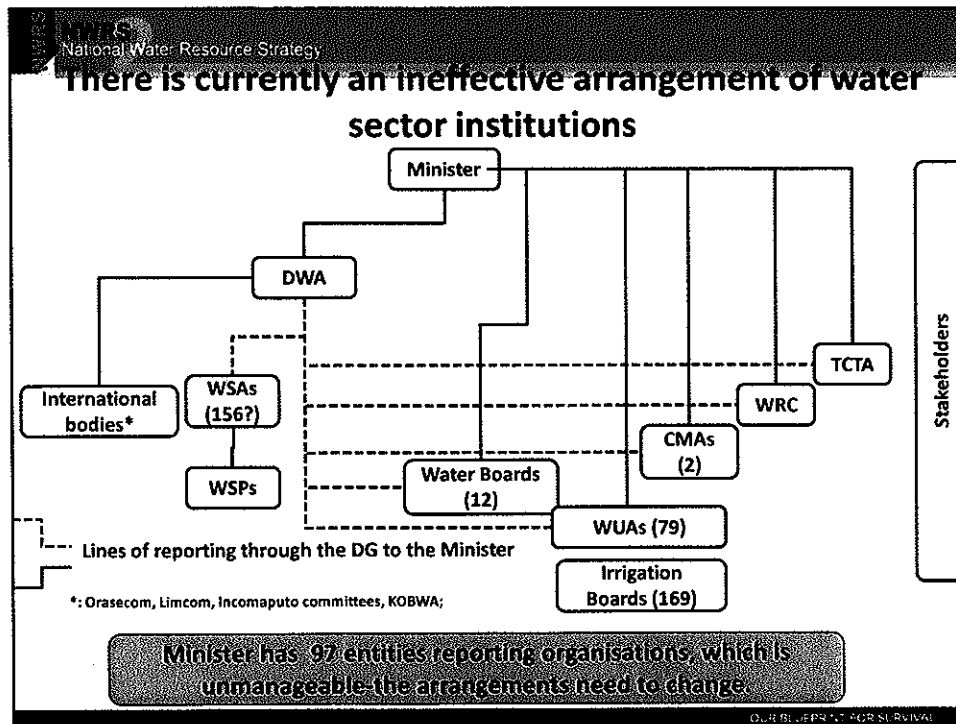


water affairs
Department: Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NWRS
National Water Resource Strategy
GOVERNANCE STRATEGY WATER SECTOR INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

Portfolio Committee Briefing
September 2012



WATERS
National Water Resource Strategy

Vision and Objectives

To create sustainable water sector institutions that will facilitate effective service delivery

- The **overall trusteeship** of the water value chain is with the Minister of Water Affairs.
- The Department will set policy, regulate, and provide support to water management and water services institutions
- The ownership, financing, development, management and operations and maintenance of national water resources infrastructure will be strengthened
- The development, financing, management, operation and maintenance of regional bulk water and wastewater services will be strengthened through the consolidation of existing water boards .
- Water resource management for each of the 9 newly defined water management areas is strengthened through consolidating into 9 economically viable CMAs.

