



Minutes of the IWRM in CEB Annual Planning Coordination Workshop

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Abbreviations

BMC	Basin Management Committee
BMO	Basin Management Officer
BOCMA	Breede-Overberg Catchment Management Agency
BSO	Basin Management Officer
CEB	Cuvelai-Etosha Basin
CEBMC	Cuvelai-Etosha Basin Management Committee
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
DRFN	Desert Research Foundation of Namibia
DRM	Directorate Resource Management
DRWS	Directorate Rural Water Supply
DWF	Department of Water and Forestry
EU	European Union
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GRN	Government of Namibia
IWRM	Integrated Water Resource Management
MAWF	Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry
MRLGHRD	Ministry of Regional, Local Government, Housing and Rural Development
O/M/As	Offices, Ministries and Agencies
OPM	Office of the Prime Minister
PSC	Public Service Commission
RC	Regional Council(s)
RDCC	Regional Development Coordination Committee
TC	Town Council(s)
UNAM	University of Namibia

Executive Summary

Key Decisions on the Way Forward

The following were identified and agreed as the key actions and way forward for 2013/4:

Project Funding	<p>Funding by the EU through GIZ would come to an end in September 2013. Funding for BSOs would be availed under the project until end-June. MAWF will take over responsibility for complete funding of the project as of September 2013. Budget provision has been made.</p> <p>As of 2014 budgeting would be under the Division: Basin Management Support in MAWF once Public Service Commission approval for the new structure has been obtained.</p>
CEB IWRM Plan	<p>Development of the CEB IWRM Plan by DRFN by end-August 2013</p>
CEBMC Constitution	<p>Clarification of the operational modalities and the drafting of the CEBMC constitution in a participatory manner.</p>
Capacity Building of CEBMC	<p>Conducting of a capacity gap analysis at the same session during which the CEBMC constitution is to be discussed and drafting of a plan to close the gap.</p>
Coordination through RDCC	<p>A link has to be established between the BMCs and RDCC reporting mechanisms. Ms Auna Amwaama was tasked to draft a letter to the CRO of the RDCC requesting for full membership of the BSOs.</p> <p>BSOs, in future, have to present the CEB-IWRM and BMC plans as agenda item at RDCC meetings.</p>
Regional Leadership Sensitisation Workshop	<p>The leadership in the region has to be sensitized on IWRM and the CEBMC through a workshop to be arranged by Ms Aune Amwaama. The Patron of the IWRM approach and Permanent Secretary of MAWF should be involved in the workshop.</p>
Incentives for BMC Members	<p>The draft document should be distributed to stakeholders by end-April for inputs.</p> <p>Thereafter a technical discussion meeting to translate the document into actionable steps needs to take place by mid-May.</p> <p>The document should be finalised by end-May and implemented by end-May/early-June 2013</p> <p>Ms Sonja Berdau would be responsible for the management and outcomes of the process.</p>

Decentralisation of the
Basin Management
Approach

A proposed structure for the decentralisation of the BM Approach is at the Public Service Commission which would create a new Division: Basin Management Support under the Directorate: Resource Management in MAWF, once approved. This would result in the creation of a fully-fledged Basin Support Office in the regions, including decentralised services on:

- Law Administration
- Water Environment
- Planning
- Hydrology
- Geohydrology

Day 1: Thursday, 18 April 2013

Opening and Welcome

Mr Phillip Shilongo, Director of Planning and Development Services,
Ohangwena Regional Council

Mr Abraham Nemehia, Under Secretary: Water and Forestry from MAWF, was scheduled to conduct the official opening of the workshop. Due to his attendance to budget hearings in Parliament on behalf of MAWF he offered his apologies with the request that the official opening be postponed to the next day.

Mr Phillip Shilongo extended opening remarks on Mr Nehemia's behalf, emphasizing the importance of the various aspects of integrated water resources management, e.g. sanitation and water supply, to ensure sustainability, sustainable development and preservation of the scarce resource.

Background to the Planning Coordination Workshop

Ms Sonja Berdau, Technical Advisor, GIZ/CEB

Ms Berdau provided an overview from the inception of the project to the culmination in the 8th Annual Coordination Workshop which would take place over the next following one and a half days.

Developments over recent years in the annual planning workshops:

- from information sharing to coordination and integrated planning;
- the development of the first integrated annual operation plan for the years 2012/3;
- the launch of the CEBMC and inauguration of its members the previous evening; and
- the intended development of the CEB IWRM Plan towards the end of 2013.

She then re-emphasized the objectives to the workshop, i.e.

- Information sharing and integrated planning; and
- Feedback and evaluation of the 2012/13 annual operational IWRM CEB Plan.

A copy of Ms Berdau's presentation is attached as Annex A.

Finalisation of Workshop Agenda

Ms Mariele Davel, Workshop Facilitator

A moment of silence was given in respect for the passing away of Mr Guido Von Langehove, Deputy Director: Hydrology, MAWF.

Building on the presentation by Ms. Berdau, Ms. Davel emphasized that the workshop would therefore have to focus on the way forward, especially i.t.o:

- The mandate of the CEBMC and other key stakeholders;
- The best way forward re the annual plan for 2013/4 in view of lessons learnt and the development of the CEB IWRM Plan towards August 2013; and
- Progress towards implementation, beyond information sharing and planning.

In view of the above a brief overview of the programme was provided with Day 1 focusing on feedback on achievements and learning experiences and Day 2 on the way forward. A copy of the workshop programme is attached as Annex B.

Introduction of Participants

Ms Mariele Davel, Workshop Facilitator

An opportunity was given to participants to introduce themselves. Introductions were done per organisation, i.e.:

- The BMC Members and Sub-basins: Olushandja, Niipele, Tsumeb; Iishana;
- The hosts of the Workshop, i.e. MAWF, GIZ, DRFN and BGR;
- Other partners and donors: EU, NamWater, CuveWaters, UNAM, Polytechnic of Namibia and the Namibia Red Cross Society;
- Representatives from other basins: Orange-Fish, Omaruru and Okavango;
- O/M/As: Ministries of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Lands and Resettlement, and Environment and Tourism;
- RCs and TCs: Oshakati, Ongwediva, Oshana, Okahao, Oshikoto, Outapi, Omusati and Ohangwena;
- Special Guests: BOCMA from South Africa.

