

Water Dialogues: South African Working Group Meeting 15 March 2006

Present

Bev Pretorius (WIN, *facilitator*), Bheki Ngubo (DWAF, notes), JP Mas (Jowam), Jeff Rudin (SAMWU), Kathy Eales (Jhb-CMU), Jay Bhagwan (WRC,) Martin Rall (Mvula Trust) Malcom White (DCI, *potential funder of the project*) Stephen Law (EMG) Graham Richards adv. (SALGA) Hamed Deedat (SAWC)

Apologies

William Moraka, Jessica Wilson, Niel McLeod, Tony Saunders, Abri Vermeulen, John Connelly.

Code of conduct

WRC and Mvula Trust submitted their signed code of conduct to the meeting. SALGA and DWAF are still outstanding. WIN has taken the responsibility to house the signed documents until further notice.

Fundraising and implementation

- Malcom (DCI) gave a brief presentation on the background and conditions for funding
- They have money available for 2006 which must be committed before December 2006. He specifically mentioned that it will be a once off payment or funding and the WG will need to do proper budgeting. He said the project has in principle support from his office since it is in line with the approach of the Irish government.
- A credible institution will be required as the contracting party, and suggested that this should not be DWAF. This position was supported by the meeting.

Questions from the WG:

Do we need to spend the money before the end of this year?

What happens if the committee for some reasons does not perform?

How about a broad discussion on this because the committee can take an irresponsible decision because they know that the final accountability lies with the IA.?

The meeting called for institutions from within the WG which may be interested to be Implementing Agent. Only Mvula Trust and WRC showed interest. Since the WG wants control over the whole process, it became apparent that it could be difficult for either institution to do it.

Other ideas: need contracts, one which binds every member and another involving the IA. The Idea of section 21 and the signing of MOU was also entertained. The meeting registered that the IA will not be receiving recommendations from the committee but decisions for implementation by the IA.

It was agreed in principle that WRC will be the contracting party subject to them submitting the constraints/conditions that will hinder the WG from exercising full authority. The WG will look at that and take a decision. It was agreed that the proposal needs reworking to suit DCI's requirements.

Action:

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- To follow up with DWAF on the Code of Conduct –Bheki
- Revision of the proposal and budget –Kathy and the team including WRC
- Conditions / constraints that will block the WG to exercise its powers- Jay
- Role of WIN in documenting lessons-Bev
- Group from Cape Town (Hameda, Stephen and Jeff) were requested to write a letter to WRC and request them to consider becoming the IA

Process recording

We need to reflect and record process as it unfolds. All members of the WG are encouraged to keep journals. Our minutes will also assist with process recording. Bev volunteered to speak to WIN on how they can play a role in this process to reflect on lessons. The meeting registered that a facilitator is needed to do facilitation rather than one of the WG members.

Evaluation criteria – national

All the members have commented on the document except Jeff who will also be given time as well (two weeks). More discussion on this topic next meeting.

Next meeting

Wednesday 12 April 2006 10am to 3pm, WRC. Bheki and Bev to book the venue, coordinate the agenda and reminding participants.