



**PROVINCIAL OVERVIEW  
OF 2006/7:  
HIGHLIGHTS AND CHALLENGES**

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31 May 2007



water & forestry

Department:  
Water Affairs and Forestry  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## Some for all forever

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As the countdown to meet the Water Services Targets begins, regions roll their sleeves to scale up service delivery.

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## **ACRONYMS**

**CSO- Civil Society Organisation**

**DLGH- Department of Local Government and Housing**

**DM- District Municipality**

**DOE- Department of Education**

**DOH- Department of Health**

**DOPW- Department of Public Works**

**DPLG- Department of Provincial and Local Government**

**DWAF- Department of Water Affairs and Forestry**

**FBW- Free Basic Water**

**IDP- Integrated Development Plan**

**IGR- Intergovernmental Relations**

**LM- Local Municipality**

**MEC- Member of the Executive Council**

**MIG- Municipal Infrastructure Grant**

**O&M- Operations and Maintenance of Infrastructure**

**RDP- Reconstruction and Development Program**

**SAICE- South African Institution of Civil Engineers**

**SALGA- South African Local Government Association**

**WAR- Water Allocation Reform**

**WCDM- Water Conservation and Demand Management**

**WS- Water Services**

**WSA- Water Services Authority**

**WSDP- Water Services Development Plan**

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## FOREWORD



**Mr. Jabu Sindane**  
**DG DWAF**

Meeting the water services targets has become a topical issue within the water sector. It is measured by numbers and statistics and yet this issue is beyond number crunching. Behind numbers lies human faces of those who still do not have access to basic water and sanitation. This is the reason why the water sector under the leadership of DWAF, adopted a Business Unusual Approach "in accelerating service delivery in 2006/07. We are truly proud to be leading a sector that is setting a trend in working together to improve the lives of poor people in South Africa.

Lack of access to basic water supply and sanitation limits opportunities of the poor and vulnerable groups to escape poverty. The 2006 Human Development Report found that Water for life in the household and water for livelihoods through production are two of the foundations for human development. Yet for a large section of humanity these foundations are not in place. In South Africa, government has provided an enabling framework through the development of pro-poor policies in line with its poverty reduction policy, which aims at ensuring universal access to basic water supply and sanitation to its population by the year 2008 and 2010. In addition bucket eradication targets will be achieved by December 2007.

The 2006/07 financial year has been a critical year for DWAF regions as the count down to meeting the targets has begun. This has come with huge successes and challenges as we roll our sleeves to meet the targets. This publication therefore provides an opportunity for the regions to put their perspectives on the progress made and challenges encountered in our WALK TO MEETING THE TARGETS. We hardly talk about our successes and yet, we would not continue doing what we do if we do not succeed.

It was in 2002 when my department took the lead in the development of a sector wide policy framework which later became known as Strategic Framework for Water Services (SFWS). In September 2003 the South African Cabinet approved the SFWS which laid the basis for the targets to be achieved by the sector. It is the targets set in this framework that keep the water services sector on its toes. These are some of the challenges encountered by the water sector in implementing the targets:

**Financial investments:** the Strategic Framework indicates a capital investment of 0.75% of GDP or approximately 5.5 billion rand per year is required to achieve the agreed delivery targets. This has not been achieved as the current level of investment is around 2,5billion per annum.

**Capacity of local government to deliver:** the provision of services at local government level is hampered by an

acute shortage of skills and knowledge. In October 2004 the government adopted Project Consolidate as a short-term emergency measure. In support of this, DWAF has actively participated in hands on support to local government and in deploying engineers and technicians to municipalities.

The SAICE report released in 2006 gave the water sector a ' D' rating on asset management which means we need to do more on this issue. This is understandable as our emphasis has been on delivery and we are now placing greater emphasis on sustainability and infrastructure management. This will mean working with the sector in building relevant skills and in finding innovative ways on investment in infrastructure rehabilitation and operations and maintenance.

**Our achievements:** We have made significant progress in meeting the targets and the status of backlogs as of 31 March 2007 indicates that it is possible to meet the bucket eradication targets but some interventions are required with regard to water supply and household sanitation. We have realised that meeting the targets requires institutional capacity within the sector to drive the programme. There is also a need for additional budgets. Hence, we have started to collaborate with Water Boards and they have put their draft plans on the table indicating how they can assist local government to deliver on this mammoth task. Our collaboration with SAICE has been very useful in placing technicians, engineers and students in municipalities. It has been a valuable experience even for students that have been exposed to the municipal environment.

### **Status of WS Backlog as of 31 March 2007:**

#### **Sanitation**

Households: 3 698 000

Buckets: 106 873

#### **Water**

Households: 2 074 000

### **During 2006/07 we scooped various achievement awards in the water sector :**

**Vuna Awards:** We won the Vuna Award which is awarded by DPLG for being the best supporter for municipalities. This means our efforts are realised not only within our circles but at a broader sector level as well.

**Public Sector Innovation Award:** This award was given to us for the Masibambane Programme as being the best innovative programme in service delivery.

As the countdown begins, I am confident that the three spheres of government, private sector, civil society, donors are together with us in making South Africa a better place for all, in particular women and children.

My colleagues in the regional offices of DWAF have worked tirelessly in providing sector leadership and in being a face of DWAF at provincial and local government level. My sincere gratitude goes to them for making my job an easier one and for ensuring that DWAF continues to leave footprints on the ground. I take this opportunity to congratulate and thank everyone in the sector for making a difference. I look forward to a prosperous 2007/08 in which we will celebrate significant achievements, including the eradication of all buckets by December 2007.

*Jabu Sindane*

# INTRODUCTION



**Ms Thandeka Mbassa**  
**DDG Regions**

The year under review (2006/07) ushered in a new era for DWAF regional offices, an era of reality check as we realise the mammoth task before us, of meeting the water and sanitation delivery targets. Every region has a story to tell of how hectic life has been during 2006/07 as they are all gearing up to meeting the targets. This story is of an oversight responsibility of how DWAF regions have provided

a sector leadership role within a complex environment where implementation is the responsibility of local government. However this has kept us going as it is clear to us that we cannot rest until all our poor communities have access to basic water and sanitation and all buckets have been eradicated.

The issue of meeting the targets was also raised in Parliament as Internal question paper No. 5 (27 February 2007). The question posed to the Minister was asking whether water services delivery targets will be met or not. Whilst acknowledging the complexity of the question and the issues it raises, the Minister responded by stating that DWAF alongside with Provincial Governments and the affected local governments are working very hard to ensure that water services delivery targets are met. There is a massive collaborative effort and an additional mobilization of resources to ensure that we support local government to meet the targets.

The walk towards meeting the targets has taken us all through a learning journey and we are now clear on what actions need to be taken.. We have learnt that building the capacity of the state across all the three spheres of government is critical if we have to accelerate service delivery. Hence we took a decision to upgrade the status of regions by creating Chief Director positions to head and lead DWAF regions. This will put our regions in a better position to interact with provincial political leadership. We have formalised our intergovernmental relations at provincial level by positioning our Provincial Water Sector Forums in line with Premier's Coordinating Committees.

**Status of Meeting the Targets:** The table below indicates good progress around meeting the targets particularly on bucket eradication. It shows that 106 873 buckets are remaining to be eradicated during 07/08.