A list of participants to the workshop is attached as Annexure C.

Key Issues from the Last Coordination Workshop

Ms Tuwilika Haludilu, GIZ/CEB

Ms Haludilu reported back on the 2012 Annual Coordination Workshop focusing on:

- The objectives of the last workshop;
- The identification of the five thematic areas as key element to the planning framework, i.e. pollution control, waste management, sanitation, flood management and water supply; and
- The cross-cutting issues, which together with the thematic areas formed the crux of the 1st annual CEB IWRM Plan;
- The mapping exercise that indicated that not much duplication of effort amongst stakeholders in the basin existed; and

- The development of the 1st CEB Annual IWRM Plan which had to be taken forward by the Committee formed during the workshop.

She reported:

- That the Committee has in the course of their work re-evaluated the 5 thematic areas and consolidated them under the following areas: pollution control, sanitation, disaster management and water supply;
- On the proceedings of the Committee in follow through of their assignment in developing the 1st CEB Annual IWRM Plan; and
- Concerns raised by the Committee on its mandate to review progress of institutions. In this regard the Committee recommended that:
 - The Under Secretary: Water and Forestry, MAWF, along with the BSOs be involved to sensitize the Governors, Mayors, Regional and Local Councilors, as well as Chief Regional Officers and CEOs about the committee and its proposed plan; and
 - That the Secretariat be advised to find out from RCs the date for RDCC meetings and request a slot to present the initiative.

A copy of Ms. Haludilu's presentation is attached as Annex D.

Discussion

Question: The previous committee felt it didn't have the mandate to contact regional officers and other stakeholders to ask them for their plans and report back on progress made on their activities. This was an ad hoc committee. Will the CEBMC run into the same problems?

Answer: The committee felt it was not given the mandate to monitor implementation and that the mandate had to be given by MAWF. With the launch of the CEBMC an official letter from the Ministry will be provided which would establish the mandate of the CEBMC.

Comments: It was emphasized that all stakeholders need to recognize this mandate. It was suggested that the CEBMC be established as the first forum for advice and input before any planning is forwarded to the Ministry to build its credibility and give authority to the committee.

Comments: The Committee also experienced challenges with the compilation and integration of the plan as not all institutions had their operational plans ready by the time it was requested.

The 1st Annual CEB IWRM was, however, useful in that it highlighted the areas of overlap amongst role players and the committee could facilitate dialogue in such instances resulting in improved collaboration. The example of building of toilets by The Namibia Red Cross Society and the Regional Council was given.

- Request:** The presentation highlighted the importance of, amongst others, research and development in the basin. It was requested that research and development become an agenda item in the plan for professional institutions working in the basin.
- Concern:** On a concern raised on the capacity of the CEBMC in view of the four BSOs being the only full-time capacity towards execution/implementation, it was suggested that short and long term solutions be found to address these constraints. One short term option would be to involve stakeholders (neighbours) in the monitoring and evaluation functions. This is a strategy that has worked effectively in South Africa.

Thematic Area: Pollution Control: Status Report

Ms Auna Amwaama, Deputy Directory: Hydrology, MAWF

A copy of the presentation delivered by Ms Amwaama is attached as Annex E. The presentation was concluded with the following observation: that the situation in all four regions was the same, i.e. that a serious pollution control challenge existed, mainly due to a lack of proper permitting. Critical staff shortages at DAWF, amongst others, represented a challenge to performance in this area. In addition it was recommended that awareness notices and fences had to be put up and properly maintained, and that wastewater spilling should be better controlled, with solutions to be found for the proper drainage of wastewater.

Discussion

- Questions:** Is research/impact assessments done on the negative effects of water spills and pollution on livestock and the environment?
Is the impact of waste water from mines monitored?
- Concerns:** The health issue is a real concern to many/all stakeholders, especially the drainage of septic tanks.
Special notice should be taken of the areas on the periphery of the water table. Nitrogen levels, only caused by humans and animals, could be detected in ground water, which is really dangerous to people and animals.
- Answers:** Tsumeb sub-basin, where most of the mining activities take place, is the best monitored area in Namibia re water quality management.
More production boreholes exist on the western side of the basin and such boreholes are being monitored, not only to check the water levels but also the chemical components, but increased efficiency could be attained. The positioning of the boreholes, however, is critical and alternative mechanisms should also be deployed to ensure proper monitoring.
- Proposal:** Students from UNAM should become involved in research/impact assessments to assist in the staff shortages experienced by the Ministry.
- Decision:** NamWater and MAWF should meet and discuss the conducting of impact assessments of wastewater management.

- Question:** How do BMCs engage municipalities in the payment of permits?
- Concerns:** Stakeholders in Olushandja, for instance, do not see the importance of having a relevant permit, despite health challenges being experienced in the area.
Challenges are experienced regarding the lack of issuing of fines.
The capacity of one BSO per BMC in regards to the execution of such responsibilities could pose a challenge.
- Proposal:** It is the role of a BMC to monitor pollution. Since staff shortages are experienced at the Ministry, would it not be possible to empower BMCs to manage the resource? Such empowerment could also serve as incentive to BMCs as it would entail real management of the resource.
- Answer:** The long term view is to appoint specialists through MAWF to deal with pollution control in the basins, which would support BMCs in the execution of their duties. Currently challenges experienced should be reported to MAWF for follow through. Short term solutions through the utilization of local capacity through neighbor-watch are working in the canal and could be extended to pollution control. Such strategies, however, needed much awareness raising.
- Concern:** Settlements are expanding and waste system development is being left behind.
Settlements are not contributing to sewerage systems resulting in a lack of available funding for maintenance and development.
The 2011 census statistics were quoted and some serious discrepancies pointed out i.t.o. the information reported in the presentation. It was requested that the relevant pages from the census be copied and distributed to participants for serious consideration and feedback to the relevant authorities.
- Proposal:** Councils and municipalities should look into alternative mechanisms for waste management to reduce the impact of waste storage. 80% of waste in rural areas has proven to be suitable for recycling.
The reclaiming of wastewater, e.g. at evaporation ponds, should receive urgent attention. Reclaimed water could have many uses even if it is not suitable for human and/or animal consumption.
Standards in the construction of sanitation ponds should be maintained through e.g. the issuing of valid permits. The use of new technology available in this field should be given serious consideration.
- Concern:** Looking at schools, surveys done show that pit latrines are used. A standard needs to be established to reduce groundwater pollution.
- Decision:** MAWF and MoE should meet to discuss toilet standards used in the erection of toilets at schools.

