

Draft work plan and budget for the Orange-Fish River Basin, 2010

Prepared by the

ERB Project, DRFN

on behalf of the

Interim Fish River Forum (FRF) Committee



NWRM Planning Workshop, Swakopmund, 13 February 2010

Background

At the last meeting of the Orange-Fish River Basin Stakeholder Forum (August 2009), stakeholders decided that they would be better able to participate in the management of their resources.

A BMC, they felt, would:

- Make it easier to secure funding to address the issues, needs and challenges identified
- Enable basin stakeholders to take concerns to higher authorities
- Strengthen their voice nationally and within the wider Orange-Senqu River Basin
- Give them as stakeholders clearer mandate to participate in basin activities
- Help them shape their development



- Consequently, stakeholders elected a small, interim committee – the Interim Fish River Forum (FRF) Committee
- Currently 5 members:
 - Ben Haraseb (Chairman), DEES
 - Kempa JS Dausab, DEES
 - Andries Kok, NamWater
 - Dawid Lamberth, Gibeon Village Council
 - Steve Swartbooi, SNAFU volunteer
- Assisted by ERB Project Team, their associates and DWAF basin liaison officer



Background continue

- FRF has met twice – September and November – third meeting scheduled for Monday, 15 February
 - Plan the way forward to form a strengthened, more representative BMC
 - Drafted a work plan for 2010



Background continue

- End of the ERB Project (February 2010)
 - Applying for funds through NWRM Project on behalf of FRF Committee
 - DRFN prepared to assist in process of strengthening the FRF Committee to become a recognized BMC for the OFRB until a basin co-ordinator is appointed by MAWF



- Addressing challenges in OFRB
 - Challenges have been identified and prioritized by stakeholders
 - Some initiatives are underway to start addressing those of highest priority; i.e. Local Authorities' Capacity-building and REEDS projects, Mariental Task Force activities
 - Cross-cutting challenges identified include capacity-building and training, awareness-raising, co-ordination, and communication and information-sharing (the essence of BM approach)
 - Action plans have been developed to address others:
 - Limited groundwater monitoring
 - Lack of compliance to conditions of water permits
 - Various environmental issues – proposed Neckartal development, *Prosopis*, unselective use of plants for fuel wood



Work plan for 2010

- Draft work plan; possible need for revision on formation of a strengthened BMC
 - November 2009 – December 2010; DRFN through the ERB Project covering costs until the end of February 2009
 - Three areas of action:
 - Strengthening the Committee, including the appointment of a basin co-ordinator in second half of the year (N\$796,000)
 - Information-sharing, awareness-raising and facilitating stakeholder participation (N\$340,000)
 - Initial steps to address identified resource management challenges (N\$ 57,000)
- Total** **N\$1,193,500**



Strengthening the Committee (N\$796,500)

FRF interim committee is small and currently not representative of the diverse range of stakeholder groups in OFRB

- Securing stakeholder support and form a stronger BMC
 - Identify and confirm stakeholder groups with wider forum and stakeholders nominate representative organizations (Feb 2010)
 - Nomination forms will be sent to identified organizations
 - Strengthened BMC will take steps in order to gain ministerial recognition



Strengthening the Committee continue

- Setting up an office
 - Bank account
 - Develop logo and office stationery
 - Employ a basin co-ordinator
 - Establish a functional office
 - Acquire a vehicle and transport budget
- Training of the BMC
 - An initial five-day course, followed by a familiarization trip of the basin
 - Improve understanding of the BM approach, the Orange-Fish River Basin, its stakeholders, issues, requirements of a BMC, what practices to adopt to become an effective committee



Awareness-raising, information-sharing, participatory activities (N\$340,000)

- Dissemination of information and awareness-raising
 - Newsletters (4 this year)
 - Other media: radio, local newspapers, school posters, farmers' days, etc.
- Basin management committee meetings (4 this year)
- Stakeholder forum meetings (2 this year)
- Ad hoc meetings



