WATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS (WMI) IN SOUTH AFRICA

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DEPARTMENT OF WATER AFFAIRS AND FORESTRY
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THE NATIONAL WATER ACT 1998

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- The central guiding principles in the NWA are **equity**, **efficiency**, **sustainability** and **representivity**.

THE PURPOSE

- meeting the basic human needs of present and future generations,
- promoting equitable access to water,
- redressing the results of past racial and gender discrimination,
- facilitating social and economic development.
THE AIM OF THE INSTITUTIONS

- Must set principles for allocating water to existing and prospective users.
- Must enable the public to participate in managing the water resources within its WMA.
- Must take into account the needs and expectations of existing and potential water users.
- They should be developmental in nature while ensuring the sustainable use of water resources in their area of operation.
THE HIERARCHY OF WATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTIONS

MINISTER

DWAF

RO

CMA

CMC

Catchment forum

WUA

WSA

WSP

Water Resources Management

Water Services

International body

Accountability

CMA

CMC

Catchment forum

WUA

WSA

WSP

Water board

Municipal Utility

services contract

accountability

representation

consultation

representation

oversight

support

services contract

representation

services contract

representation

accountability

representation
Department of Water Affairs and Forestry

Minister of Water Affairs and Forestry

Overall responsibility for effective water management

National Water Resource Strategy

Catchment Management Strategy

SECOND TIER

Catchment Management Agency

Third Tier

WUA becomes third tier of water management institutions if water management activities are devolved to the WUA

Local level water-related activities

Water User Association
In addition to the statutory bodies provided for in the National Water Act, non-statutory bodies may also be established by interested and affected individuals and institutions (stakeholders). These bodies tend to play a facilitation and supporting role to the establishment of CMAs, for example catchment forums and catchment steering committees.
WATER USER ASSOCIATIONS

- cooperative associations of individual water users
- CMAs can devolve implementation aspects of Catchment Management Strategy to the local level.
- The establishment process is triggered either by DWAF or the stakeholders.
- All Irrigation Boards have to transform to WUAs.
CATCHMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

CMA

Catchment management committee

Catchment management committee

Catchment management committee
WATER MANAGEMENT AREAS OF SOUTH AFRICA

WATER MANAGEMENT AREA
1. LIMPOPO
2. LUVUVHU AND LETABA
3. CROCODILE (WEST) AND MARICO
4. OLIFANTS
5. INKOMATI
6. USUTHU TO MHLATUZE
7. THUKELA
8. UPPER VAAL
9. MIDDLE VAAL
10. LOWER VAAL
11. MVOTI TO UMZIMKULU
12. MZIMVUBU TO KEISKAMMA
13. UPPER ORANGE
14. LOWER ORANGE
15. FISH TO TSITSIKAMMA
16. GOURITZ
17. OLIFANTS/DOORN
18. BREEDE
19. BERG
CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT AGENCIES

- 19 Agencies, one in each Water Management Area.
- Each is governed by a Board.
- They must seek cooperation and agreement on water related matters from various stakeholders and interested persons.
- They can delegate functions to other institutions.
- Ideally should evolve organically in a bottom up fashion.
**What is the difference between CMAs and WUAs?**

**CMAs** are responsible for managing water resources for the *whole* water management area.

- A CMA has a Governing Board representative of stakeholders from the entire water management area.
- A CMA will prepare a Catchment Management Strategy to address water resource issues over the whole water management area.
- The CMA’s Catchment Management Strategy will provide guidance to the Minister as to whether specific WUAs should be established and what functions they should be authorised to carry out within the water management area.

**WUAs** will normally have a *localised interest*.

- A WUA represents a much smaller scope of interest, usually a sector of water users in a confined geographical area.
- WUAs may be represented on the CMA's Governing Board and Catchment Management Committees.
- WUAs provide a local institutional structure through which the Catchment Management Strategy can be implemented at a local level.
CMA PROPOSAL

What consultation happened? What was the outcome?

Water management area?

Significant water resources?

Protection, use, development, conservation, management and control of water resources?

Is the CMA feasible? (technically, financially and administratively?)

Proposal to establish a CMA

Funding for the CMA?

Functions of the CMA?

Name?
THE ESTABLISHMENT PROCESS

- THE PROPOSAL DEVELOPMENT (1-2 years)
- THE PROPOSAL EVALUATION (8 months)
- MINISTER’S APPROVAL (4 wks)
- PROPOSAL GAZETTING FOR COMMENTS (60 days) AND REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS TO ADVISORY COMMITTEE (3-4 months)
- ANNOUNCEMENT OF ESTABLISHMENT (1 wk)
- ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND NOMINATIONS FOR GOVERNING BOARD MEMBERS (3-4 months)
- GOVERNING BOARD TRAINING (2wks)
- GB FIRST MEETING

AVERAGE 3 YEARS