

Cooperative Governance in Water Management

Gugu Mazibuko

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Presentation Structure

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- 💧 What has happened so far?
- 💧 What are the challenges?
- 💧 What are mechanisms
- 💧 How do we begin to work cooperatively?



Background to the Presentation

- Presentation based on the previous research work through the WRC and current trends
 - Institutional Arrangements for Cooperative Governance between CMAs and Local Government Institutions - TT 1434/03
 - Guide for Catchment Management Agency Cooperation with Local Government - TT 271/06
 - Strategic Review of Current and Emerging Governance Systems Related to Water and the Environment in South Africa - 1514/1/06
 - Evaluation of the Role of Water User Associations in the Water Sector in South Africa - TT 1140/03



Context: Defining Governance

- *Governance is the exercise of economic, political and administrative authority to manage a country's affairs at all levels...it comprises the mechanisms, processes and institutions through which citizens and groups articulate their interests, exercise their legal rights, meet their obligations and mediate their differences, UNDP:2001*
- Important elements
 - Framework to guide role player engagement
 - Mechanisms and procedures on how to engage
 - Meeting of obligations
 - Manage differences



Context: Defining Water Governance

- Water governance refers to the range of political, social, economic and administrative systems that are in place to develop and manage water resources, and the delivery of water services, at different levels of society. *(Rogers P and Hall A. Effective Water Governance. GWP. TEC Background Paper No 7. November 2002)*
- *Levels of Society include*
 - *Communities (domestic and productive use)*
 - *Business / Corporate*
 - *Transboundary*



Context: Defining Water Governance

- *Water governance is perceived in its broadest sense as entailing those social, political and economic organizations and institutions and their relationships which are regarded important for water development and management.... as well use.*

(UNDP, GWP& ICLEI: Dialogue on Effective Water Governance. Pamphlet 2002)



What is Cooperative Governance?

- Formal or informal transaction / cooperation between institutions:

- Decision making
- Implementation
- Operational / Planning

“Set of processes that help institutions / bodies interact in order to accomplish a specific set of goals”

NB: Process is a result of collaborative efforts between institutions.



Criteria for effective water governance

- Participation
- Transparency
- Equity
- Accountability
- Coherency (policies, processes and relations)
- Responsiveness (Adaptive water management)
- Integrative (integrated and holistic approaches)
- Ethical considerations in water management



Context: IWRM principles as drivers for Cooperation

- Integrated Hydrological Cycle
 - 💧 Integrated management of water as a finite resource
 - 💧 Climate change impact
- Decentralised institutional arrangements
 - 💧 Establishing management structures at low level
- Developmental role and empowerment
 - 💧 Stakeholder participation and empowerment
- Decentralised decision making
 - Taking decisions at the lowest appropriate level



RSA Context: Legal – Drivers for Cooperative Governance

Legislative Drivers:

- 💧 Constitution (chapter 3) – Cooperative Government
 - 💧 Independent, Interdependent and Interrelated nature of our governance system
 - 💧 Section 41(2) – Cooperative structures & institutions; mechanisms and procedures
 - 💧 Intergovernmental Relations Framework Act
 - 💧 Intergovernmental Structures
- 💧 Other Legislation (Water context)
 - 💧 NWA
 - 💧 WSA
 - 💧 NEMA