Province	Water Backlog/ households (x 1000 households)	Sanitation Backlog/ households	Bucket Eradication
EC	308	695	13642
FS	76	187	81 193
GT	212	110	750
KZN	707	974	0
LP	396	767	0
MP	250	492	0
NW	103	401	3 600
NC	13	41	6 328
WC	10	33	1 360
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2 074</b>	<b>3 698</b>	<b>106 873</b>

The province with the biggest backlogs is the Free State and we are pleased to report that due to political support in this Province, it will not be difficult to meet the targets. Eastern Cape, KwaZulu-Natal and Limpopo remain the provinces with huge backlogs in household water supply and sanitation.

DWAF, together with its sector partners, is doing all it can to ensure that local government is adequately supported to fulfil its mandate of service delivery.

I am very proud to be associated with a regional leadership and management team that is sincerely committed to driving such a worthy cause. The strength of the relationship they have built with municipalities and other partners has yielded good results, their professional understanding and insight into the challenges facing local government as well as elevating the need to eradicate backlogs at all levels is appreciated.

Regional offices have been working around the clock, organizing and facilitating provincial summits, participating at Imbizos and other key stakeholder forums. It is through these fora that issues of substance get to inform the processes and plans that the Regions are implementing. I am confident that the 2007/08 financial year will register even more success stories.

This publication aims to give Regions a platform to demonstrate their efforts so that everyone knows what they have achieved in the 2006/07 financial year. It is also a platform in which Regions share their plans for the current year.

The past year has not gone without its challenges, successes and highlights. As a sector, we join hands in celebrating the successes and encouraging everyone to get involved in making a difference to the lives of poor South Africans who are still subjected to the indignity of not having access to a basic water and sanitation service. I invite you to read for yourself what each of the 9 Regions has to say.

*Thandeka Mbassa*

# EASTERN CAPE

## OVERVIEW

The Eastern Cape has a population of 6.4 million according to the 2001 census, this is about 14% of the total South African population. Women constitute 54% of the total provincial population, it is believed that the majority of households are headed by women due to the huge migrant labor system.



**Mr Galelo Mbambisa**  
*Acting Chief Director*

It is a privilege to talk about the highlights of the Eastern Cape Region as I am passionate about the work that we have done as the water sector. In December 2006 we finalized the Provincial Water Sector Plan which brought together water services and water resources in a collaborative manner. Our mission is to ensure that all the people in the Eastern Cape have access to safe, adequate, affordable and sustainable water and sanitation services. Both water services and water resources are provided by highly capacitated, appropriately regulated, effective and efficient water infrastructure.

The province has a lot of institutions involved in the water sector. These include 2 water management areas namely Fish to Tsitsikamma Water Management Area which contains the Nelson Mandela Metropole and imports large quantities of water from the Orange River through the Fish-Sundays, and the second one is Umzimvubu to Keisikamma Water Management Area. There are 17 municipalities authorized as Water Services Authorities. The 2 water boards, Amatola and Albany support Buffalo City, Amatola DM and Chris Hani. Albany is a localized water board supplying water to Ndlambe municipality.

### **Status of Water Supply and Sanitation Backlogs in the Eastern Cape Province:**

As of March 2007 about 308 000 households did not have access to basic water supply and 695 000 did not have access to sanitation. The region boasts of reaching 60% of the population in terms of provision of free basic water.

### **Status of WS Backlogs as at 31 May 2007:**

<b>Sanitation</b>	
Households	695 000
Buckets	13 642
<b>Water</b>	
Households	308 000

### **KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2006/07**

- The Province has developed a best practice model on skills retention. Currently the project is under implementation with the **development of partnership with the FET Colleges**.
- Better relationship has been established between **DHLG and DWAF** in terms of MIG reporting having a strong water component
- **Partnership between DWAF and Education:** There exists a very good relationship between DWAF and Education. This has led to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for both departments to promote health and hygiene education.
- **Gender Mainstreaming:** Eastern Cape has for the past years led on gender mainstreaming; this has been done, mainly through awareness creation.

### **OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES: 2006/07**

**Capacity within DWAF:** The EC DWAF region has suffered a severe setback in terms of high staff turnover. This is also the case within municipalities. The main problem is that there is no retention strategy within the sector especially for the technical positions. However the region has done excellent work in developing the best practice model for retaining scarce skills in the sector.

**Sector Monitoring & Reporting:** It remains difficult to obtain sector stakeholders cooperation on monitoring and reporting. This is mainly due to the fact that the MIG information system does not address the key water services indicators. DWAF (EC) however, plans to revive the Monitoring & Evaluation unit within DWAF, this unit will facilitate sector reporting and collection of data within various stakeholders.

**Local Government Support:** The region has been implementing the Water Services Authority Business Plans to capacitate the governance function of the Municipalities. However, during July 06, the Integrated Management Forum took a decision for the BP to also cover the provisioning function. Business plans for all WSAs were reviewed then and were approved by March 2007. Currently municipalities have prioritised projects in the BP and procurement is in progress for implementation which will start in July.

All the municipalities in the region have developed strategies to eradicate backlog. In the strategies different sector partners have been identified to develop support mechanisms and the region has confirmed the required support with short term support initiated.

## **PLANS FOR 2007/08**

**Sector regulation:** Develop the capacity of the sector at provincial and local level to regulate water services and thereby enhance its effectiveness as a whole.

**Elimination of backlogs:** In line with nationally set targets, strive to eliminate service delivery backlogs in the Eastern Cape.

**Sustainable service provision:** Ensure the long-term operational sustainability of water services systems.

**Sector approach:** Foster and further develop the sector-wide approach by ensuring greater participation and effective collaboration of all sector partners.

**Water for growth and development:** Ensure that the water sector responds to, facilitates and encourages the crucial need for economic growth and job creation in the Eastern Cape.

# FREE STATE

## OVERVIEW

The Free State province lies in the heart of South Africa and is located between the Vaal River in the north, and Orange River in the south. It has a population of 2 953 100 people. The Water and Sanitation sector enjoys huge political support from the Province particularly from the MEC for Local Government and Housing who has an oversight responsibility on water services issues. There are 5 district municipalities and 20 local municipalities. The Free State enjoys huge institutional support from the 3 water boards that are operating in the area namely (Bloem Water, Sedibeng Water and Rand Water). The Water Resources component has 4 water management areas including, Upper Vaal, Middle Vaal, Lower Vaal and Upper Orange.



**Mr. Tsheliso Ntuli**  
*Acting Chief Director*

It gives me pleasure to share the 2007/08 highlights and challenges in the Free State. The year under review was an exciting one with a huge focus on bucket eradication.