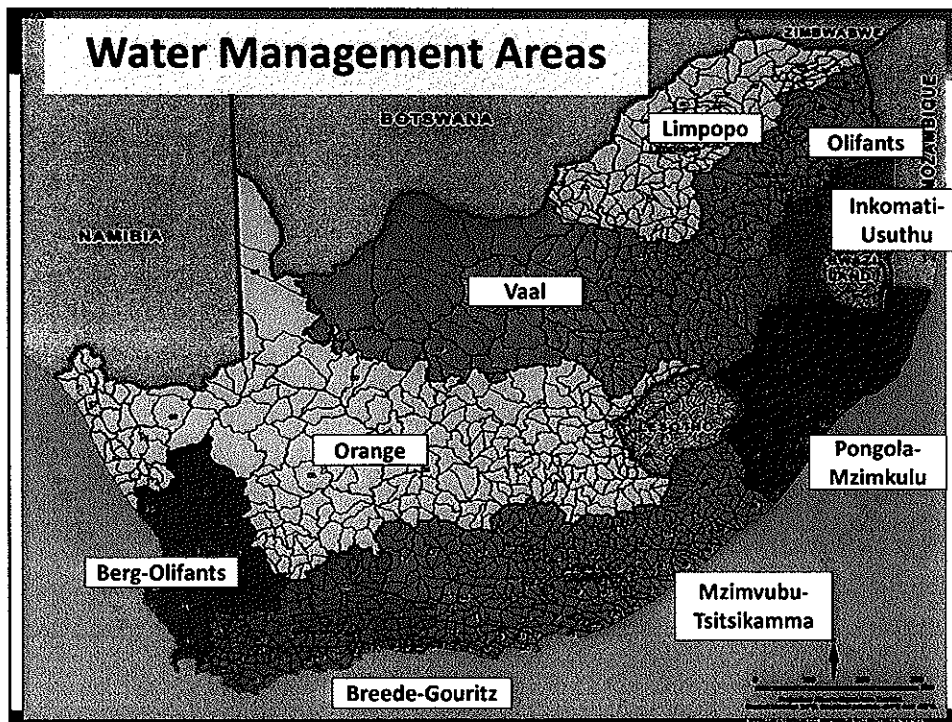
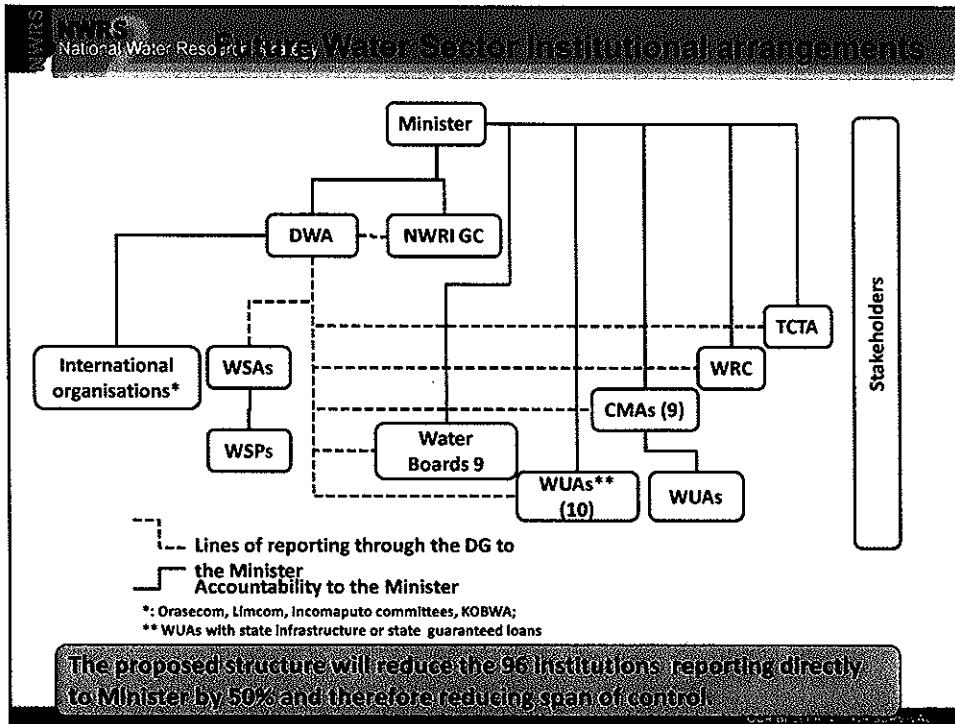
OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL


WATERS
National Water Resource Strategy

Vision and Objectives

- Water user associations will facilitate the management of local water resources infrastructure by users for their mutual benefit and assist with local water resource management functions.
- The development and management of the four international river basins will be undertaken by trans-boundary water management institutions.
- Water research, information and knowledge management will contribute to improved water resource management and sustainable water service provision.
- Economic regulation is to be explored and by the end of 2014 a decision will be taken around appropriate institutional design which will ensure that water provision and services is provided in an efficient, fair and sustainable manner

OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL





Management of water resources at catchment level

The role of CMAs is to ensure that water resources are managed to facilitate the involvement of local communities in water resources management.