Annual Operational Plan: Pollution Control

Ms Helvi Shilongo, GIZ/CEB

Ms Shilongo indicated that some activities have not been carried out due to lack of funds, e.g. N\$9,5 million as indicated in the planning framework was not received, which impacted the sewer reticulation installation for Ongwediva Town Council. These changes would be discussed with Ms Haludilu and corrections effected to the annual plan.

A copy of Ms Shilongo's presentation is attached as Annex F.

Discussion

- Concern:** The impression was formed that the Annual CEB IWRM Plan was not an integrated plan, but rather a coordinated plan of annual plans of key stakeholders in the basin.
- Answer:** This plan could be seen as a coordinated plan for the CEB. It does, for instance, not include the operational plans of the BMCs. The development of an integrated plan would require further discussion.

Annual Operational Plan: Sanitation

Mr Fillip Shilongo, Director of Planning, Ohangwena Regional Council

Mr Shilongo indicated that budget constraints were experienced in the execution of some activities as, for instance, the Ministry of Regional, Local Government, Housing and Resettlement did not release the budgets as planned. Other constraints were experienced where forming of committees impacted the achievement of related activities. With reference to sanitation, the statistics provided in the 2011 census gave reason for great concern.

A copy of Mr Shilongo's presentation is attached as Annex F.

Discussion

- Concern:** Some of the statistics in the presentation were inaccurate and had to be corrected, e.g. the project with the Namibia Red Cross Society was a 4 to 5 year project funded by the EU extending until 2014/5. The 200 latrines reported as completed could be for the current year, but information had to be verified. Other discrepancies indicated were, amongst others, on the statistics provided in the presentation as compared to the 2011 census and the number of pit latrines constructed in Okahao. It was requested that the information in the presentation be verified with the relevant institutions so as to display correct information. Some of the statistics in the presentation were inaccurate and had to be corrected, e.g. the project of the Swedish Red Cross and their partner Namibia Red Cross Society was a 4 year project, funded by the EU and extending until 30 April 2015.

Thematic Area: Disaster Management: Status Report

Mr Leonard Hango, Basin Management Officer, Iishana Sub-basin

The thematic area has been changed from flood management to disaster management as both floods and droughts occur within the basin.

A copy of Mr Hango's presentation is attached as Annex G.

Discussion

Question: It seems there is a problem to get information from other countries, is that the case? During the flood seasons requests are received from e.g. lodge owners for water level measurements to cancel bookings if needed. Is there a program through which such information could be provided?

Answer: Good communication with Angola did not exist in the past, but has slowly been improving. Information in regards to water levels is obtained from individuals, and measurements are mostly received in descriptive form. Information from Zambia has been good. It is also planned that tracking devices would be installed in neighbouring countries to improve the reliability of information. There are tracking devices at Ruacana, but such mechanisms are needed upstream to ensure reliable information. The information situation is much better in the Okavango and Orange River areas.

Question: Can the Namibia Broadcasting Corporation (NBC) not provide flood level updates as part of the weather report during flood seasons?

Answer: Flood level information is insufficient for stakeholders to take informed decisions. There is daily flood bulleting that is distributed to any institution that requires it. Institutions need only to request to be added to the list. Technical terms should be translated into a more simple language in order to send out proper warnings. A technical committee under the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) is responsible for information sharing in laymen's terms to the public. What would be of more significance is to have a well-drafted flood management plan which could provide for early warning systems to e.g. residents.

Proposal: It would be important to involve TAs so as not to lose lessons learnt during non-flood years.

Communication is very important in planning. Land Use Planners and Waste Management staff should, for instance, communicate to ensure good planning.

Thematic Area: Water Supply: Status Report

Mr. Keith Suukuta, NamWater

Mr. Suukuta pointed out that the N\$20 000 reflected in the presentation does not indicate the total cost for water supply to Eenhana, nor the N\$22 000 at Oshakati. The total costs for these projects will be known during 2013.

A copy of Mr. Suukuta's presentation is attached as Annex H.

Discussion

Question: What will small farmers do who depend on the open canal if the pipeline is constructed?

Answer: NamWater is at the time undertaking a feasibility study to assess the impact. Angola, for instance, has 500m of canal before the pipeline starts, which is an idea that could be taken forward, but well-designed connection points will have to play a major part in such an initiative. Institutions utilizing the canal could then be held responsible for its maintenance as well as contributing through paying for the services. Due to its size the pipeline has to be installed underground to give due access to animals and people

Comment: This approach would mean that the pipeline will have to be built where the canal runs.

Questions: What is NamWater doing in regards to institutions that are damaging its reputation?

Answer: Very little is done to explain water tariffs and tariff blocks. NamWater needs to improve on its communication strategies so that in any given town the community can know what the tariffs are set by NamWater in comparison to those set by municipalities.

Question: Is there any way NamWater can regulate overcharging by municipalities?

Answer: NamWater does not regulate overcharging, but public pressure through information availability can be a way to balance the bulk water tariff and the public tariff.

Comment: In low-income areas people pay 20c/liter, which is expensive compared to the bulk water rates charged by NamWater.

Response: NamWater is aware of these discrepancies, but such water supply is outside NamWater mandate. Through communication a balance could possibly be achieved.

