

LoGo Water is an EU funded project that brings together African and European researchers along with local governments from Southern Africa, for jointly contributing to support local governments to improve water resources management in the region.

Local Action for Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)

Workshop in Gaborone, Botswana, 27 to 29 July 2006, hosted by the Kalahari Conservation Society

How local governments in the SADC region can take advantage of the benefits and opportunities offered by IWRM will be at the centre of the discussions at a workshop taking place in Gaborone, Botswana, from 27 to 29 July 2006. Local governments, municipal associations, national ministries of Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa and Zimbabwe as well as others, will explore suitable means for their practical engagement in IWRM at local level.

Major attention will be devoted to the necessary dialogue with all social groups and interested parties using and dealing with water in different ways.

After the workshop, the participants will be linked with each other in a network allowing them to share further expert exchange, be kept up-dated about new project results, and receive the IWRM guidelines and toolkit to be developed by LoGo Water.

Water specialists interested in attending the workshop or in joining the network can contact the ICLEI European Secretariat. More information on the programme will soon be available on the LoGo Water website.



LoGo Water partners

Local governments and IWRM

Literature review published by the LoGo Water project

Engaging in the new IWRM institutions and implementing IWRM principles through local actions: these are the two main paths recommended by the authors of this publication to foster local government engagement in IWRM.

The document, produced by the International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC), reflects the changes of local government roles in response to policy and institutional developments in countries of the Southern Africa region. More in-depth case studies of local IWRM practices from Bolivia, Egypt, India and the Netherlands discuss obstacles to successful implementation such as caused by a lack of local government capacities, the absence of suitable legal and institutional frameworks or corruption and short-minded politics.

According to the authors, IWRM has recently been tackling some of the root causes of the 'water crisis', specifically the inefficiencies and conflicts that arise from uncoordinated development and water usage. Although playing a significant role in new water policies, local governments do often not sufficiently recognise their importance

and have limited capacities and resources to properly do the job.

The literature review can be downloaded from the LoGo Water website, under "Activities and results/WP 2 Research report".



How to get involved

- Get subscribed to the LoGo Water Newsletter!
- Join the LoGo Water Network!
- Take part in LoGo Water events!
- Send us your contributions and comments!

LoGo Water Newsletter

You just need to send us an email with the subject line: **SUBSCRIBE LOGO WATER NEWSLETTER.**

LoGo Water Network

The Network will be established in September 2006 as a forum for expert exchange for IWRM stakeholders. The Network will start with a core group of water specialists that are participants of the workshop in Gaborone, Botswana, in July (see below). It is envisaged that the network will focus on issues relevant for IWRM implementation at local level in the SADC region. Please write us indicating your interest in joining the Network.

LoGo Water events

Next up-coming event is the workshop 'Local Action for IWRM' taking place in Gaborone, Botswana, 26 to 28 July 2006. The workshop will mainly bring together representatives from local governments, municipal associations, national water and local government representatives, water authorities and regional IWRM organisations. Participation is in principle on invitation only. However, feel free to find out whether further participants can still be accommodated, by sending us a message.

Contributions and comments

You can contribute to the project's discussions and results by sending us your contributions and comments. Please consult the project website for all project reports and other outputs.

Please always address your e-mail to logowater@iclei.org.

IWRM concept and guidelines for local governments

IWRM can be highly beneficial for local governments; however, local governments need to do their part more effectively and efficiently. The LoGo Water project helps achieve this goal by developing a concept and guidelines – containing a methodology and a toolkit - that will support local governments in actively participating in IWRM. The material will be available in autumn 2006.

A concept for IWRM take-up by local governments

What are the consequences of local government interventions in the water cycle? What are the opportunities and benefits of an integrated approach in comparison to more conventional water resources management? How can local governments take advantage of IWRM for improving their performance, while at the same time safeguarding equity, efficiency, and sustainability? These are the kinds of questions that will be addressed by the concept that is currently under development by the LoGo Water project. The concept will primarily target local governments themselves, but also water resources authorities, national government and other interested IWRM stakeholders.