### Status of Water Supply and Sanitation Backlogs in the Free State Province: March 2007

As of March 2007 about 76 000 households did not have access to basic water supply and 187 000 households lacked basic sanitation. The main challenge is the eradication of the bucket sanitation system. However, considerable progress has been made on bucket eradication. The year began with 121 205 buckets, but by the end of March 2007, we were at 84 021. The challenge remains as to how we will meet the 2007 deadline. There is a budget shortfall of R420 607 considering that R600 599m is allocated for 07/08. The unit cost now ranges between R5 000 and R23 000. There is also the challenge of choosing appropriate technology and fully understanding the cost implications of eradicating the bucket system and replacing it with the water borne system

With regard to Free Basic Water, the region has done relatively well. There is only one municipality (Matjhabeng)

which is providing only to the indigents which is 23% free basic water provision. The overall provision for the Province is 89, 5%

### Status of WS Backlogs as of 31 May 2007:

Sanitation	
Households	187 000
Buckets	83 351
Schools	162
Clinics	No info
Water	
Households	76 000
Schools	18
Clinics	No Info

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2006/07

**Local Government Support:** The Free State local government support activities have been consolidated into what is known as the Municipal Support Programme which is an attempt to provide hands on support to municipalities. It provides a comprehensive and consolidated framework for support. The key components are:

- **WSA Capacity Building:** During the year, 10 capacity building business plans were developed and approved to support priority municipalities based on Izimbizo and checklist findings.
- **Operations & Maintenance:** A considerable number of water and sewer treatment plant operators from various municipalities (Xhariep, Lejweleputswa, Thabo Mofutsanyane, Motheo and Fezile Dabi) received accredited training. The great concern is that in most municipalities in the province, there is little budget that is allocated to Operation and Maintenance (O&M), this has resulted in a serious breakdown of service in the past. More resources will have to be allocated in terms of skills and funds to ensure that O&M is seriously considered.
- **Ground Water Management:** Feasibility studies on ground water management for Tokologo, Dihlabeng and Thabo Mofutsanyane municipalities were conducted.
- **Water Allocation Reform (WAR):** DWAF is working closely with Xhariep district municipality and its local municipalities in implementing the Water Allocation Reform project. DWAF has mobilised funding from the Flemish government to address the following issues :
  - Provision of support to resource poor farmers.
  - Facilitating youth involvement in farming.
  - Capacity building of municipal officials on WAR.
- **Councillor Training:** District based councillor training was conducted for all municipalities.
- **Water Quality Monitoring:** DWAF, in partnership with DLGH and the CSIR have implemented a training and sup-

port programme for Water Quality monitoring and audits to all Water Services Authorities' Water Quality management. The challenge now is not just to monitor the quality, but to ensure that municipalities comply with correct water quality standards and are capacitated to maintain those standards. It is important therefore to ensure that WSAs adhere to legislation with regard to Water Quality Management by capacitating relevant officials within municipalities and DWAF with relevant knowledge.

#### **OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES: 2006/07**

**Demand for higher levels of service:** The Free State has the highest number of backlogs in terms of bucket eradication. There is a huge demand to replace buckets with waterborne sanitation. In fact, some towns have adopted waterborne sanitation as the minimum standard for all citizens, thus even planning to also upgrade old pits or recent VIP toilets to a full waterborne system. Many of these municipalities however have limited water resources or high water tariffs which might have an impact on the long term sustainability of the projects. These issues need careful planning so that the choice of sanitation options is informed by all factors that might have an impact, including the water resource constraints.

**Water Demand Management:** is a key priority of the region and has enabled interface between water resources and water services in relation to water demand management. The strengthening of integration is needed to ensure that the sector, especially municipalities develop good Water Demand Management strategies to ensure that the demand on the scarce water resources is controlled and that water is not wasted. The strategies will include the following measures by the municipalities;

- Knowledge of the water resource capacity and ensuring good water management
- Registration of water abstraction with DWAF on both surface and ground water
- Metering of bulk distribution and retail consumption to be able to identify water losses
- Water conservation plans which include a warning and response system to control leakages and thus prevent wastages as soon as they occur.
- The implementation of cost recovery strategies to ensure financial viability of water services.

#### **PLANS FOR 2007/08**

- **Water Conservation & Demand Management:** There is a plan to develop a provincial strategy on Water conservation and demand management. Support will be provided to 5 WSAs to develop their own implementation plans and pilots.
- **Gender Mainstreaming:** The region will focus on developing a sector strategy for the province and also implementing gender mainstreaming within the regional office.
- **Health and Hygiene Education:** The health and hygiene strategy will be rolled out to all municipalities.
- **Poverty Alleviation Projects:** There is a plan to create jobs for about 12 000 person days in the working for Water Programme.
- **Provincial Water Summit:** This will be held around August 2007 it will be assessing the implementation of resolutions taken in the last Provincial Sector Summit.
- **Establishment and support to CMAs:** Two Catchment Management Forums will be established.
- **Regional Bulk Infrastructure:** The current master plans will be updated.

# GAUTENG

## OVERVIEW

Gauteng is the smallest province in South Africa with a size of 1.7 million hectares. Being the industrial and economic hub, it boasts 33% of the country's GDP. It has an estimated population of 10 million people, and some of its major townships are densely populated. Since it has an advantage of a highly developed water supply and sanitation infrastructure, this province is among the few that are going to meet the target of an adequate water supply by 2008, and a basic sanitation service by 2010. However, water services provision is not without its challenges. These challenges call for improved and stronger inter sectoral coordination and collaboration. This article captures some of the key challenges and highlights of WS provision in Gauteng in the 2006/7 annual period.



**Mr. Hennie Smit**  
*Acting Chief Director*

“As the water sector leader in the province, the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry's Gauteng Regional Office, has made possible a number of interventions in line with its objective to ensure that the province's water and sanitation sector is able to meet the needs of its people, economy and environment. This includes providing hands-on technical support to municipalities to address capacity issues, unlocking funds from national departments and agencies, and investing in the development of water services sector development plans for each municipality in the Province”

### Status of WS Backlogs as of at May 2007

#### Sanitation

Households	110 000
Buckets	750

#### Water

Households	212 000
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## KEY HIGHLIGHTS : 2006/07

- **Support to Project Consolidate Municipalities:** DWAF Gauteng, together with the Department for Local Government (DLG) has managed to support Emfuleni Local Municipality with sewage spillages into the Vaal River. These spillages have been caused mainly by dilapidated infrastructure, and have been a major cause for concern because of the health risks posed. DWAF and DLG offered technical and financial assistance, and facilitated an unblocking of funding that resulted in short and long term interventions to solve the problem.
- **Kungwini Drought Relief:** On the 11th of August 2006, three brand new water tankers were delivered to Kungwini Local Municipality. On 3 November 2006, the Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry, Ms Lindiwe Hendricks, officially handed them over to the municipality. DWAF solicited funds to the value of R4.2 million to fund the drought relief initiative. The funds have been used to purchase water tankers to supply rural areas and informal settlements and to install cables and pipes in some informal settlements to improve access to water.
- **Bronkhortspruit Water Treatment Plant:** DWAF Gauteng installed a new pump in Bronkhortspruit in Kungwini LM. Approximately 400 000 people rely on this plant for water supply. The municipality needed to top up funds in order to rehabilitate the plant, DWAF Gauteng supplied the municipality with two brand new pumps in addition to the one pump it had, all 3 pumps are expected to be in operation soon.
- **Mamelodi-Cullinan Water Supply Scheme:** DWAF Gauteng, contributed R50 million in addition to Rand Water's R70 million towards the construction of the above scheme. Two hundred local people were employed and this has gone a long way towards solving water supply problems in the Western Highveld areas.
- **Hands on MIG Support:** Hands on support has been given to Kungwini LM to assist with business plans and tender documents to enable access to MIG funding.
- **Project Thonifho: Respect and Dignity:** This project aims to provide communities in informal settlements with basic water services through communal standpipes. It aims to assist with eradicating water and sanitation backlog and to restore people's dignity, protect the environment and improve the general quality of life
- DWAF Gauteng has played a facilitative role in securing international engineers for Mogale City through the **Partners for Water (PAWS)**, a DFID-funded initiative.
- DWAF Gauteng contributed **R8 million** to assist with the implementation of sanitation at **Lawley Station and Poortjie settlements**, south of Johannesburg, these are VIPs with movable top structures, to allow for moving the top structures in future when a sewer network is in place.

