



Attendee feedback from the Water Sector Colloquium: 8 June 2005

Comments on Topic : Adapt or Die – Implementing Adaptive Approaches to Water Management

- Poor visibility on screen
- Next time get the keynote speakers to attend and not render apologies
- This approach should be implemented across all of the DWAF sectors and not only water allocations.
- Thanks again for the invitation, I found the presentations very stimulating

General comments

- This is a fantastic way for smaller organisations to meet and network and build relationships
- For future events one could consider having afternoon meetings i.e. 13h00 – 16h00. WISA found that this really works better in terms of attendance
- This kind of discussions should be extended or spread to other parts of the country
- With regards to the colloquium, would there be similar meetings held in the E.Cape?

- The implementation of DWAF strategies is too broad. The areas are too big for CMA's to manage. Their concerns are different and thus the objectives will be to versatile to implement. The implementation of the process is the most important. It is nice to have missions & visions & goals. But how do you want to achieve it all?
- The licensing process is a major concern. There is no streamlining of the process and for example a complete EMPR process can be completed within 1 year, but DWAF takes 4 years to approve a license.
- Training of local people is of the utmost importance since their perceptions are very limited and they usually only attend meetings for gaining self. There is a lot that DWAF can do with regard to training and awareness.
- It is time that we get to grips with the socio-economic challenges in this country (poverty!) How is water resources management going to contribute to poverty eradication? Surely we (water sector) cannot contribute if we are focussing only on "goggatjies-ecology"
- Colloquium like this is very important. We should involve the poor, stakeholders like water-users etc. We should also talk the language that everybody will understand by explaining technical issues in non-technical terms.
- Groundwater use to be excluded from normal DWAF practises. Mr Eberhard Braune ensured that groundwater be included in all planning etc. sessions of DWAF. Now with the

new transformation the GW has not been taken into account – the specialists has been put on 2nd base.

- We need to make a presentation on Strategic Regionalisation of Water Utilities in South Africa by Botshelo Water Board.