



National development planning and implications of defined priority water uses

1. National development planning and implications of defined priority water uses and Institutional reforms needed for a water secure future

- a. Alignment between different sectors and different levels
- b. Defining development imperatives in water decisions
- c. Stakeholders engagements in water plans
- d. Planning and climate change
- e. Prioritizing water allocations

Water is part of broader social, political and economic developments and is thus also affected by decisions outside of the water sector. However the importance of national plans is to ensure that water as a catalyst for development and for addressing equity and increasing access to water.

Many countries are grappling with the challenges of low economic growth, high levels of unemployment, service delivery challenge. It is indeed believed that water can act as the catalyst for supporting the achievement of countries' socio economic objectives. However, institutions responsible for managing water resources should ensure that their operations and development align with the country's macro-development strategies and sectoral priorities and it is therefore important to take stock of the water sector to determine how well aligned the water sector is to broader strategic agenda for the country in terms of expanding, improving and maintaining infrastructure such as houses, roads, rail networks, health facilities, etc. Such national priorities must be planned and achieved without forfeiting environmental sustainability. In order for organisations or for sectors to function effectively, it is critical that all stakeholders are working towards the same goal and are generally pulling in the same direction.

In addition, the effective planning of the components, through effective management of these components, reduces the possibility of developing a silo mentality when planning. The provision of tools at both a district and municipal level would provide an opportunity for redressing a past and very dysfunctional and inequitable space economy. It would also offer a guide for investment decisions to achieve more sustainable human settlements.

Water resources can only sustainably cater for all the water uses if effective planning takes place; In this regard, it will be important in this session to:

- Debate how the allocation of water can be optimised to meet the socio-economic needs of the country.
- some hard choices and considerations for reallocating water to those sectors that yield the greatest benefit to the country.
- It is acknowledged that these decisions should ideally be made by water users at basin scale but given the relative capacity of water users, it is unlikely that significant allocation reform can be driven at that level. Hence it is pertinent to look at the ideal scale for such macro-plans and for national priorities to be identified.
- countries cannot continue to augment water resources perpetually and despite the recent focus on demand side management; there is still a very strong supply side mentality that permeates through.

The focus of the session will be on areas where there is scarcity ie; there is not enough water to satisfy all the demands; closed basins for any further allocations. The session will be made of country case studies of good practice to be followed by a panel discussion around any of the issues stated above.

Draft Programme

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Dialogue on Water Governance (DWG) (90 minutes)		
Chair: Stanley Liphadzi (WRC)		
Time	Topic	Speaker
	Welcome and introductions	Chair
15 min	mis...Alignment in national water and development plans	Eiman Karar WRC South Africa
15 min	National Planning in LAC	Axel Dourojeanni, water manager; LAC region
15 min	National Planning in Brazil	Paulo Afonso Romano Director at Forum of the Future, Brazil
15 min	National Planning in Mexico	Ricardo Sandoval Minero - Centro del Agua, Director of Center for Water Management Decision Making, Monterrey, Mexico
30 min	Panel Discussion; presenters and Alberto Palombo; Jennifer McKay; Yali Woyessa;	
	Summary and concluding remarks	Chair