Question: What is Angola's reaction to the increased off-take if the pipeline is constructed?

Answer: The off-take by NamWater with the pipeline installed will still be within the available off-take level. Increased off-take in Namibia is also beneficial to Angola as the stakeholders in the south of Angola benefit by the off-take.

Question: Will Angolan residents be paying for these benefits?

Answer: It would be difficult to charge for such services, but a trans-boundary pipeline from Shangongo to Ondjiva and Santa Clara will be through a connection to the pipeline which would benefit both countries and for which Angolan users will also have to pay.

Annual Operational Plan: Water Supply

Ms Anna Haufiku, Basin Management Officer, Niipele Sub-basin

A copy of Ms Haufiku's presentation is attached in Annex F.

Discussion

Request: Technical terms in the presentation should be properly phrased so that all users could understand equally.

Annual Operational Plan: Disaster Management

Mr Silvanus Uunona, Basin Management Officer, Olushandja Sub-basin

It was indicated that the responsible role player in flood management and monitoring as indicated in the presentation was not MET, but MAWF.

A copy of Mr Uunona's presentation is attached in Annex F.

Discussion

Question: Various initiatives in regards to flood management were undertaken by e.g. the OPM, EU and other stakeholders. Are the regions better prepared for disasters?

Answer: No, regions are more responsive, but not better prepared, e.g. there is no contingency plan for the drought experienced. The conclusion is that the efforts by the various role players are not reaching the ground, e.g. there are no structures established for disasters management. It is difficult to plan for any disaster as the magnitude, etc. of a disaster could not be predetermined.

Comments: A model should be developed by GRN on disaster management and how to respond on disasters.

Guidelines and criteria for disaster preparedness should be defined.

BOCMA, South Africa

Mr. Jan van Staden, BOCMA

A copy of Mr. Van Staden's presentation is attached as Annex I.

In South Africa the following laws are in place to regulate water supply and use, i.e.

- The Water Services Act through which municipalities are made responsible for water supply; and
- The Water Resources Act which guides the Catchment Management Areas (CMAs) and WUA.

The country is divided into 19 basins each of which must have a catchment management agency which manages raw water in the area. Water Boards are responsible for the conveyance, infrastructure and water distribution and the CMAs for raw water management. The Minister of Water and Environmental Affairs is in charge of water and resources affairs.

In BOCMA there are 600 000 inhabitants using 20 000 m³ water. The water comes from rain in the mountainous areas during the 4 months of rain in a year. BOCMA stores 1 billion m³ water.

BOCMA started through stakeholder consultations asking the question, “What is the vision for the area?” It culminated in the development of a vision for the catchment area, “Quality water for all, forever”. The initiative started with much awareness raising, which has borne fruit. National stakeholder consultations resulted in the identification of two main requests, i.e. that water resources should be managed at local level and that stakeholders are willing to pay for such localized resource management. Water management must be localized otherwise it will not work.

There are 11 water use types specified in the Act. Separate licenses are issued for each water use type. These licenses are issued by the CMA, with conditions. The Water Use Association (WUA) controls water usage after the license has been issued.

In South Africa the first 6000 liters of water per month is free of charge, calculated at 25 liter/day per person for a household of 4 persons. Afterwards water tariffs are calculated exponentially. This means that a municipality gets a poor grant calculated according to the number of rural households, which is subsidized by the richer users. Sanitation (sewerage) rates are also linked to water use. Water is cut immediately if a bill isn't paid, especially for high income earners. This provides a good measurement for recovery.

The cooperation with Olushandja sub-basin has been good, but specific areas of need and sharing need to be identified for sharing to be optimized.

Discussion

Question: What were the challenges experienced in establishing CMA's?

Answer: Out of the 19 CMAs only two has been established. There are over 100 entities in regards to water management reporting to the Minister. As a result hereof the establishment of CMA's was put on hold by the Minister, but this embargo has been lifted 2 years ago with the 19 areas reduced to 9. Progress since has been slow, but advances are made. A need for staff and funds to implement the approach exists. The principle of localized water resource management still stands.

Question: If the first liters are for free, water preservation is not encouraged. How do you address the basic need and right for water?

Answer: Payment does improve water efficiency, but the 6 000 liter provided for free only constitutes approximately 5% of total water consumption. In areas who can't afford water other punitive measures need to be put in place, like reducing the pressure in pipes.

Comment: It is important to separate the roles of player and referee, i.e. regulator versus user. This principle has been taken seriously in South Africa.

Olushandja Basin Management Committee

Mr. Silvanus Uunona, Basin Management Officer, Olushandja Sub-basin

A Waste Management Working Group has been established and negotiations undertaken with Rent-a-Drum which would hopefully result in improved solid waste management in the sub-basin. Rent-a-Drum, for instance, indicated that approximately 80% of waste in rural communities is recyclable.

A copy of Mr. Uunona's presentation is attached as Annex J.

Discussion

Question: Is the collection of solid waste a function of a municipality?

Answer: Yes, but in settlements it is the responsibility of the regional council.

Proposal: Pressure should be applied through the principle of shame as applied in South Africa. If councils are elected and their poor management is made known then they would not be elected in the next years.

Iishana Basin Management Committee

Mr. Leonard Hango, Basin Management Officer, Iishana Sub-basin

A copy of Mr. Hango's presentation is attached as Annex K.

Discussion

Question: Can aquifers/ground water be replenished artificially?

Answer: Yes, but in the Cuvelai water is highly saline and the idea is not currently explored yet. There is a need to establish recharge points first. Recharging of groundwater is undertaken in the Windhoek area. At Omithiya, one of the smaller lakes in Angola, the water has become very saline because of high evaporation rates. There is a need to protect the basin in regards to groundwater recharging from high evaporation rates.

Comment: Could houses in CEB be elevated from the excavations planned in Etosha?

Answer: The houses in CEB are rural houses and the soil might not be suitable for such use. A more suitable approach would be to build weirs to block the flow of water into the Etosha Pans.