From theory to practice: IWRM guidelines for local governments

The IWRM guidelines will translate the concept into practical steps enabling local governments to take advantage of the benefits of an integrated approach. The guidelines will contain a methodology and a set of practical tools for implementation. The methodology will provide an overview through the different phases of an IWRM process such as the initial stocktaking of the local water resources situation, the setting of objectives and targets and the development of an action plan. Based on a typical management cycle and following the spirit of Local Agenda 21, the methodology puts a strong impetus on IWRM stakeholder participation.

Both the concept and the guidelines will be discussed at the workshop in Botswana in July 2006 (see page 1) and will be available on the LoGo Water website in autumn 2006.



LoGo Water at ICLEI World Congress (Cape Town, South Africa, 27 Feb. – 3 March 2006)

It was the “Opportunities of local governments in the implementation of IWRM in the Limpopo river basin” that Peter Sibanda from Bulawayo Council, Zimbabwe, emphasised in his presentation to initiate the exchange on local IWRM experiences at the ICLEI World Congress 2006. Sibanda especially stressed the need for local governments to start cooperating with each other and to develop a clear strategy for their role in IWRM. This also provides some of the background on why Bulawayo – as well as seven local governments from Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, other Zimbabwe - decided to join the LoGo Water project and enter into a more intensive IWRM debate with the project partners and other.

The City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality (CTMM), for example, is another one of these local governments. Jan van den Berg, working with the City's Department for Environmental Management, shared in a further presentation Tshwane's cyclical management strategy that has evolved from an ever-growing understanding of the pressures on its water bodies. Van den Berg especially highlighted the range of practical options of a local government for integrating water resources protection into their wider strategies and operations. Kenneth Msibi, Water Policy and Strategy Expert of SADC, and

Alex Simalabwi, Regional Project Manager of Global Water Partnership (GWP) South Africa - two other speakers of the same session – later joined the final session of the third LoGo Water partner meeting. Here, they expressed their appreciation of the project's efforts that are coming right in time to support IWRM policy developments throughout the Southern Africa region. Stef Smits, IRC, also shared some of his insights from the IWRM literature review (see page 1) when speaking about “Challenges facing local governments in sustainable service provision and water management” in a different session of the Congress.

As a platform for its international membership, but also for other actors interested in advancing local sustainable development, ICLEI organises a World Congress every three years. This year, 545 representatives of local governments, municipal associations, and other participants from 60 countries had joined the event focussing - among others - on water management.

The Congress report as well as Sibanda's and Smit's presentations (see “Speakers Presentations/Water”) can be downloaded from www.iclei.org/worldcongress2006.

General info on LoGo Water

The aim of the LoGo Water project is to support local governments in the Southern Africa region to actively engage in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The project's approach is based on the close collaboration between nine organisations from Southern Africa and the European Union and eight cities and towns in the Limpopo river basin between January 2005 and December 2007. The expected outcome is a contribution to improve the capacity of local governments in fulfilling their role in the adoption of sound integrated water resources management solutions and thus contribute to the achievement of the water-related Millennium Development Goals.

The project partners are: ICLEI European Secretariat, Germany · Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH-W), United Kingdom · Foundation for a New Water Culture (FNCA), Spain · International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC), Netherlands · ICLEI Africa Secretariat, South Africa · Institute of Natural Resources (INR), South Africa · Institute of Water and Sanitation Development

(IWSA), Zimbabwe · Kalahari Conservation Society (KCS), Botswana · The World Conservation Union-Mozambique Office (IUCN), Mozambique.

The Associated Local Governments are: Beitbridge Rural District Council and Bulawayo City Council (Zimbabwe) · City of Tshwane Metropolitan Municipality and Makhado Local Municipality (South Africa) · Municipal Council of the City of Chokwe and Municipal Council of Xai-Xai (Mozambique) · Serowe/Palapye District Council and Selebi-Phikwe Town Council (Botswana).

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