



DEPLOYMENT OF ENGINEERING CAPACITY

Eskom Conference Centre 7 JUNE 2006

**Engineers Now to Ensure Role-out
by Growing Young Skills**



the dplg

Department:
Provincial and Local Government
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Role Of Project

- Offer experience to graduates
- Assist students to graduate
- Train in-house staff
- Unblock MIG projects
- Fast track MIG projects
- Assist with crises as a result of the lack of O&M
- Assist with Master-planning in order to get future funds for expansion

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Deployed to date

(Including Gauteng)

- 39 engineers
- 75 students
- 15 graduates
- Plus ~ 90 in-house to be trained!
- Interventions in 62 municipalities considering support given to locals through the districts

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Progress to date

(excluding Gauteng)

- 23 senior engineers deployed
- 18 graduates
- 53 students
- 63+ in-house being trained
- 65 municipalities receiving some help
- Support being given on R960m worth of projects as follows:
 - MIG projects - R 417,179,111.23
 - Capital projects - R 379,908,152.59
 - O&M projects R10,839,038.00
 - Rehab projects for which funds must be raised – R 152,101,099.00

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Successes to date

- Many projects which have been on hold for long periods now under construction
- Several projects which required expert advice or an experienced person to negotiate around a problem now complete
- Several prepayment tenders ready to be advertised or awarded
- Tariff checks have resulted in immediate changes to accounts and increased cash flow to municipalities
- Several water loss situations already being addressed with associated savings
- Several sewerage spillage problems being attended to

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Many problems encountered which still need lots of attention

- Sewerage spills and over flows
- Water quality
- Poor quality contracting
- Inadequate designs
- Over priced tenders which must be cancelled and re-issued
- Procurement processes to be set up in many municipalities (currently delaying expenditure)
- Several municipalities have no technical staff

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Training and developing standard operating procedures

Much work still to be done in terms of training:

- Students require 1 year supervision to graduate
- Graduates require a minimum of 3 years supervision to be able to register with ECSA
- In-house staff require lots of training
- Development of standard operating procedures is progressing but will not be complete and staff adequately grounded in their use, in the short time

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Project recommendation

Many more civil engineering staff are required in local government:

- Allow more projects to be completed
- Address some of the problems associated with staff shortages
- Continue training graduates, students and inexperienced in-house staff
- Bring some stability and motivation to those currently employed
- Give support to MMs and Councils during the process of designing function charts, interviewing and employing additional staff

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**Costs to continue
with 23 teams to try and solve more of these
problems and grow capacity**

- To March 2007 - R 14,5m (R630 000 per team for 7 months)
- April 2007 to March 2008 - R 30m (R1,3m per team for 12 months)
- For more teams, multiply by team rate