Niipele Basin Management Committee

Ms. Anna Haufiku, Basin Management Officer, Niipele Sub-basin

A copy of Ms. Haufiku's presentation is attached as Annex L.

Discussion

Question: Are there regulations by town councils to fine improper waste disposal? What does the Environmental Act say in this regard? What is the relation between the Environmental Act and the mandate of town councils?

Answer: The Environmental Act has been recently enacted with the Environmental Commissioner only appointed in 2012. Proper establishment needs to be undertaken, but implementation will develop in the future. There is a regulation in the Act on illegal dumping in which many areas are covered, e.g. mines.

Regulations to fine exist at town council level, but these regulations are not enforced. The onus lies on implementation.

Proposal: Existing guidelines should be distributed so that awareness is raised and implementation enforced by stakeholders.

Question: Is sanitation a concern at household level, especially the use of public toilets after hour?

Answer: It is a concern in settlements, but not so much at town level.

Comment: Many reports have been produced in regards to water use in the sector at national level. MAWF could be contacted for copies of such reports. Although the information at regional level is not yet available, the information could be useful to the basin.

Tsumeb Basin Management Committee

Mr. Lucas Kaholongo, Basin Management Officer, Tsumeb Sub-basin

A copy of Mr. Kaholongo's presentation is attached as Annex M.

Discussion

Proposals: In terms of funds, there are options to raise funds internally by BMCs, outside of the government and outside GIZ. An example can be taken from Omaruru basin.

Cooperation with the private sector to fund water resource management in more commercial areas like Tsumeb through steward-watership could be investigated. Information on this approach is available at the GIZ office.

Ms Haludilu introduced the newly released pamphlet on the roles and responsibilities of the CEBMC to the forum. Copies were distributed to all participants.

Day 2: Friday, 19 April 2013

CEB Project Results and Phasing Out

Ms Sonja Berdau, Technical Advisor, GIZ/CEB

A copy of Ms Berdau's presentation is attached as Annex N.

Discussion

Question: Is it really sure that the financial situation is secure when the GIZ leaves the project?

Answer: The budget for the work plan for 2013/14 is assured by MAWF but could be confirmed by Mr Abraham Nehemia. The GIZ local subsidies for the sub-BMCs were to fund activities only until the end of the 2012/3 financial year, but will continue funding until end-June 2013 to ensure a smooth transfer.

Question: Who are the 12 members of the CEBMC? Are they representatives of the stakeholders in the basin or are they predominantly from Government O/M/As, as it is noted that 8 of the 12 current members are staff members from O/M/As? Is this an intermediate phase of the project? As front office of the basin it would be an important challenge to work towards real representation of the stakeholders in the basins.

Answer: The observation is accurate. A study on incentive options for greater participation by stakeholders within the basin in IWRM should be concluded by end-September. 70% of sub-BMC members are at the time from GRN O/M/As. It is proposed that the composition be re-looked at sub-basin level and that steps be taken to have a balanced representation of all sectors at this level.

Question: Indicators used in the GIZ project are process-oriented. EU projects are normally evaluated on impact indicators. What was the impact of the project?

Answer: The introduction of IWRM in Namibia is a process and impact cannot always be immediately measurable, though the ultimate result would be to achieve impact. Impact assessment of the project was conducted, but conclusive analysis of the data is challenged due to the difficulty in assessing the attribution-gap.

Official Opening

Mr Abraham Nehemia, Under Secretary: Water and Forestry, MAWF

The official opening of the workshop was delayed due to Mr Nehemia's involvement in budget hearings for MAWF in Parliament the previous day.

Mr Nehemia gave recognition to the important role Mr Guido Von Langenhove played in MAAF and asked for a moment of silence in recognition of him passing away earlier that week.

He informed the audience that 2013 was the United Nation's International Year of Water Cooperation. For Namibia the year has significance in three ways, i.e. that Namibia is experienced its first ongoing drought after several years of floods; secondly, that the IWRM plan was being developed at regional level and thirdly, that the CEBMC was launched. These three interventions signify that water is the order of the day at various levels within Namibia and represented the common good and a unique resource. For the Government of Namibia water is one of the top priorities towards achieving Vision 2030. Water resources are limited and management thereof important to ensure economic development and environmental sustainability. IWRM is key to achieving these outcomes. The culture of annual local CEB workshops is enhancing such cooperation. Participants were welcomed to the 9th Annual CEB Planning Coordination Workshop, and especially so the newly launched CEBMC. The operational plan for 2013/4 would be in the hands of the Committee for implementation. With these words the workshop was, regrettably belatedly, officially opened.

Recap Day 1: Key Questions and Concerns

Ms Mariele Davel, Workshop Facilitator

Ms Davel summarized the main points for discussion from the previous day's sessions in the following slides. The issues as presented to the participants represented the main discussion points for the day.

Issues and Questions

- Mandate of CEB BMC e.g. over partner organisations and i.t.o. M&E and compliance
- Stakeholder participation – incentives and development beyond awareness
- Capacity of BMC i.t.o. one BSO
- BMC implementation – short and long term strategies

Issues and Questions

- Coordination of plans
 - Timelines – readiness of partner plans
 - Cooperation of all partners
- Planning Framework
 - Activities vs thematic areas
 - Purpose
 - Results – per thematic area
 - Annual vs IWRMP
 - Integration of partner plans vs BMC operational plan
 - R&D to be taken up in plan

A copy of the presentation by Ms Davel is attached as Annex O.

Development of CEB IWRM Plan

Ms Viviane Kinyaga, Director, DRFN

During her presentation Ms Kinyaga confirmed that the basin management approach would be retained in the revised Water Act that was in the final stages of revision. The basin management approach, together with the BMCs and the roles they would fulfill, would form the basis of the IWRM regional plan to give long term focus to the CEB. The purpose of the regional IWRM Plan was to give integrated, strategic focus for the future, aligned to the National IWRM Plan which was adopted two years previously and popularized by GRN. The IWRM Plan would be basin-specific and endorsed at the highest level, giving a solid mandate for the BMCs to operate from. The steps towards the development of the plan were explained in the slide presentation.