- **On FBW Implementation,** DWAF Gauteng is assisting municipalities with developing indigent policies and by laws.

- Of the total population, 9,316,237 (88%) are provided with free basic water.

- **Sector Collaboration and IGR:** This is the broader vision of the Gauteng Water Sector Forum that was launched on the 2nd of August 2006. The Forum is a collaborative structure that seeks to enhance intergovernmental relations and to foster the principles of cooperative governance in the Province. The challenges that the province still faces are going to be effectively addressed through planning alignment, effective collaboration and bringing on board key sector players like civil society and the private sector. This structure emphasizes the importance of aligning the Gauteng Growth and Development Strategy with the Provincial Water Sector Plans

- **Three councilor induction** sessions were held during the third quarter of 2006. These sessions brought together metros, DMs and LMs. Whilst these sessions were a sound introduction to the water sector for new councilors, they also became excellent platforms for peer learning and networking.

- **Ministerial Flagship project:** The Ministerial Flagship project on Water Conservation and Demand Management has allocated funding to three municipalities to strengthen WC/DM initiatives, these are Ekurhuleni Metro ((R10 m), Emfuleni LM (R10.5m) and Mogale City LM (R5.7m).

- **CSO Participation:** Gauteng hosted a CSO Summit mid 2006, the Province is also running CSO Capacity Building programme that looks at river cleaning, health & hygiene, and the implementation of EPWP amongst others

- **Uganda - South Africa Learning Journey:** the educational and relationship building learning journey to Uganda, organized by the Water Information Network-South Africa, (WIN-SA) and DWAF Sector Collaboration Unit, provided insights into the health and hygiene education in informal settlements, community based O&M of infrastructure amongst other issues.

## **OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES: 2006/7**

Some municipalities in the Province are still struggling to address the challenge of a lack of adequate technical and financial skills to effectively deliver services to communities. This is an important target that is laid out in the SffWS. It emphasizes the need to fast track service delivery and to support struggling municipalities to deliver services. However the reality is that there are varying levels of capacity within local governments and also within the institutions that are supporting local government. Lack of effective collaboration among institutions is also a cause for concern. This hinders effective cooperative governance, and good intergovernmental relations as laid out in the IGR Act No

13 of 2005. Addressing this challenge will ensure long term benefits that come with cooperative governance, such as planning alignment and efficient use of resources.

**Water Services:** Lack of clarity on bulk cost determination and appropriate tariff setting structures is still a challenge for most municipalities. Most municipalities are still struggling with proper asset management and inadequate infrastructure funding. There is a lack of reliable data when it comes to reporting on backlog, this results in a general inaccuracy on reporting. Despite the huge progress made, the region is still grappling with provision of water services to informal settlements and privately owned land. An estimate of about 20% of the population lives in informal settlements. The continued influx of people into the region results in the “moving targets” phenomenon, as it becomes difficult to determine the actual backlog.

**Planning and Alignment:** As it is the case in most WSAs in the country, Gauteng WSAs are also faced with the huge challenge of ensuring that the WSDP is indeed used as an effective planning tool for WS provision. Coupled with this, is ensuring that the WSDP is properly aligned to the IDP.

**Free Basic Services:** Although the province is doing extremely well in the provision of FBS, there is still a need to workshop WSAs further on FBS policy, and to encourage effective cost recovery mechanisms. Most WSAs are struggling to raise adequate funding for O&M of infrastructure, hence providing a sustainable service to communities. FBW provision to privately owned land and effective roll out of donor materials is still a matter of concern. Lack of accurate data on FBW provision is still a problem that requires attention.

**Health and Hygiene Education:** The Dept of Health is leading the implementation of the H&H Awareness Campaign. This calls for effective sector collaboration and co-ordination, in order for the programme to have maximum impact. There is a need for DWAF to effectively collaborate with DOH and target H&H Education Awareness campaigns particularly to informal settlements.

## PLANS FOR 2007/08

- Bucket Eradication by 2007/08, funds to be raised for Lesedi LM, Emfuleni LM and Westoria LM in order for them to eradicate bucket sanitation and meet the 2007 target.
- SALGA/DWAF Job Creation Project: the aim of this project is to train unemployed youth on social aspects of water conservation and to create job opportunities.
- Development of a strategy for involving women in water and sanitation programmes.
- Development of a storm water strategy.
- Assessment of municipal bulk infrastructure.
- Pilot programme on WCDM in Mogale City.
- Assessment of water services at clinics.
- Improved information management and knowledge sharing.



The handover of a cheque for R10.5m as part of the Ministerial Flagship Project

# KWAZULU NATAL

## OVERVIEW

The water sector in the KZN Province has made significant progress towards the meeting of water and sanitation delivery targets in the past financial year. Efforts towards improving the technical, financial and institutional capacity of municipalities to deliver services are noticeable. The Province is doing significantly well in the provision of Free Basic Water as opposed to other provinces dealing with largely rural populations. However, the water sector in KZN has had to contend with serious challenges, in the provision of water services. Capacity constraints in municipalities, including adequate infrastructure roll out and service provision to poor communities remains among others, a serious challenge.



**Mr. Vusi Kubheka**  
Chief Director

### Status of WS Backlogs in KwaZulu Natal as of 31 May 2007

#### Sanitation

Households	974 000
Schools	168
Clinics	19

#### Water

Households	707 000
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## KEY HIGHLIGHTS : 2006/07

**Institutional development:** According to the DWAF Quarterly Progress Report (2006/7 Oct-Dec) 92% of all WSAs have undertaken their S78 (2) assessments as triggered by Powers and Functions, 6 WSAs have commenced their S78 (3). This shows significant progress towards strengthening the institutional capacity of municipalities and in decision-making when it comes to water services provision.

**FBW Provisions:** In KZN, 72% of the total population has access to FBW, the percentage of poor population that has access to FBW is much higher as compared to other Provinces that serve rural and poor populations.

**Sanitation Job Creation Programme:** Tremendous success is noted in the Sanitation Job Creation project, with 1665 people trained and 1963 jobs created in sanitation implementation projects. This is in line with the move towards promoting water for growth and development and aligning the water sector to broader development goals of the country.

## Promotion of regional schemes:

Efforts towards the promotion of regional schemes have been started, this will hopefully help to reduce the dependency of communities on smaller water resources. Even though these carry a high capital cost, the long term benefits of providing a viable service cannot be overlooked.