The new 9 WMAs have been gazetted for public consultation on the 20 July 2012 for 90 days

- Inkomati-Usuthu, Breede -Gourits, Vaal, Orange, Limpopo, Olifants, Mzimvubu-Tsitsikamma, Berg- Olifants and Pongola –Mzimkulu.
- Two CMAs are operational the Inkomati and Breede-Overberg CMA
- The department plans to gazette the establishment all 9 CMAs one in each WMA by 2016.
- The establishment of the CMAs will be prioritised based on the progress towards establishment, the state of readiness of the proto-CMAs, the water resources management challenges and financial viability.

OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL


Managing National Water resources infrastructure

- At present the Department manages most of the national water resources infrastructure while the TCTA finances and project manages specific water projects as per Ministerial directives.
- These projects are financed off-budget and the investment costs are repaid through user charges.
- Key areas of concern are poor financial management of the Water Trading Entity, low revenue collection, poor customer management (including poor customer data), delays in procurement of key maintenance contracts, high staff turnover, loss of skills and low staff morale.
- A draft business case has been developed for the creation of an optimal institutional model.
- The main advantages of this are increased accountability, transparency and improved performance.

OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL

WATER National Water Resource Strategy

Managing local water infrastructure (water user association)

- Slow transformation of irrigation boards has been due to difficulties in achieving representivity targets, unresolved concerns regarding the transfer of private assets and liabilities to a wider grouping
- There is a lack of financial and technical resources to support new 'developmental' WUAs.

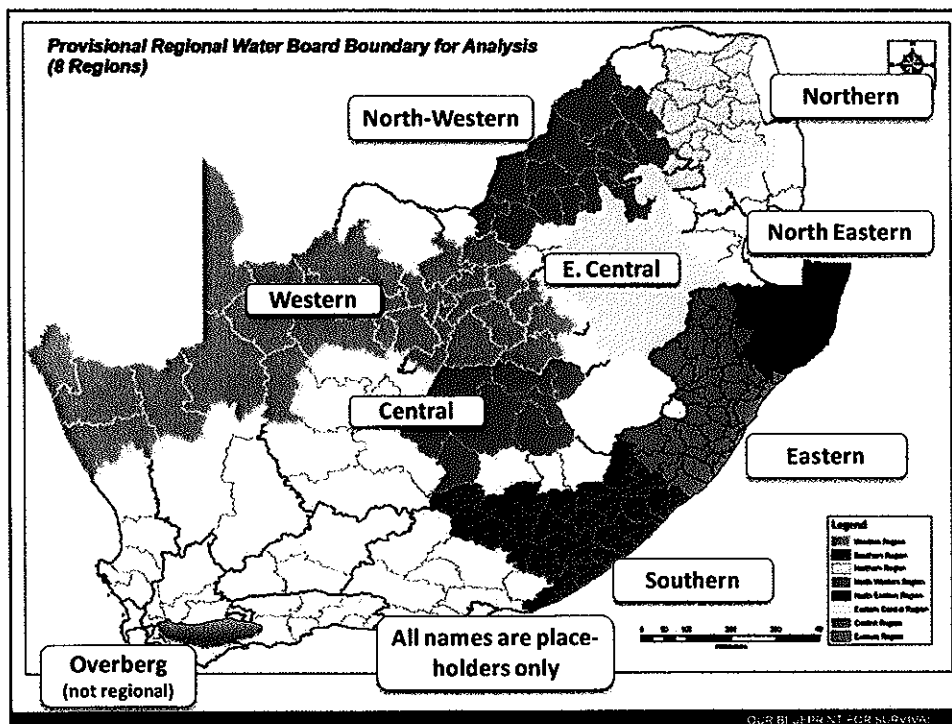
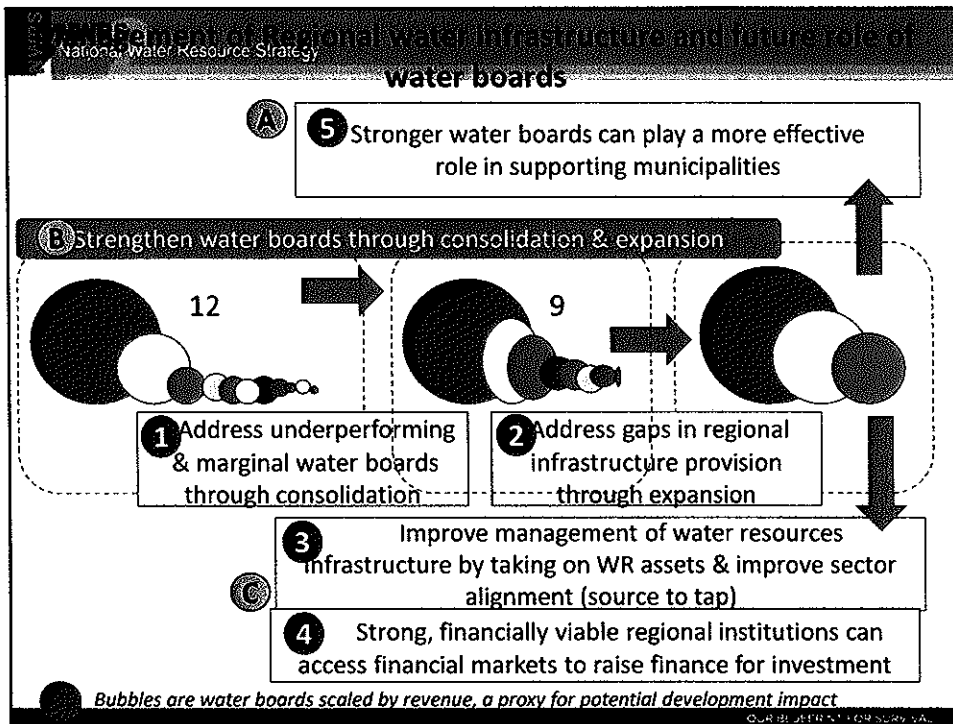
OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL

WATER National Water Resource Strategy

Managing local water infrastructure (water user association)

<p>A</p> <p>Transformation of Irrigation Boards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Irrigation boards to be transformed within 12 months to bring within the ambit of the National Water Act ▪ Amendment of the National Water Act ▪ Transformation score-card to be introduced.
<p>B</p> <p>Regulation, Establishment and Accountability</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Differentiated approach to regulation of irrigation boards • WUAs with government water schemes and state loans to be regulated by DWA . • Establishment and accountability of WUAs to be done by CMAs.
<p>C</p> <p>Minister Flagship Project on Land/Water and Agrarian for Resource Poor Farmers</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Effective support for the establishment of WUA for resource poor farmers ▪ DWA to drive support programme on Resource Poor Farmers with Rural & Land Affairs and Agriculture.

OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL



NWRS
National Water Resource Strategy
Water Research Commission

A

Coordination of Water Research

National Water Research Plan be introduced in South Africa led by DWA and WRC.

B

Legislative Review

The review of the Water Research Act of 1971 to be fast tracked and the review to be completed within 6 months.

OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL

NWRS
National Water Resource Strategy
Priority actions include:

- Fast track the establishment of the CMAs in priority catchments and delegate water resource management functions
- Ensure the transformation of all Irrigation Boards into Water User Associations by 2014 with a required equity transformation plan in place;
- Delegate local water resource management functions to WUAs that have capacity to perform these functions;
- Support the establishment of new WUAs as vehicles for building capacity of emerging farmers;

OUR BLUEPRINT FOR SURVIVAL

NWRS
National Water Resource Strategy

Priority actions include:

- Amalgamate current water boards into a reduced number of viable regional water boards;
- Ensure effective management of National Water Resources Infrastructure which will develop, manage and operate DWA infrastructure through an appropriate institutional model
- Develop a comprehensive regulatory and oversight framework for the NWRI to ensure efficient operation and financial sustainability;

OUR BEST OPPORTUNITY FOR SURVIVAL