A copy of the presentation by Ms Kinyaga is attached as Annex M.

Discussion

Question: For developing the plan, how much can be relied on existing plans (e.g. from NamWater) and how much further research was needed?

Answer: Much information is already available, but an area in which information would have to be obtained is water billing. In this regard the intentions of NamWater need to be investigated and made known to stakeholders. The purpose of the IWRM plan is to meet the goal of IWRM, make it known and to achieve coordinated planning and management thereof.

Question: What is the time plan of the plan?

Answer: The timeframe of the plan still had to be confirmed, but for Okavango-basin a 10 year plan was developed, with an annual evaluation and full mid-term evaluation. The plans of institutions in the basin are not necessarily 10 year plans, but the idea is that the IWRM Plan would provide the framework within which institutions in the basin could develop their annual plans.

Establishment of CEBMC

Ms Clarence Ntesa, DRFN

Due to most participants participating in a meeting and the inauguration of the CEBMC on the evening of Wednesday, 17 April 2013, the presentation by Ms Ntesa was conducted in the form of group discussions around the following three questions:

- Why was the CEBMC established?
- How was the CEBMC established?
- What are the next steps for the CEBMC after the workshop?

The feedback from the small group discussions is reflected under Discussion hereunder. A copy of Ms Ntesa's presentation is attached as Annex Q.

Discussion

Question 1: Feedback received on the question: Why was the CEBMC established?

The CEBMC was established for: better coordination and management of water and related resources in the basin; implementation of the IWRM principles; sharing of information in the sub-basins; and overseeing trans-boundary issues and with other basins in the country. The CEBMC is to provide a holistic approach to water management in the basin.

Question: Is it a legal requirement to establish a CEBMC and is the law also describing how the members have to be elected?

Answer: Yes, the establishment of the CEBMC is a legal requirement according to the Act. Guidelines for the establishment and composition of the CEBMC exist in the Guidelines on the Basin Management Approach, but these are not taken up in the Act.

Request: The guidelines should be translated into a regulation and taken up in the Act after the Act has been revised and promulgated.

Question 2: Feedback received on the question: How was the CEBMC established?

Awareness raising was done in 2003 and demarcation of the sub-basin in 2004. Formation of the sub-basins started in 2004-2011. The sub-basin forums were established and in 2013 the CEBMC. The demarcation was necessary because it was a too large area in order to address all people in the basin with the relevant topics.

Question: We know that there are 12 members in the CEBMC of which the BSOs form 4. The question arose what the position of the BSO would be in the overall CEB given this development? Is its role changing from an advisor (to the BMC and Ministry) to a member with voting rights of the CEBMC?

Answer: The BSOs are not full members of the CEBMC as they do not have voting rights. The role of the BSO in the CEBMC is more a support in terms of administration and technical advice.

Question: Are there different portfolios in the CEBMC membership?

Answer: Portfolios exist at sub-basin level, but there are no portfolios at present in the CEBMC as their role is more seen as coordinating. The four BSOs will act as hosts for the events and will fulfil the secretariat function on a rotation basis. Detailed modalities would be worked out later and taken up in the constitution of the CEBMC.

Question: How would the CEBMC evaluate itself and be evaluated?

Comment: There is a need for an operational office with permanent staff to coordinate, monitor and evaluate and provide feedback and advice to the Minister at the CEBMC level. The office of GIZ would be given to the CEBMC, which does not have permanent staff. This would mean that the office would be standing empty. The GIZ office was coordinating the sub-BMCs and fulfilling the coordination function took up many hours. Permanent staff for the CEBMC is therefore supported. The question of having a permanent officer was raised several times and should be well discussed. From experience in BOCMA, it was learnt that a person with power was needed to advise the Ministry. BOCMA is seen as a representative of the mother department by stakeholders in RSA. It would be important to have a representative from the mother Ministry on the CEBMC to ensure efficiency and action.

Question: It was difficult for BMC members to attend sub-basin meetings. With this added responsibility would members be able to attend the CEBMC meetings?

Response: Alternates should also be nominated.

Response: These matters would be thought through thoroughly and discussed in the Ministry in order to find answers to these questions. It would be critical that operationalization be done properly to ensure successful implementation.

Question 3: Feedback received on the question: What are the next steps for the CEBMC after the workshop?

The way forward would be to develop a constitution that clarifies the roles and functions of the CEBMC. Members should also be capacitated to fulfil their roles according to the constitution. Streamlining between the roles of the CEBMC and those of the BMCs should be well-coordinated.

Concern: Sustainability of activities carried out under the project is a major concern. Would MAWF take over full responsibility of all activities and would the transition be well-coordinated?

How will the CEBMC operationalize its responsibilities? What would be the practical implications e.g. as some BSOs are on the establishment of the Ministry and some not. How would their roles be managed in future? More comprehensive support to BSOs is needed.

Question: How would the CEBMC's roles and responsibilities be operationalized? Stakeholders in the basin might request to control the water resources in the future. How would the Ministry react to such demands?

What are the roles of CEBMC regarding water resources in the basin such as protecting the Ohangwena aquifer from being taken up by other areas in the country?

Answer: The Constitution is clear on the distribution of Namibia's resources that it belongs to the State. The GRN will remain custodian of the resources in a unitary state, which should ensure its management to the benefit of all inhabitants. The idea that resources are a private good will always be in the population's mind but understanding should be built through clarification, laws and communication.

Proposal: Awareness raising should be done so that the community could know where to obtain information and assistance. If the roles of the CEBMC are defined, awareness should be raised so that stakeholders are informed about the changes. There should also be continuous capacity building to cover for staff turnover, e.g. new BSOs etc.

Agreeing the Way Forward

Mr Abraham Nehemia, Under Secretary: Water and Forestry, MAWF

Mr Nehemia established the priority activities on the way forward for the CEBMC for the 2013/4 year as:

- Firstly, clarification of the operational modalities and the drafting of the CEBMC constitution in a participatory way; and
- Secondly, addressing the critical need for capacity building of the CEBMC. A capacity gap analysis should be conducted at the same session during which the CEBMC constitution is to be discussed and a plan to close the gap drafted.

