

Draft Plan for DWAF Development Project to address water, sanitation and cross-cutting issues with the Relebone Willow Park Community

1. Background

The Willow Park farm was bought by the Department of Land Affairs in 2001. The land was given to the Relebone Willow Park Communal Property Association as part of a land restitution agreement. At the time of transfer the land was a farming property and not well serviced to meet the needs of the new population being resettled there (approximately 72 members initially in the CPA).

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry has recognised a need to address water and sanitation service delivery in the area. In addition, the socio-economic, health and education status of the community demand an integrated response which addresses poverty alleviation in all its forms. To this end, DWAF acknowledge that in providing water and sanitation services, there is also an opportunity to attend to cross-cutting issues of HIV/AIDS, gender, appropriate technology, multiple water use and water for growth and development.

2. Approach to development in Willow Park

DWAF are adopting an integrated approach to development in Willow Park. This means that water and sanitation service delivery is viewed as part of a bigger programme of socio-economic development that is required in the area. In achieving its goals for water and sanitation, emphasis will be placed on addressing the goals of Masibambane. DWAF will work closely with the North West provincial DWAF office in delivering its mandate. Following media exposure on the plight of the community, there have also been programmes initiated by other government departments. It is therefore critical for DWAF to work with all relevant government departments at national, local and municipal levels to achieve an integrated development response.

3. Draft Implementation Plan for DWAF Willow Park Development Project

Many promises have been made to the Willow Park community and it is important that DWAF are sensitive to the raised expectations of local people. As a result, it is necessary for DWAF to have a clear strategy for its interventions which ensures that any commitments made are delivered by all parties concerned. Strong inter-governmental relations are necessary to ensure a co-ordinated response. It is therefore recommended that DWAF follow a phased approach in its interventions:

1. The first phase will involve defining the scope of work that DWAF will undertake in Willow Park, engaging with other stakeholders (including the community and government departments) involved in the area as well as preparing a baseline assessment of the current socio-economic status of the community, the planned development of the area and the opportunities for development.
2. The second phase is likely to focus on delivery of services and development in the area.
3. The third phase will involve closure of the DWAF project, hand-over of necessary resources and responsibilities to relevant parties, evaluation and documenting of the intervention.

The rest of this document presents a roadmap for undertaking the first phase of the project. A process is put forward for initiating the project and defining the scope of work for DWAF.

4. Roadmap for Phase 1 of DWAF Willow Park Development Project

A number of actions must take place for DWAF to decide upon the priority areas where it can support the development of the Willow Park Community. These are presented below in bullet form:

- As a first step, all the champions involved in Willow Park at DWAF Head Office must meet to decide on a unified DWAF approach to the project. It is likely that these champions will form the core team for the DWAF project. It is recommended that a meeting of these champions is arranged for early in January 2009. At the meeting, a presentation can be given on the Willow Park site visit to provide a platform for further discussion.
- Representatives from the DWAF Head Office team must meet with the DWAF North West province team to discuss collaboration and their involvement in the project.
- Once a clear plan has been developed by DWAF on its proposed interventions, a meeting must be arranged with other sector partners including government

departments working in the area. This forum is critical to ensuring integrated delivery of a development plan for the area.

- A baseline survey should be carried out in the community. The survey should be undertaken at a household level and important data on income, health, education, services, demography, etc. must be collected from the community.
- An assessment of the baseline survey must be made to identify priority areas for action and service delivery. This can then be assessed against the planned projects of the various government departments to ensure that interventions meet real needs.
- An Integrated Development Plan with specific actions, commitments from stakeholders, deliverables and timeframes must be developed. This will form the basis of phase two of the project.
- Concurrent to the longer term plan, DWAF can initiated short-term actions to address immediate needs for water, sanitation and HIV/AIDS and ultimately improve the lives of people living in the community in the present. Some interventions that could be carried out include:
 - health and hygiene education associated with an HIV and AIDS awareness campaign;
 - provision of low-tech hand-washing technology for households;
 - implementation of the SODIC water disinfectant system at households;
 - provision of improved toilet facilities for the community, etc.

A summary table of these tasks is presented in appendix 1.

5. Conclusion

The proposed roadmap is presented as one approach to initiate a development project in Willow Park. It is likely that these tasks will be modified as project thinking evolves.

DWAF Plan for Intervention in Willow Park

Task No.	Description	Date for delivery	Responsibility	Deliverable
1	Internal DWAF Head Office meeting to discuss planned project	End of January	Ngaka Machete	Agreement on key elements of a response in Willow Park Identification of a core team
2	Meet with DWAF North West Province office	First week of February	Core team representatives	Agreement to collaborate in Willow Park
3	Interaction with other government departments and sectoral partners	End of February	DWAF core team	Identification of interested parties Collation of various plans for the area Agreement to collaborate in Willow Park
4	Baseline survey of the community	End of March	CSIR Sub-consultant	Report on the current status of the Willow Park Community
5	Preparation of an informal Integrated Development Plan for the Willow Park area	End of April	CSIR	A draft Integrated Development Plan for Willow Park community that brings together the commitments of all stakeholders to meet needs identified by the community themselves and through the survey
6	Short-term interventions by DWAF (still to be decided)	Begin in Feb but on-going	DWAF core team	Health and Hygiene education associated with an HIV and AIDS awareness campaign; Provision of low-tech hand-washing technology for households; Implementation of the SODIC water disinfectant system at households; Provision of improved toilet facilities, etc.

