

MINUTES OF MEETING

MAINSTREAMING OF HIV/AIDS IN THE WATER SECTOR PROJECT Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF)

Minutes of the meeting between the CSIR and DWAF held at DWAF offices on 23 January 2009

Attendees:

Ngaka Machete (DWAF)

Tshiamo Matabane (DWAF – Water management, institutions and governance unit)

Nandi Dube (DWAF)

Vasna Ramasar (CSIR)

Minutes:

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss possible synergies between the Masibambane HIV and AIDS project and the IWRM-2 initiative.

- DANIDA are funding projects under the banner of IWRM-2. Aligned with the MDGs, the purpose of the funding is to use water as a catalyst for poverty alleviation.
- Projects have been established in the Western Cape (Olifants Doorn {OD} WMA), KwaZulu-Natal (Mvoti to Umzimkulu WMA) and North West Province (Crocodile (West) Marico WMA). The IWRM projects were initiated in 2001, where pilot projects were conducted in the OD WMA. In KwaZulu-Natal (Mvoti to Umzimkulu WMA), DWAF is working with the eThekweni Municipality and the uMzimkulu Municipality on various projects (Community Health Clubs, Water and Food Security and Area Based Management Projects, etc. In North West Province (Crocodile (West) Marico WMA), 14 projects have been set-up around Hammanskraal, Mafikeng and Rustenberg. There are currently 3 community health clubs which have been running since September 2008. The clubs focus on health and hygiene but there is no explicit work on HIV and AIDS. There are also 3 projects whose main core business are to run home based care support and through the IWRM project, are focusing on nutrition and food gardens to support their health patients and orphans.
- In OD WMA and Croc (West) WMA there are co-ordinators who works directly with the various community organisations. The KZN Regional Office is further supporting 4 projects in their WMA. Venzulu Development Agency (VDA) has been contracted as a procurement agency to act on behalf of DWAF. The co-ordinator acts as a conduit for community organisations and relays their procurement needs to VDA who pay for the required materials. A rigorous financial accounting system is in place and community members are trained in managing their operations smoothly.
- Tshiamo mentioned that the DANIDA funding comes to an end in December 2009, for the projects as the entire programme comes to an end in March 2010. They are currently looking for alternative funding sources, especially for the new projects that are still in the training phase. They are investigating provincial PGDS funding; funding through Masibambane as well as allocations within their own unit's budget.

- Ngaka mentioned that the Masibambane project seeks to use HIV and AIDS as a focus in meeting water service needs of vulnerable communities. The intention is to improve service delivery even in the face of HIV and AIDS and to assist people living with HIV and AIDS. There are therefore synergies between the projects. In particular, the approach and resources used in IWRM could be applied in Willow Park to help the community re-establish their community garden which is currently failing.
- It was agreed that a field visit to the KZN projects may be a useful way to really understand what is being done. Vasna agreed to co-ordinate a field visit to both the IWRM-2 and WASH projects in February.
- Tshiamo agreed to follow-up with their project team on whether any work is planned in the Willow Park area. She is meeting with them on Friday and will test the ideas then.
- A discussion was also held on plans for National Sanitation Week. Both projects are looking at holding events in North West province and therefore agreed to collaborate on a National Sanitation Week roadshow in March 2009.

Actions to be taken:

- Vasna to send out Willow Park Site Visit report to Tshiamo and Nandi
- Vasna to co-ordinate a field visit to KZN WASH and IWRM projects in February
- Tshiamo to discuss work in Willow Park with her project team
- All agreed to collaborate on a National Sanitation Week event