The IWRM approach was new to Namibia and had to be undertaken under the motto: learn as we go.

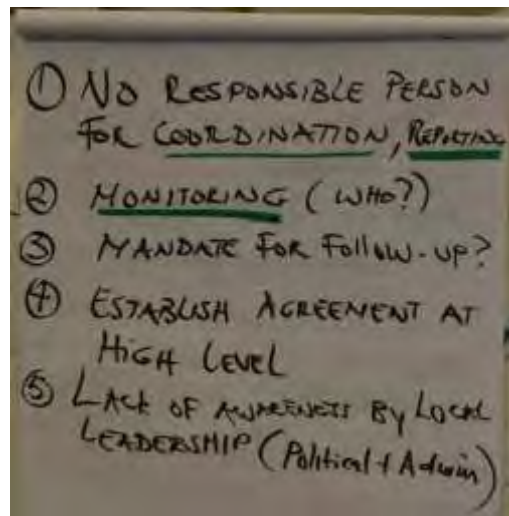
On the way forward re the 2013/14 operational plan, Mr Nehemia received feedback on the previous day's proceedings that many issues were not addressed. He expressed the desire that achievement be reported at the next annual workshop. In Namibia much money is spend on planning, but implementation was approximately 40%. As implementation has proven to be not so easy it would be, it would be key to plan and focus on main activities to be implemented. The 2012/13 annual operational plan was compiled out of the combined plans of role players in the sub-basins. This approach could still be taken forward.

Mr Nehemia asked participants what the problem(s) was towards real implementation. The following answers/inputs were provided in regards to the person responsible for coordination, reporting (and monitoring and evaluation) who was not clearly indicated:

Question: Can BSOs approach e.g. a governor of a region to enquire about progress?

Question: Was reporting only for the purposes of the workshop or are activities truly monitored, e.g. is feedback only obtained per annual workshop or continuously?

- Answer:** Monitoring was done, but follow through not undertaken. Tracing of the responsible persons for information and validation thereof, however, proved extremely difficult, e.g. varied information was received from within organisations. It was emphasised that the hearts of stakeholders had to be won for them to feel ownership of the plan.
- Suggestions:** A platform for information sharing and coordination at a high level is needed to establish agreement.
High ranking officials, e.g. governors/mayors must be briefed to ensure their full support.
- Concerns:** Organisations have different financial years, e.g. ministries and local authorities. These must be harmonised.
The work plan looks more like a combined plan than an integrated plan. In RSA stakeholders sit together and plan and prioritise together.
- Answer:** The IWRM Plan to be developed would lead the operational plans in the future. To date each organisation planned according to its mandate and is responsible to its respective boards. The coordinated plan developed for 2012/13 provided good learnings towards the oneness that is to be achieved in future. The aim was to achieve proper management of water resources in a sustainable manner. For the aim to be achieved cooperation and coordination is essential.
- Proposal:** RDCC should play a key role in implementation as all role players must report to the RDCC.

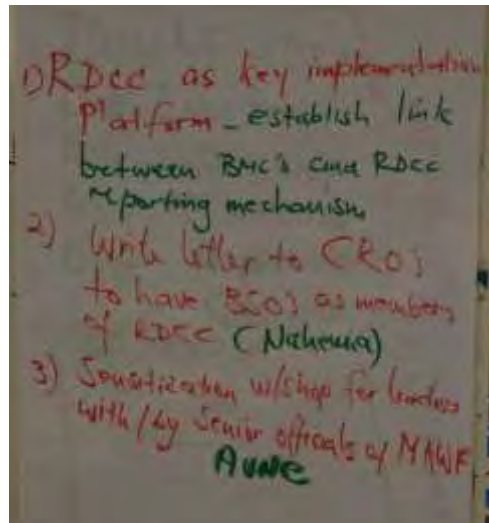


It was recognised that not all the identified challenges could be resolved in one year, but that they could be addressed over time. The following was proposed:

Responsibility for Coordination and Reporting

- RDCC form a key implementation platform and that a link had to be established between the BMCs and RDCC reporting mechanisms.
- Ms Aune Amwaama was tasked to draft a letter to the CRO of the RDCC requesting for full membership of the BSOs.

- The BSOs would in future have to present the BMC plans as agenda item at RDCC meetings.
- The chairperson of the RDCC should help with the monitoring and obtaining of reports from relevant stakeholders. Although the sub-basins did not fully complement with the demarcations of the regions the similarities were sufficient for sub-basins to participate in the respective regions. Issues interrelated or outside the boundaries of the specific region could be dealt with on an ad hoc basis.



Sensitisation of Regional Leadership

- The leadership in the region had to be sensitised on IWRM and the CEBMC through a workshop to be arranged by Ms Aune Amwaama. The Patron of the IWRM approach and Permanent Secretary of MAWF should be involved in the workshop.
- As a learning it was shared that regional councillors and governors were targeted in the Orange-Fish River Basin during which the IWRM concept was presented. This approach has proven successful.

Capacity of the BSOs

On the issue of whether the four BSOs were sufficient to follow through on all operational activities, Mr Nehemia reported that IWRM at basin level did not mean that activities carried out were isolated from MAWF. The Directorate Resource Management in the Ministry consisted of the following divisions:

- Division Law Administration
- Division of Water Environment
- Division Planning
- Division of Hydrology
- Division of Geohydrology

The system at current was centralized which, through the IWRM, should become a decentralized system. Decentralisation, however, implied that a new structure had to be proposed so

that staff could be transferred to the regions. The revised structure was in the process of final deliberation with the Public Service Commission. Due to delays in the restructuring of the Department, the Public Service Commission (PSC) was approached, as a temporary measure, for the creation of the posts of BSOs. The ideal was to have the five divisions replicated in the regions. The proposed structure includes a new Division: Basin Management Support with offices in the regions from all 5 other sub-divisions. The development of IWRM into a fully-fledged office in the regions was therefore in an advanced stage, with final approval from the PSC awaited.