**Drought relief support:** Numerous drought relief projects have been implemented due to the current droughts that are attacking the Province. These projects are supporting improved water services delivery and might help the efforts towards the eradication of backlog.

## OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES: 2006/07

### Effective FBW provision still remains a challenge:

Even though FBW is being implemented across all fourteen WSAs in KZN, it is still a challenge to assess the extent of implementation and to determine appropriate service levels. The biggest challenge within KZN is the provision of access to water services in rural and outer lying areas.

**Capacity challenges within municipalities:** Municipalities are faced with HR and capacity constraints which affect staffing and capacity issues. Most WSAs responsible for providing services to largely rural populations are faced with limitations when it comes to technical, financial and institutional capacities.

**Information coordination and data verification:** There are challenges when it comes to the coordination of FBW issues, there is limited data collection and updating in rural areas. There is a lack of proper systems in the verification and the monitoring of data. Coupled with this, is the challenge of maintaining proper and accurate indigent registers by municipalities. This hinders provision of water services to poor and much deserving communities.

**Insufficient funding:** The issue of funding is a constraint in most municipalities and they are unable to cross-subsidise to recover costs and to undertake O&M of infrastructure. This has an impact on the ability to eradicate backlog. Besides a lack of infrastructure there is also a huge constraint when it comes to recovering costs of setting up and maintaining infrastructure, adequate cross subsidization is not a possibility in some areas, this causes reluctance by municipalities to place themselves in a position that is not financially sustainable. Some of the problems are caused by debilitated infrastructure, since the current equitable share allocation does not sufficiently cover the cost of provision.

**Delays in processing of MIG applications:** There are significant delays in the processing and approval of MIG applications, this results in a huge backlog in the initiation and implementation of projects at local government level. This impacts negatively on the eradication of backlog.

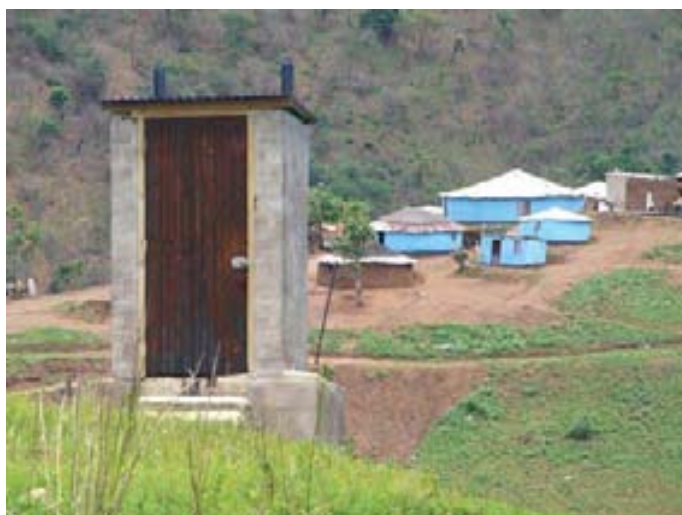
**Water Resource constraints:** Besides the limited number of viable water sources available, there is a cost to accessing water sources and developing adequate infrastructure to enable water service provision and therefore backlog eradication

## PLANS FOR 2007/08

At the time of publication, information on plans for 2007/08 had not been received from the province.



Improved water access in eThekweni Municipality



UDS toilet in eThekweni Municipality

# LIMPOPO

## OVERVIEW

The year 2006/07 was indeed a remarkable one, accompanied by various challenges ranging from struggles to provide hands on support to local government and to ensure equitable water allocation to the poor and disadvantaged small farmers. Limpopo is a unique province, with a population of about 5.6 million people. It is considered one of the poorest provinces with high water services backlogs. Females constitute 55% of the population. Water is a scarce commodity with the available major water resources already over-allocated.

There is a need for some form of water transfers into the province as well as water conservation and demand management strategies to conserve existing water sources. The census 2001 found that more than a third of those in Limpopo aged 20 years and older have not received any form of education or schooling. The province is made up of 5 District Municipalities and 25 Local Municipalities. Out of the 30 municipalities in the province, 11 have a water services authority status. All these issues make the business of meeting the water services targets a complex one because they impact on the current state of backlogs. These are compounded by the level of skills in the province as it is difficult to attract appropriately qualified technical people.



**Mr. Alson Matukane**  
Chief Director

It is still too early to boast of significant achievements as we are aware that the majority of our people particularly women, still walk considerable distances to fetch water, a number still do not have access to decent sanitation, and much more struggle with issues of affordability and payment of water tariffs. This makes our task a difficult one as we are caught up in the dichotomy where we need to improve the lives of the majority whilst also promoting sustainability of services.

## STATUS OF WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION BACKLOGS IN THE LIMPOPO PROVINCE:

As of May 2007 about 1 million people still do not have access to a basic water supply. The picture is gloomy on sanitation as 767 000 households which is approximately 4 million people do not have access to basic sanitation facilities.

### Status of WS Backlogs as of 31 May 2007:

Sanitation	
Households	767 000
Schools	340
Clinic	109
Water	
Households	396 000
Schools	322
Clinics	67

### KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2006/07

- **The De Hoop Dam** sod-turning ceremony has been a significant achievement in the region. The dam will serve ±800 000 people in 3 municipalities, namely Capricorn, Sekhukhune, Waterberg and the mining industry. It will also create employment opportunities. We are therefore hopeful that the lives of people in Limpopo will change for the better.
- **School sanitation:** It was planned to reach 15 schools during 06/07 with a budget allocation of R1.5m from Irish AID. Of the total, 9 schools were provided with adequate sanitation.
- **Free Basic water:** A total of 63% of the total poor population is receiving FBW in the region.

### OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES: 2006/07

#### Sector preparedness to meet the targets

There has been a significant progress made in mobilizing the water sector through the Provincial Collaborative Structure (COLLACOM) to gear up for meeting the targets. This has resulted in the development of the Provincial Water Sector Plan which highlights the challenges and five year strategic issues in the province. However the sector is still faced with huge challenges namely:

- **Capacity of local government:** The capacity of local government to deliver remains a concern mainly because Limpopo is predominantly rural and it remains difficult to attract technical people.
- **In order to meet the infrastructure targets** (capital projects) municipalities must have the capacity to:
  - Prepare their IDP and WSDP.
  - Prepare 3 year Capital Plans and 3 year Operational Budgets (DORA requirements)
  - Undertake Feasibility Studies.
  - Prepare Technical Reports.
  - Manage projects.
  - Oversee and monitor project implementation.
  - Ensuring long term sustainability of projects.

As a result of these challenges in local government, DWAF and SALGA have developed an Integrated Local Government Support Programme (ILOGS) which is promoting hands on support to local government. This programme has been warmly received by local government and it involves deploying technical resources to municipalities.

**Capacity within DWAF :** DWAF as a sector leader in the province is also experiencing capacity constraints. An example would be the management of the Sanitation programme which remains a challenge due to high staff turnover.

• **Bulk water infrastructure:** A lot of projects in the province are dependent on bulk infrastructure. The appeals against Olifants Dam were delaying progress and have a huge impact on Sekhukhune District Municipality meeting its water targets. It is likely that the dam will only deliver water in 2011 meaning Sekhukhune will not meet the 2008 water supply targets.

