

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report emanates from the research funded by the Water Research Commission. The main aim of this research was to investigate the issues of capacity building and training for the District Councils (DCs) and Transitional Rural Councils (TRCs) needed to carry out their responsibilities of providing water services to their communities. The study was necessitated by the apparent and urgent need for water and sanitation service delivery to the local communities of Peddie district.

The original objectives of this research were to:

- Investigate the capacity building needs of DCs and TRCs in order to empower them to play a meaningful role in the management of community water supply and sanitation services.
- Develop and promote appropriate training and capacity building for community based development in water supply and sanitation in the target areas.
- Training of trainers in community capacity building in the water and sanitation sector, especially those who are officials in the DCs and TRCs.
- Examine and promote prospects for an integrated development approach for the water and sanitation programmes.
- Develop a model of management of water and sanitation services for rural communities.

The project steering committee recommended that the third and fourth objectives be combined into a single objective, namely, to review the existing training modules used for the DCs and TRCs. The fifth objective was not addressed because the steering committee felt that the project team did not have the capacity to develop a management model for water and sanitation services.

Semi-structured interviews were conducted with two DCs, four TRCs and other key stakeholders in the water and sanitation sector within the Peddie District.

### *Conclusions*

- The results showed that the question of capacity involves issues of staffing, equipment and training. It also became clear that the majority of the TRC members were not familiar with the basic document such as the Water Services Act 108 of 1997 which spells out their responsibilities as Councilors
  
- Evaluation of training materials used to build the capacity of municipality officials and Councilors showed that the content was in line with DWAF guidelines on capacity building and training, it addressed the following areas:
  - Institutional Building
  - Local organisation structures
  - Awareness creation
  - Project Planning
  - Developing a business plan
  - Project Management
  - Community participation
  
- According to the TRCs, the training was not done satisfactorily because the duration of the training was too short to enable the participants to comprehend and assimilate the “thick” voluminous training modules.
- Use of indigenous language was ignored in most training workshops.
- There was no involvement of women in most training programmes, i.e. DWAF quota of 30% women participation was ignored.
- The training courses only addressed water supply aspects; no sanitation was included in the course materials. It was argued that sanitation was a low priority for most rural communities.

### *Recommendations*

- TRCs must carry out training needs analysis to identify areas where training is required according to job specifications.

- Use of local indigenous language in training workshops should be encouraged.
- Participatory methodologies should be used because they are more suitable for adult learners.
- Tertiary institutions should be used to provide training for municipalities; these institutions can provide the municipality officials with opportunities for continuous learning and also provide post-training mentoring for learners.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The research in this report emanated from a project funded by the Water Research Commission entitled:

### **CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING NEEDS OF DISTRICT COUNCILS AND TRANSITIONAL RURAL COUNCILS ON THE MANAGEMENT OF COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION PROJECTS IN THE EASTERN CAPE PROVINCE.**

The Steering Committee responsible for this project consisted of the following people:

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We wish to thank the WRC for funding and the contribution of the steering committee is acknowledged.

We also would like to extend our gratitude to the following:

- The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, KWT
- The Department of Housing and Local Government, Bisho
- Peddie, Fort Beaufort, Queenstown, & Whittlesea TRC's
- Amatola District Council
- Stormberg District Council
- Khula Development Facilitators, E L
- Limakhozi Development Agency, E L
- Rural Support Services, E.L
- AFESIS – Corplan
- The Mvula Trust, E.L
- Municipal Mentoring Projects, Bisho
- SALGA, E.L
- Uitenhage Municipality
- The Mvula Trust

## **ACRONYMS**

- **WSA** The Water Services Act, ( Act No 108, 1997 )
- **DWAF** Department of Water Affairs and Forestry
- **TrepC** Transitional Representative Council
- **TRC** Transitional Rural Council
- **TLC** Transitional Local Council
- **VWC** Village Water Committee
- **VWMC** Village Water Management Committee
- **PSC** Project Steering Committee
- **ADC** Amatola District Council
- **SDC** Stormberg District Council
- **WDC** Western District Council
- **KDC** Kei District Council
- **VPDC** Vaal Post District Council
- **WSSA** Water Services of South Africa
- **WCDC** Wild Coast District Council
- **CWSSS** Community Water Supply and Sanitation Section
- **DP /IDA** Integrated Development Plan/Approach
- **RDP** Reconstruction and Development Programme
- **FHIG** Fort Hare Institute of Government
- **ANC** African National Congress
- **NGO** Non Governmental Organisation
- **PHAST** Participatory Hygiene and Sanitation Transformation
- **KDF** Khula Development Facilitator
- **MMP** Municipal Mentoring Projects
- **SALGA** South African Local Government Association
- **WSDP** Water Services Development Plan
- **PWS** Peddie Water Scheme
- **PPP** Private Public Partnership
- **CMIP** Consolidated Municipal Infrastructure Programme
- **SMME** Small Medium Micro Enterprise