Incentives for BMC Members

- A draft document, developed by Ms Berdau, was in place.
- The document should be distributed to stakeholders by end-April for inputs.
- Thereafter a technical discussion meeting to translate the document into actionable steps needs to take place by mid-May.
- The document could then be finalised by end-May and implemented by end-May/early-June 2013.
- Ms Sonja Berdau would be responsible for the management and outcomes of the process.

Gap Analysis in the Annual Plan

- There should be a workshop to validate the content of the plan with relevant stakeholders after the drafting of the plan.

IWRM Plan versus Operational Plan 2013/4

- For the current year it was concluded that the finalization of the CEBMC constitution and building of their capacity, as well as the drafting of the CEB IWRM plan would take preference and that the annual operational plan would only be drafted as of the following year.

Financing

- Until June 2013 funding for the project came from local subsidies, with most financial support coming from GIZ and to a lesser extent the MAWF budget. As of September 2013 the GIZ funding would come to an end with MAWF taking over full responsibility for complete funding of the project. Budget provision was made for this transition.
- The planning process would change as of 2014. Budgeting had to be under the Division: Hydrology based on the temporary approval by Public Service Commission for the creation of the positions of BSOs. Approval from Parliament was obtained the previous day for an increased budget support under the Division: Hydrology to meet the current needs of the BSOs.
- The new Division: Basin Management Support should obtain full budget support as of 2014 once fully approved by Public Service Commission.

Evaluation of CEBMC

Question: Where does the CEBMC report to?

Answer: Each BMC reports to MAWF annually. The constitution of the CEBMC would determine the reporting structure, and the Chairperson of the CEBMC would be accountable for the performance of the CEBMC.

The BMC at local level would be reporting to the Deputy Director: Basin Management Support under the Director: Resource Management within MAWF in future. The BMC would also have membership to the Water Advisory Council (WAC) which has direct access to the Minister. The President also holds an annual meeting with the WAC in accordance with the Water Act which would provide direct access to the President for BMCs. BMCs, through BSOs, have to report on a quarterly basis on operational matters to MAWF. The CEBMC would be required, as a minimum requirement, to report on an annual basis to MAWF.

Comment: On the chairperson of the CEBMC: the Okavango Basin Management Committee's chairperson rotates on an annual basis amongst the three countries: Angola, Namibia and Botswana. Experiences could be learnt from this arrangement.

Closing Remarks

Mr Sjaak de Boer, EU

Mr De Boer said the workshop was unique in that a partner from SA was also participating in the event. This was only the second workshop where a trans-boundary partner was involved in deliberations. BOCMA was thanked for their constructive contributions.

In previous years Mr De Boer was a member of the Water Board in the Netherlands. IWRM has existed in Namibia for the past decade and BMCs for the past 5 years only. In contrast the history of water management in the Netherlands dates back over a 1000 years. For people in the Netherlands it is a life or death situation and Water Boards have control over resources, e.g. water boards could take other institutions to court. This is different to Namibia. What would be very important for Namibia was to monitor, report and coordinate water resources - as depicted in the Water Act and CEBMC brochure. There would be a need to elaborate on the role of the CEBMC would play and, in the absence of participation in decision making, to demonstrate the CEBMC's added value. – there by proving the rational for its existence. The BMCs and CEBMC would therefore have to concentrate on their task and the value it is adding.

An important question to ask should be: "What motivates a person to be a member of a BMC?" What motivated Mr De Boer to be a member of the Water Board was the feeling of responsibility on behalf of stakeholders for resource management in support of the common interest. BMC members have a lot to learn, yet a great opportunity through participating in IWRM and learning from the process. Allowances should not be the first priority, but the drive to contribute to the common good.

IWRM is a slow process, which has much to do with decentralization, i.e. putting responsibility for water resource management where it is most needed and best placed, i.e. often at local level.

Empowerment and the mandate of role players were therefore important. The structure was already in place, including a budget. With the withdrawal of the donors there would be no provision from the EU for continued involvement at national level. If the EU would be involved in IWRM in future, it would be at trans-boundary level.

The CEB project would end in September. Mr De Boer complimented the project team in Oshakati for driving the process, even at times against all odds. He also complimented Mr Nehemia for his drive, leadership and commitment to solution-finding re IWRM for the CEB. Above all he recognised the importance of the BSOs on whose shoulders it would rest to prove the BMC approach over the following 5 to 10 years. He concluded that the added value to be established would be the improved water resource management in the basin.

Vote of Thanks

Ms Emerit Emvula, GIZ/CEB

In appreciation for their participation in the workshop and contribution to deliberations, posters of the project was handed over by Ms Emerit Emvula to the members from BOCMA.

Official Closure

Mr Abraham Nehemia, Under Secretary: Water and Forestry, MAWF

Mr Nehemia said that he was satisfied with the progress achieved over the years re IWRM in the basins in Namibia. The achievements were like small lights in a dark room with a clear picture of where Namibia needs to go becoming stronger. He expressed appreciation for the dedication and commitment demonstrated by stakeholders in the process, some of whom had been involved since its inception in 1992.

Mr Nehemia also thanked GIZ and the EU for their support over more recent years. He expressed a special word of thanks to Mr Sjaak de Boer from the EU who has not only been reporting, but truly involved in the project. It had been an important journey.

He indicated that it would now be up to the role players to stand on their own feet and be independent from donations from outside. Namibia has the people and finances to continue. What would be important was to use persons' energy and plan, and the approach would become clear. The focus on water in Namibia was becoming clear through e.g. Parliaments deliberations the previous day.

Namibia should not rely on partners, donors and consultants to find answers, but must ask questions and find answers themselves. A sector is taken forward by interest (a tick) and finding answers to driving questions. The CEB was an important basin and had the potential to become a leader on IWRM in the world. Mr Nehemia encouraged the young people of Namibia to investigate. He was also willing to provide questions for further study to encourage finding of answers by Namibians.