

**SEMINAR ON POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION IN THE WATER
SECTOR: REFLECTION AND LEARNING**

14 to 16 March 2006

Jointly developed by:

**CSIR, Natural Resources
and the Environment**

Water Research Commission

**Department of Water Affairs
and Forestry**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Most government departments have undertaken rigorous revision of their policies and legislation during the past decade. As an example, the South African water policy is considered to be very progressive and one of the best examples internationally for sustainable management of resources. The legislation which supports the policy is relatively sophisticated, yet it must be implemented in a developing country context. The long term success of the national water policy will depend on strong, sustained and consistent leadership from people who can guide the implementation process through the difficult first stages. In exploring the experiences of different individuals during the development of national water policy and in the early phase of implementation, it is clear that the majority of these people have and are finding their way by trial and error and that they perceive the implementation challenge as daunting. At the same time there is still very limited understanding of the interrelationships between policy development and implementation, with the added shaping forces of politics, economics and social factors. Few of those involved in developing and implementing water policy have been formally trained or equipped with the skills to manage high-level policy processes and programmes.

This three-day professional seminar was initiated in May 2003 to help consolidate and diffuse available knowledge on how to make the development and implementation of national water policy as effective and efficient as possible. The seminar has been designed to facilitate learning through personal reflection and knowledge sharing. The overall aim is to capture some of the insights and knowledge that has been accumulated over the past decade and to diffuse this knowledge for the benefit of current as well as future leaders in environmental policy domains.

OBJECTIVES OF SEMINAR

By the end of the seminar, participants will:

- Understand basic public policy concepts and frameworks;
- Be able to apply a generic policy process framework to water policy development and implementation;
- Be able to develop implementation strategies for policies and programmes in the water sector;
- Understand the generation of policy options to meet the needs of a changing society;
- Have an understanding of monitoring and evaluation, and;
- Have been exposed to various case studies of policy development, implementation and evaluation in practice.

SEMINAR CONTENT

The following main themes will be addressed during the seminar:

- Frameworks for public sector policy development, implementation and evaluation
- Application of generic frameworks to water policy
- Effective implementation of policies and programmes: planning; monitoring and evaluation; institutional capabilities; logistics
- Options for continuous revision and improvement

OTHER

- Date:** 14 to 16 March 2005 (**only delegates that can attend all three days will be accepted**)
- Venue:** CSIR International Convention Centre, Pretoria
- Facilitator:** Professor Christo de Coning from the University of the Western Cape
- Registration:** A maximum of 30 participants will be accommodated. Successful applicants will be notified towards mid **February 2006**.
- Cost:** The costs of registration, seminar material and catering (lunches and refreshments) are covered by the Water Research Commission. Delegates are responsible for their own travel and accommodation arrangements and expenses.
- Registration & Enquiries:** **Contact Liesl Hill (CSIR, NRE) at the following e-mail address and numbers:**
E-mail: Lhill@csir.co.za
Tel.: (012) 841 2639
Fax: (012) 842 7734

PROVISIONAL SEMINAR PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 14 March 2006		
Policy Development		
08h00	TEA	
08h00	Registration	
Facilitator: Prof Christo de Coning		
08h30	Welcome and introduction	Ms Eiman Karar
08h45	Policy development – theory and concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Generic public policy management • Policy processes • Case study (Water Resources Policy) 	Prof Christo de Coning
10h55	TEA	
11h15	Policy development continued <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institutional arrangements 	Prof Christo de Coning
12h45	LUNCH	
13h30	Policy Review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Case study – Water Services Strategic Framework 	Mr Abri Vermeulen
14h30	TEA	
14h45	Policy coherence, cross sector policy development and science policy interface	Dr Dirk Roux & Ms Amanda Driver
16h15	Discussion	All

Wednesday, 15 March 2006		
Planning for Implementation		
07h45	TEA	
08h15	Group Reflection	Prof Christo de Coning
08h45	Policy Implementation - theory and concepts	Prof Christo de Coning
10h00	TEA	
10h30	Institutional Capacity Constraints and Realities; Adaptive Management and Complexity	Mr Jan Koster
12h45	LUNCH	
13h30	National Water Resource Strategy	Mr Bill Rowlston
14h15	Establishment of Catchment Management Agencies: DWAF Head Office Perspective	Mr Silas Mbedzi & Mr Derek Weston
15:00	TEA	
15:15	Establishment of Catchment Management Agencies: DWAF Regional Office Perspective	Mr Willie Enright and Mr Derek Weston
16:00	Discussion	

Thursday, 16 March 2006		
Monitoring and Evaluation		
07h45	TEA	
08h15	Group Reflection	Prof Christo de Coning
08h45	Policy Monitoring and Evaluation -theory and concepts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Definitions and approaches • Outcomes-based monitoring • Monitoring systems 	Prof Christo de Coning
10h30	TEA	
10h45	Small group work on M&E challenges in the water sector	Prof Christo de Coning
12H00	Presentations by groups	
12h45	LUNCH	
13h30	Group facilitated session on integrating policy development, implementation, monitoring and review	Facilitator: Prof Christo de Coning All
14h45	TEA	
15h00	Seminar Evaluation	All
15h30	Closure	Ms Eiman Karar