• **Partnership between DWAF and DoE:** The backlog figures in school sanitation remain a challenge as the DoE is still confirming the number of schools without sanitation in the province. The region estimates the figure to be at 340. The remaining schools are to be reached during the 2007/08 financial year.

• **Partnership between DWAF & DoH:** The partnership with the Department of Health is progressing well. DoH has disbursed R8.7m to DWAF for the implementation of clinic sanitation. Limpopo has a backlog of 109 clinics and it is planned that 69 clinics will be served during 07/08 financial year. An amount of R15m is still required to address the backlog.

• **Political Support:** It was agreed that the region requires political support in order to overcome the challenges they face, especially sanitation challenges. Problems with municipalities will be escalated to the attention of the Minister and the DG.

• **Staff Transfers:** The delays in staff transfers are contributing to capacity constraints. About 4 314 staff are in the process of being transferred to municipalities and 536 may be seconded.

## PLANS FOR 2007/08

- Fast track service delivery to meet infrastructure targets.
- Promote socio-economic development and tackle poverty.
- Ensure equitable water resource allocation and development to meet the needs of the province.
- Look into issues of efficiency as currently more than 10% of our water is unaccounted for.
- Build a culture of sustainable water service provision through building institutions and skills in the sector.
- Ensure efficient disaster management systems to deal with regular floods and droughts.

# MPUMALANGA

## OVERVIEW

The Mpumalanga Province is one of the biggest tourist attractions in South Africa. It has the Kruger National Park, caves, waterfalls and other attractions. Farming is one of the key activities which demands a lot of water for its sustainability. There is a significantly large rural population across the region which at times makes it difficult to ensure access to such areas due to demographics. To provide water to meet the needs of all, is a huge challenge especially during the holiday seasons. The total population of Mpumalanga is estimated at 3.62 million.



**Mr. Fanyana Mntambo**  
*Acting Chief Director*

I am happy to showcase the successes that we have achieved as a region, notwithstanding the challenges that we have faced in the process. It has not been easy but the support, encouragement from the national office has been tremendous. Stakeholders in the region have recognized the role we play in improving the lives of people in the region. They have all cooperated and joined hands with us in ensuring that service delivery becomes a reality.

I am aware of the long journey still to be traveled, and the challenges that lie ahead, but I am confident that we will together as DWAF teams, stakeholders, service providers, political leadership, municipalities and the communities at large.

I am excited to register a total number of 48 785 household served with sanitation. A total of 6 491 buckets were eradicated. There is a strong feeling that we'll eradicate the buckets by the set target date.

Through our household sanitation projects, we created 2196 job opportunities. A further 324 jobs have been created through our bucket eradication programme.

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2006/07

### Water services delivery Household water services

For the first time, the Region has a consolidated figure on the backlogs related to the provision of free basic water. These figures will be analyzed so as to give a full picture of the situation in each of the WSAs. This information will be packaged for presentation to parliament.

### Household sanitation delivery

A total of R235 141 million has been provided in order to deliver services to 48 785 households.

### Schools sanitation

Health and hygiene education has been rolled out to all schools.

### Bucket eradication

The set target of eradicating 3 425 within the financial year under review has been completely achieved.

### Sector collaboration

Operational district forums have been set up and launched.

### Transfers

Transfer agreements with all WSAs have been signed. There will be efforts to ensure a smooth transfer of infrastructure to the receiving municipalities.

## OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES: 2006/07

The region celebrates 80% infrastructure coverage, however there is still a problem with the supply. These are some of the challenges the region is faced with in the process of implementation:

- Shortage of funds as shortfall is estimated at R1.5 billion
- Attendance at sector forum meetings is poor
- Capacity to implement free basic water

## Status of WS Backlogs as of 31 May 2007

### Sanitation

Households	492 000
Schools	116
Clinics	No info

### Water

Households	250 000
Schools	358
Clinics	48

## PLANS 2007/08

- Ensure water services provision to all.
- Eradicate a further 6 491 buckets.
- Secure funds to eradicate backlogs in 185 schools.
- Identify and prioritize communities prone to water borne diseases and support the municipalities they fall under.
- Finalize provincial sector plans and ensure stakeholder buy in.
- Ensure sustainability of transferred infrastructure and support WSAs by building capacity of transferred staff.
- Create opportunities for CSOs and NGOs to act as service providers where practical.



Old pit toilet in Dr JS Moroka Municipality



VIP toilet in Dr JS Moroka Municipality

# NORTH WEST

## OVERVIEW

The North West covers 116 320 km<sup>2</sup>. It has a total population of about 4 million people and it contributes approximately 6% of the National GDP. It is a predominantly rural province with low population density. The Province is faced with huge service delivery backlogs. It also has a problem of unequal and 'pocket' development with large disparities between its urban and rural sections. Water Service Authorities that are responsible for peri-urban areas are currently faced with the task of eradicating the bucket system and replacing it with a more dignified service.

The province is located close to a watershed, therefore its water resources are highly stressed. This, together with the problem of insufficient bulk infrastructure, has an impact on the eradication of the water services backlog. The province is faced with a backlog of about 19% of the total population which it has to meet by 2008. Current percentage coverage is at about 81.20%. Sanitation provision is noticeably lagging behind at approximately 2 million or 50% of the total population. Current percentage coverage is at 51% of the total population.



**Mr Chadwick Lobakeng**  
*Acting Chief Director*

### Status of WS Backlogs as of 31 May 2007

<b>Sanitation</b>	401 000
Buckets	3 600
Schools	209
Clinics	60
<b>Water</b>	103 000

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2006/07

### Stronger sector coordination and collaboration

A stronger spirit of cooperation and collaboration has led to the development of a Provincial Water Sector Plan that is in line with intergovernmental planning, this is a five year plan that covers the period 2007/8-2011/12. It outlines the medium term goals of the provincial water sector over this period. It is also a significant guiding tool for municipalities, provincial government departments and national departments. The plan provides mechanisms to fast track service delivery and to ensure that service targets will be met.

A Provincial Water Summit with key stakeholders was held in 2006.

Success with Project Consolidate Municipalities.

85 schools received sanitation and R25 million budget was spent on this project.

Of the total poor population, 2, 362, 451 are provided with free basic water.

## OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES 2006/07

One of the most serious challenges facing the province is that of capacity constraints that hinder municipalities from delivering services to communities. It is essential to develop and strengthen technical and financial management capacity in municipalities. Some changes have been noted under the Project Consolidate programme, however more effort is still required in this regard. Improving data and information management in municipalities is still a challenge, this affects the quality and reliability of backlog data that municipalities provide.

Inadequate funding for O&M of existing infrastructure is posing to be a serious challenge, as most WSAs are struggling to raise funds for this important function. The problem of dilapidated infrastructure is thwarting sincere efforts towards eradicating service backlog in the province.

There is a need to set up appropriate infrastructure in order to support water retail systems. Added to this, is the need for the extension of this infrastructure to new settlements whilst at the same time addressing existing backlog. Efforts to avail more funding to municipalities to deliver sanitation services effectively and to eradicate the bucket system need to be intensified. Funding also needs to go to setting up bulk infrastructure for improving service provision to communities.

