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For Sustainable Development  
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DEPARTMENT OF  
WATER AFFAIRS  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA




Cap-Net CSIR cirad giz UKaid Australian AID Global Water Partnership ICLEI IIA IWMI RAND WATER UNESCO







# Briefing to Parliament

20<sup>th</sup> February 2013


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Ensuring water security globally for basic services and economic development has become a wicked problem.



## The physical science and engineering solutions are no longer enough




- We have made great scientific and technological strides globally and South Africa contributes way above its weight in research papers (1.69% global share)
- Good water management is about Behaviours, Relationships, Compromise and a Systems view.
- **People are at the centre of the Water Solution.**

file name
19-Feb-13
3



## Contextualising Water Governance



file name
19-Feb-13
4



## MAIN MESSAGES



- ◆ The markers of good governance (3, 6, 12, 15, 16 and special sessions)
- ◆ Legislation, regulation, rights and accountability (2,5,9 and special sessions)
- ◆ Multi-level, multi-sectoral and transboundary governance and adaptive management (4, 7, 8, 11, 14 and special sessions)
- ◆ Tools for implementation (10, 13, 16 and special sessions)






## LEGISLATION, REGULATION, RIGHTS AND ACCOUNTABILITY








- ◆ Implementation of the laws (Good laws are meaningless if they are not implemented)
- ◆ Strong and self-sufficient institutions (e.g. CMAs) for vertical and horizontal governance and accountability
- ◆ Capacity development on water integrity and accountability (busting corruption) targeting both public officials and civil society because the responsibility for addressing unethical practices is quite distributed (All actors must play their part)
- ◆ Addressing unlawful use of water
- ◆ Development of effective tools, guidance and mechanisms for regulation and accountability






MARKERS OF GOOD GOVERNANCE		
• Effective and mutually beneficial partnerships		
• Need to move from state-centric view of water governance		
• Stakeholder/multi-stakeholder platforms and involvement in water resources management		
• Relationship building		
• Provision of non-tangible emotional benefits (hope and promise)		
• Focus on provision and uptake of data and information		
• Effective mechanisms for greater scrutiny of activities -		






MULTI-LEVEL, MULTI-SECTORAL AND TRANSBOUNDARY GOVERNANCE AND ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT		
• Improve co-operative governance of shared river basins using IWRM strategies/plans as an important starting point		
• Understanding integration – sectoral and regional.		
• Strengthen institutions for multi-level, multi-sectoral, transboundary governance and stakeholder engagement		
• Developing a suite of win-win benefit sharing projects as incentives for sustainable cooperation between states		
• Developing effective mechanisms for decentralised management (such as Water Users Associations)		
• Strengthen integration across sectors		
• Improving water governance in a rural context.		

## TOOLS FOR IMPLEMENTATION




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- Establish a system of benchmarking water governance and performance
- Develop and implement tools for spatial planning
- Need for data and information management tools such as simple Decision Support Systems to support effect governance
- Strengthen capacity building in water governance
- Use the ecosystems approach












## Going Forward









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- Developing a robust water governance knowledge base – WRC portfolio and beyond.
- Using the available South African laboratory to develop some global best practice taking advantage of the NWRS 2 implementation and the water law reform processes.
- Developing governance models to better our chances to achieve sustainable development solutions.

File name
19-Feb-13
10

<h2>Next Steps</h2>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WRC Dialogues on Governance Matters</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gender Summit 2013</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> International Freshwater Governance Conference – Adelaide 2014</li> </ul>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-parliamentary engagement between South African Legislature and that of the Australian Commonwealth and/or State Legislature of South Australia.</li> </ul>		
		
<p>File name</p>	<p>19-Feb-15</p>	<p>11</p>

<p>When all is said and done.....</p>	
<h2>REMEMBER MRS MKWANAZI</h2>	
<p>While serving the needs of big business, the mines, the farmers, our systems must ensure that Mrs Mkwanazi, just down the road here, is able to access water for productive and domestic purposes, that she has access to sustainable sanitation services, that she has access to a road and transport services to get her produce to market, and that she can make a living that enables her to feed and educate her family, and to live with dignity.</p>	
	
	
	
	
<p><i>(Extract from the opening remarks of Advocate de Lange)</i></p>	



