



Dept of Water
Affairs & Forestry



SALGA
South African Local Government Association

Learning through Collaboration in the Water Sector

Uganda-South Africa Water Sector Learning Journey
March 2007



Introduction

- Learning journey aimed at lessons sharing and exchange in the implementation of SWAPs
- Ten South Africans took part from the following organisations:
 - ✓ SALGA
 - ✓ DWAF
 - ✓ DoH
 - ✓ WIN-SA
 - ✓ NSC
 - ✓ Ukhahlamba DM

Learning Objectives:

- To share experiences on the implementation of SWAPs in both countries with a specific focus on the following:
 - ✓ Sector budgeting
 - ✓ Performance Measurement Framework
 - ✓ Local Government Support Strategies
 - ✓ Civil Society
 - ✓ Sanitation, Health and Hygiene Education

Structure

- The group was divided into two:
- 3 people went to LIRA (Northern Uganda) went on site visits and attended the annual Joint Technical Review (JTR)
- The other group remained in Kampala, attended meetings/briefing sessions/exchange sessions and went on site visits for two days
- Two reports attached as Annexure 1 and 2

Partnerships

- The learning journey was commissioned by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry which is the sector leader in the SA water sector
- WIN-SA, the sector knowledge sharing programme took responsibility for coordinating and preparing the learning programme
- NETWAS, the knowledge sharing network for the Ugandan sector worked together with WIN-SA and DWD-Uganda to finalise the learning programme
- Strategic partnership formed with UWASNET: who came and shared their experience of coordinating CSOs in Uganda at the WIN-SA Partners Forum

Key learnings

- At the end of the learning journey, the SA delegation met to consolidate learnings as a group and agreed on 3 key lessons:

3 key lessons

- JTR: very practical progress review process: Ministers involvement a highlight, visits to districts to monitor progress against set undertakings
- Community based O&M is supported by local and national government of Uganda
- CSO Engagement and Coordination: UWASNET, strong CSO coordinating body that lobbies and advocates at a higher level

Questions to pose

- Improve the functioning of the WSSLG by adopting a practical approach as observed in Uganda: is there merit in that? Must it be taken to WSSLG?
- Plan to draw up position paper on Community based O&M, is that to be supported? Can DWAF take it forward?
- CSO Coordination: sharing of lessons during WIN PF, how to take forward?

Recommendations for future learning journeys

- More preparation in advance
- Clarity on the role of the sector leader in learning journeys? As the biggest sponsor, can it champion and link LJs to its strategic plan?
- Clarity on feedback, to whom and for what purpose?
- Who takes final accountability for implementation?
- Participants who are selected to go must commit to preparation, to GOING, and to post learning journey implementation
- We have moved. Adequate reflection is happening and we can improve for the future









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