- The rate of new settlement development is also thwarting efforts to eradicate backlogs. Recently formalized stands in municipalities are resulting in a growing number of bucket users. Hence the 'moving target' phenomenon. Eradicated bucket toilets are counterbalanced by other bucket toilets arising elsewhere in recently formalized and in informal stands.

- To address this problem it is imperative to align housing developments with basic services provision.

- The sanitation backlog is extensive and the current rate of eradication is slow. Implementation capacity needs to be enhanced in order to meet the 2010 target.

- The water supply backlogs will also require concerted effort to reduce the current backlog by at least 50% by 2008. At the current pace it is doubtful whether the 2008 targets will be met.

- Availability of sufficient water resources and the costs of transferring water into the province will also affect progress in terms of backlog eradication.
- The impact of bucket eradication on existing infrastructure is also impacting on the pace and cost of the programme. For urban areas, there is a need for bulk connector services and this is proving costly for municipalities. Funding needs to be channeled to municipalities dealing with this problem, if the 2007 target is to be met.

- Water and sanitation for schools and clinics also requires special attention, this further requires improved inter sectoral planning and co-ordination.

- There is a need for continued monitoring of drinking water quality especially development and application of regulations.

- There is a need to improve operation and maintenance of existing infrastructure. This includes planning for replacement of ageing infrastructure.

- Metering, billing and cost recovery measures must be improved.

- Co-funding for higher levels of service to enhance cost recovery is required.

- Coordinated support for water services institutions is essential.

- Effective sector leadership and stronger sector collaboration needs to be fostered.

## PLANS FOR 2007/8

- The province plans to develop comprehensive WSA support plans by June 2008, these will be linked to a provincial support strategy and municipal support plans.

- Capacity development for Water Services Providers is also under way in the form of a Provincial Water Services Provider Network by June 2008, this will be done in collaboration with SALGA.

- The province is planning to strengthen efforts towards the integration of water services and water resources, and to ensure that planning for WS provision takes into account the availability/non availability of water resources.

- Concerted effort towards sourcing of extra funding: DPLG, DBSA and DWAF are being

engaged to address this problem via MIG and other funding windows.

- Fast tracking the bucket eradication programme to achieve the 2007 target, this involves the development of an implementation plan to address bucket eradication. Project implementation will target the four affected municipalities. There is a plan to also access additional funding for bucket eradication through DBSA.

- Improved information and data management: The Province is planning to collate existing databases and developing a common reference point for the sector by March 2008. Linked to this is also a desire to align reporting systems.

- Some of the future plans are continuous and they centre around building effective collaboration structures in line with Intergovernmental Relations legislation, and establishing links with the Premiers Coordinating Forum.

- Ongoing skills development programmes, increased CSO participation, gender mainstreaming and increasing the usage of appropriate technologies is part of the NW longer term Water Sector Plan.

The other plan is to implement resolutions as agreed in the Provincial Sanitation Summit held on 14 May 2007, these are:

- Expedite implementation of urgent sanitation projects: Biesiesvlei (Itekeng)\_[960 stands], and Tlhabologang Ext. 5 (via housing)\_[1395 stands];

- The facilitation of the implementation of the upgrading of bulk water supply pipeline at Maquassi Hills L.M. in support of bucket sanitation eradication.

- raining of other community members on a 12-month construction skills learnership – replicating the Ipelegeng project.

- The undertaking of a Backlog Study indicating the extent of the water and sanitation backlogs in the NW Province and the cost of eradicating the backlogs by the year 2010.

- Addressing the remaining urgent sanitation needs of the 5 prioritized municipalities involved in Phase 1.

- The formal initiation and commencement of Phase 2 of the water and sanitation programme in partnership with the DBSA and other key stakeholders. Next phase will be focusing primarily on water provision.

- Giving hands-on support to City of Matlosana in ensuring that they meet the Dec 07 deadline.

# NORTHERN CAPE

## OVERVIEW

Our Region is one of the dry provinces in South Africa and that calls for innovative ways of water management in order to safeguard this precious resource. The region is characterized by high poverty rates, low population, mining and agriculture.

Whilst significant progress is being made towards ensuring that services are provided to all, there is still a challenge of eradicating the backlogs which is estimated at 40 320 people without infrastructure and 10 151 households in the same category. Currently 76 901 people have access to RDP standard whilst 19 112 are below the RDP standard. It is estimated that the Region will need around R147 76 million to address the current backlog.

Sanitation delivery has reached about 0,29 people and there is still a need for an estimated budget of R191,7 millions to eradicate the backlogs. An estimated figure of 287,556 poor people have been served with free basic water as all WSAs do provide FBW.



**Mr. Louis Snyders**  
*Acting Chief Director*

The estimated budget needed to eradicate backlog is a huge investment which, we may not have at the time that we need it, however, we are confident that as we highlight our challenges and successes in this regard, we'll be able to demonstrate our commitment in making a difference in our communities whilst we think creatively in terms of how we fast track delivery in relation to the target dates that we have set for ourselves.

Challenges in terms of demographics alone, are enough evidence to demonstrate the commitment of every team member working on each of the programmes, and begin to appreciate every individual who puts an effort in making a difference to all the communities out there.

As I list the successes in this document, it is important to acknowledge all structures, institutions and individuals who have tirelessly committed themselves in working with us. The Regional team and the sector partners and stakeholders have contributed significantly towards achieving these successes that we are showcasing in this publication. I am happy to inform the sector that as the Northern Cape, we would not achieve this much without everyone's contribution, commitment and dedication.

## Status of WS Backlogs as of 31 May 2007

Sanitation	
Households	41 565
Buckets	6 328
Schools	No info
Clinics	No info
Water	
Households	13 000
Schools	No info
Clinics	No info

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2006/07

### • Water services delivery

An expenditure of R34 million on water supply projects in the previous financial year, is celebrated. A lot of effort has gone into the development of a strategy by both and DWAF and the MIG unit which is intended at tracking projects. This strategy will be implemented at the beginning of the April 2007.

### Supply to schools

Ten schools have been identified and prioritized for support through the Geohydrology unit. Each of these schools will have a borehole drilled to supply water to learners.

### Sanitation service delivery

#### • Household sanitation

Sanitation backlog as at April 2006 was estimated at 41 565. Thirty six projects have been successfully completed and R36 million of the allocated budget has been spent.

#### • School sanitation

A multi stakeholder team has prioritized the review of the strategy to address school sanitation. This document has been approved by all sector stakeholders. There is a sanitation strategy which the EHOs are rolling out to schools. This is being implemented successfully.

#### • Eradication of buckets

The bucket eradication programme has got strict monitoring arrangements and this has been made possible by a strong relationship between DWAF and DLGH. There is a high level of confidence in the region that the buckets will be eradicated within the specified time frame. From the 7 321 buckets at the end of June 2006, 841 have been eradicated and a total of 1 3 60 is targeted in this financial year.

#### • Operations and Maintenance

DWAF has been very instrumental in the development of the Operations and Maintenance strategy and guidelines. There is a strong realisation of the impact that this will have on infrastructure (both old and new).

Municipalities are urged to prioritize O&M issues.