Addressing resource management challenges

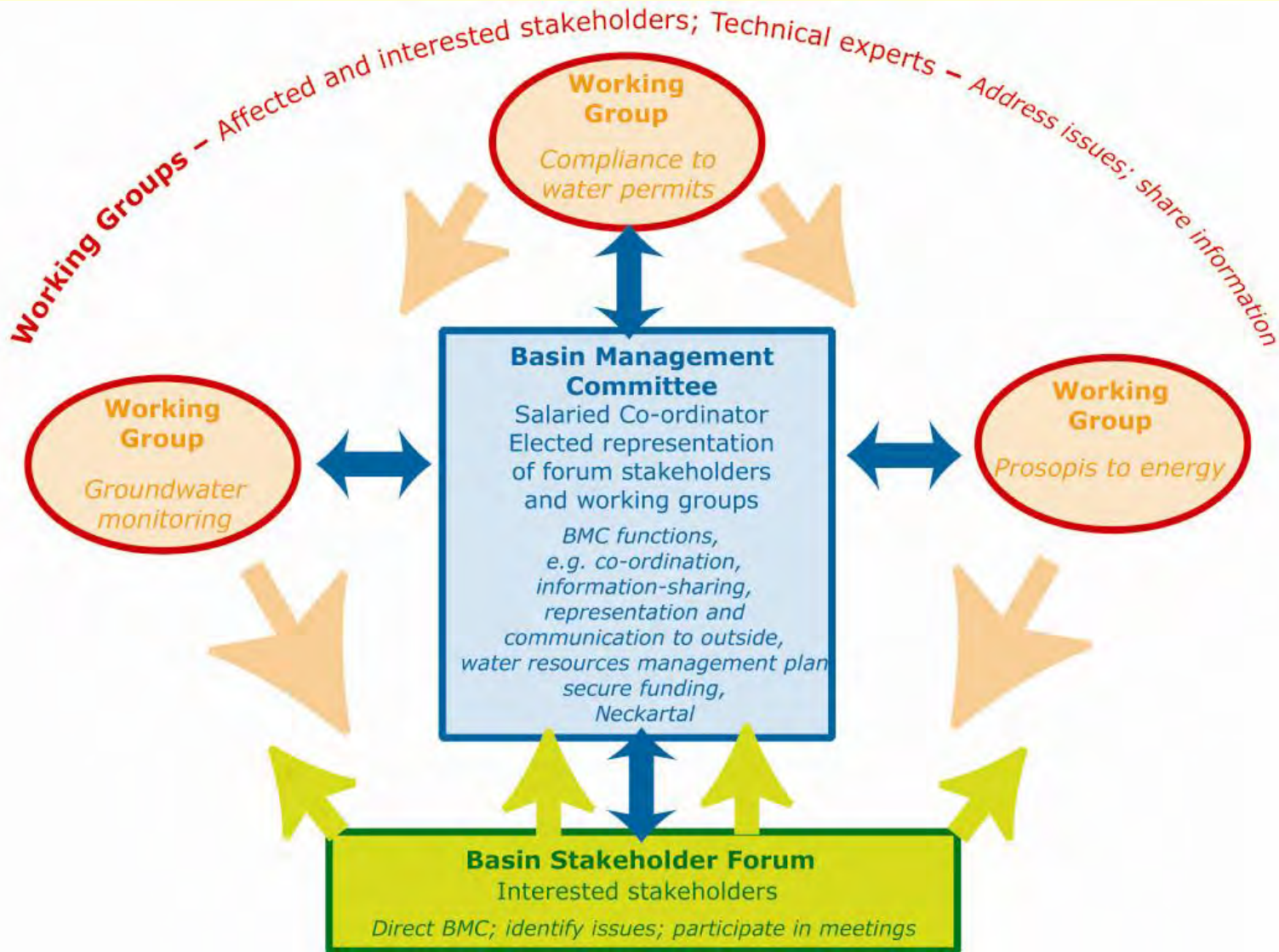
(N\$57,000)

- Setting up an information centre
 - Establishing a system for compiling, storing, analysing and disseminating information – written and digital
- Initiating activities of working/interest groups
 - Enabling background work to be carried out to get a better idea on how to tackle prioritised issues, needs and challenges
 - Proposal writing to secure funding to address challenges
 - Keeping stakeholders informed on progress
 - Encouraging the involvement of interested stakeholders in activities
 - Disseminating information, results, lessons learnt, best practices
 - Representing stakeholders' interests with regards to the proposed Neckartal development



Thank you for listening





How working/interest groups could fit into the overall basin management structure



Why have working/interest groups?

They offer a mechanism in which:

- Different needs and concerns can be addressed simultaneously
- Issues are not necessarily from the same geographic area
- Brings stakeholders from different areas of the basin together
- More stakeholders involved in the approach, not just BMC
- Assists BMC to do stuff on the ground
- Stakeholders start to realise benefits of IWRM and BM, so their interest can be maintained
- Identified concerns related to improved water resources management can be addressed in an integrated way
- Management of water – and other – resources in the basin is improved