• **Awards/Prizes Received**

Schools are educated on water and sanitation related issues. Educators are encouraged to take part in these events. DWAF was proudly awarded with Baswa le Meetsi Award in the past year. There is a strong consciousness of the need to invest in the younger generation because they are the future leaders.

• **Sector collaboration**

The region takes credit for the successes which have been enabled by DWAF taking its sector leadership role seriously. DWAF appreciates the effort, contribution and dedication of other stakeholders in improving service delivery. The spirit of working together has made it possible to deliver water and sanitation services to communities. Special appreciation goes to the department of Education and Health. SALGA NC has also assisted the sector in Councilor Induction, Gender and CSO training.

• Partners for Water & Sanitation UK, has also been instrumental in assisting Magareng & Moshaweng municipalities in capacity building.

**OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES 2006/07**

Where there is activity there will always be challenges. The province does not want to register them as such, rather as opportunities to think creatively and restructure themselves as they spearhead this massive programme.

Funding has always been one of the biggest challenges, however, with the resources at their disposal, they will continue to ensure that there is value added and that WSAs are able to deliver services to communities.

Capacity shortages in municipalities are a challenge.

Distances between project sites make monitoring and evaluation a challenge especially where this is accompanied by IT capacity constraints.

**PLANS 2007/08**

- Implementation of a tracking strategy for tracking MIG projects.
- Implementation of the school sanitation strategy.
- Continue to support municipalities as they implement projects.
- Eradicate the outstanding 1360 buckets.
- Ensure feedback on progress and challenges as well so as to keep other stakeholders and National office informed.

# WESTERN CAPE

## OVERVIEW

The Western Cape province is highly urbanized and therefore has a very high demand for water and sanitation service delivery. It has an estimated population of 5.08 million people of which 1.38 million are served with free basic water. Sanitation backlog has been reduced by 250 000 households. Whilst progress is being made towards ensuring that backlogs are eradicated, there is still 44 757 people without infrastructure and 0.36 million people without proper sanitation. These figures demonstrate that there is still a lot of effort that needs to go into the programmes and projects that aim at achieving these targets.

The year under review has been a remarkable year. Like any other year, it had its challenges which were land relocation, funding, capacity and technical support to WSAs, to highlight just a few.



**Mr. Rashid Khan**  
*Acting Regional Director*

As a Region, it gives me pleasure to share with the sector, the successes that we have achieved collaboratively with all stakeholders, each one of them contributing in a special way. We pride ourselves in our successes, especially where we have fulfilled our role as a sector leader.

Special acknowledgements go to our Provincial political leadership who, from time to time, have created an enabling environment for us to work in. Without them we wouldn't have achieved this much.

Let me take this opportunity to introduce the programmes and projects that the Regional Office has been engaged with in the previous financial year and also to briefly highlight the plans for 2007/08.

### Status of WS Backlogs as of 31 May 2007:

#### Sanitation

Households:	33 000
Buckets:	1 360
Schools:	No info
Clinics:	345

#### Water

Households:	10 000
Schools:	No info
Clinics:	No info

## KEY HIGHLIGHTS 2006/07

### Household sanitation

Providing quality sanitation in informal settlements remains a challenge that requires strong inter governmental cooperation across the three spheres of government and between departments. As at April 2006, household sanitation was estimated at 98 530 and various interventions have been embarked upon, these include:

- **Bucket Eradication:** It was important to prioritize the eradication of buckets not because there was funding for it but simply because there was an understanding of the negative impact it has on people's lives and health. Considerable progress has been made on bucket eradication through a MIG allocation of R1.2 billion.

The year remains with 1,869 buckets and by the end of May 2007, a figure of 1,360 buckets. At the rate that these projects have been implemented and managed, there is a level of comfort in knowing that the backlog will be eradicated.

Technical support in terms of this programme, has been made available to all implementing municipalities. Advice on sound technological options have been provided based on operating costs, affordability and sustainability.

- **Health and Hygiene:** The Health and Hygiene programme has impacted on 30 000 people. Sanitation week saw a great improvement in the implementation of the WASH programme, this includes but is not limited to water education programmes in schools, education and awareness campaigns and launches and public meetings on various health and water related issues despite the limited resources available.

- **School sanitation:** The main success of the Province is in ensuring participation of the Department of Education in all school sanitation related programmes, for an example, identification of schools with sanitation backlogs. DoE participates actively in various structures within the sector. Strategic implementation plans for the provision of water and sanitation to schools are being developed.

- **Clinic Sanitation:** Collaboration efforts between DWAF and the Department of Health are beginning to bear good fruits. A total number of 66 volunteers have been mobilized to conduct door-to-door training and awareness on health and hygiene. Significant progress has been made in just less than a year since the project started. The contribution that each partner has brought to the table is acknowledged. Soaps and dehydration kits are provided for by both DWAF and DoH and used for training purposes.

### Household water provision

In the year under review, the Western Cape provided basic water to almost 314 000.

- **Provision of Water to schools:** All our schools have been provided with clean water.

- **Free basic water:** Identification of WSAs not implementing or having FBW policy identified and prioritized for support.

- **Local government support:**

A lot of effort has gone into LG support ensuring the MIG projects are identified and registered in line with WSDP and IDP processes. All WSAs in the Western Cape have submitted their strategies in relation to how they plan to address backlogs. There has been significant progress in the improvement of the quality of WSDPs.

- **Sector collaboration:** The benefits brought about by collaborating with key stakeholders is appreciated. There is confidence that sector partners will continue to participate and commit themselves supporting programmes that help DWAF to achieve the targets within the stipulated time frame.

At this level, it becomes critical that stakeholders like DoE, DoH, DPLG&H, DoPW are standing members at all water services forums in order to address issues of infrastructure planning and development, implementation and resources availability such that efforts are not duplicated. It is hoped that the sector forums will continue to bring together stakeholders. The DWAF team is willing to facilitate this collaboration.

### OBSTACLES AND CHALLENGES 2006/07

Like any other successful programme, the water services provision has had its fair share of challenges. However, collaborative efforts have been implemented to alleviate such challenges and still ensure successful implementation of programmes. These are the challenges that have had a negative impact on our programme:

- There is still an estimated number of 86 000 households without basic water supply and this needs a lot of resources to be sorted out.
- Shortage of technical staff to provide support to WSAs.
- Inadequate funding for water services authorities to tackle backlogs.
- Lack of funds to eradicate 1188 buckets.

### PLANS FOR 2007/08

- Ensure that 400 000 households are served with water.
- Reduce sanitation backlog of 41 000 in 2007/8.
- Eradicate 1360 buckets.
- Roll-out of the Health and Hygiene strategy.
- Establish a basic services monitoring task team to monitor and evaluate implementation in relation to budgets and needs.
- Provide water to 400 000 households.
- Conduct WSDP assessments and monitor performance in MIG projects.

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This publication is a showcasing document that captures the highlights of achievements towards eradicating backlog in water services delivery in the 2006/7 annual period. It summarises the challenges and hurdles faced by the 9 Provinces in their various efforts to eradicate backlog and deliver services to the millions of South Africans who are still without a basic water and sanitation supply. The publication has been compiled by the Water Information Network South Africa (WIN-SA) in collaboration with the Department of Water Affairs (Sector Collaboration Unit)