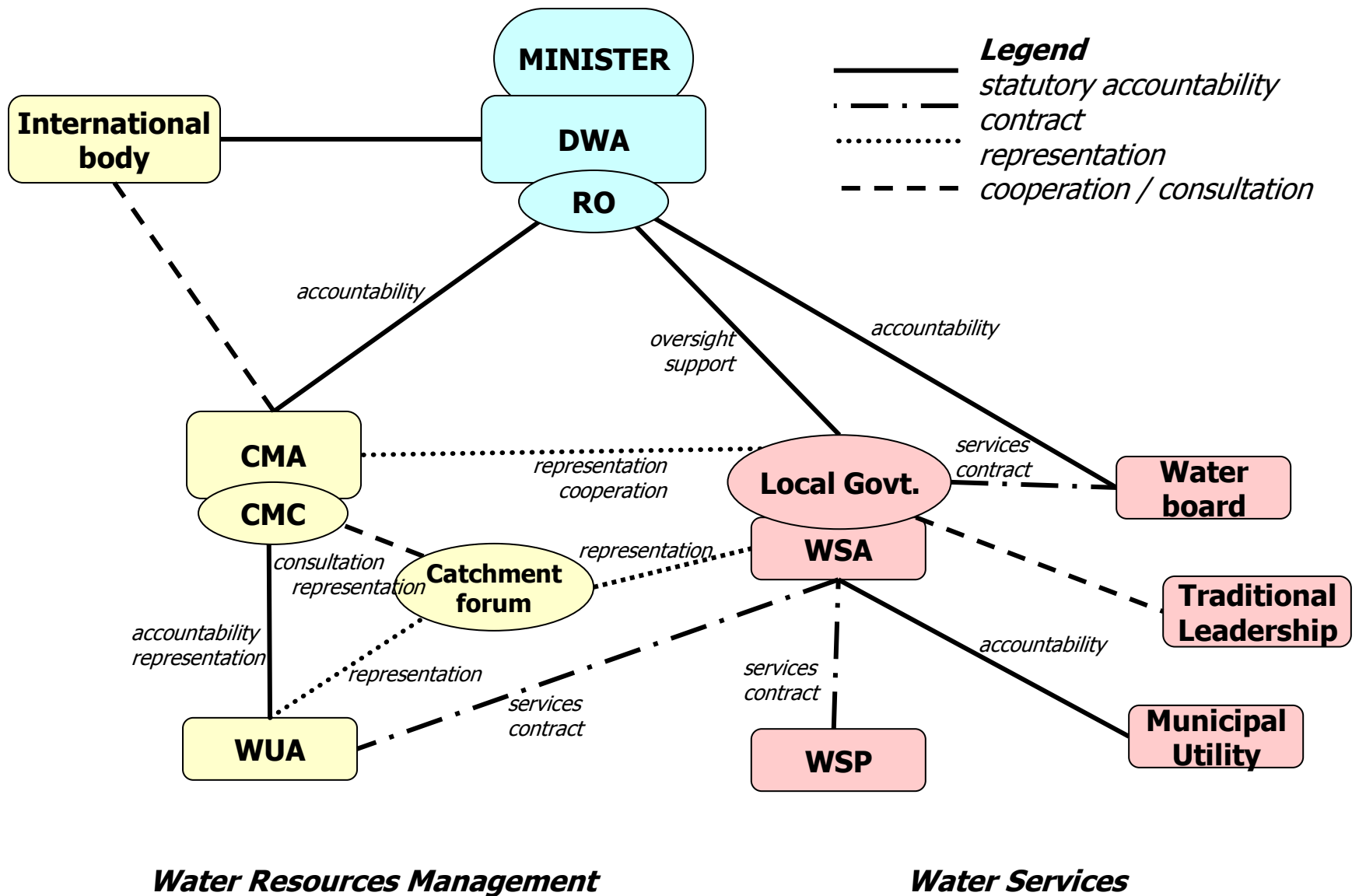
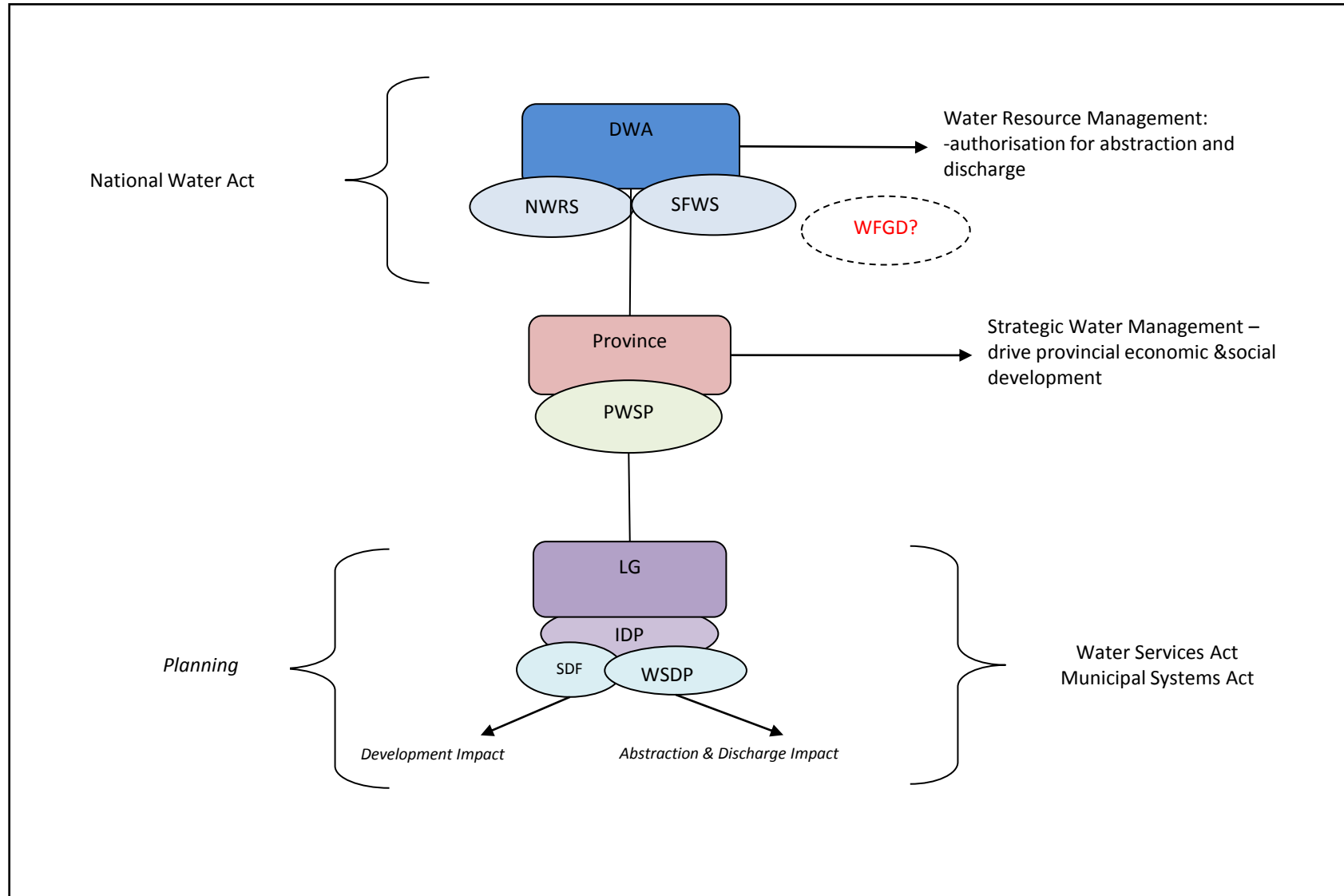
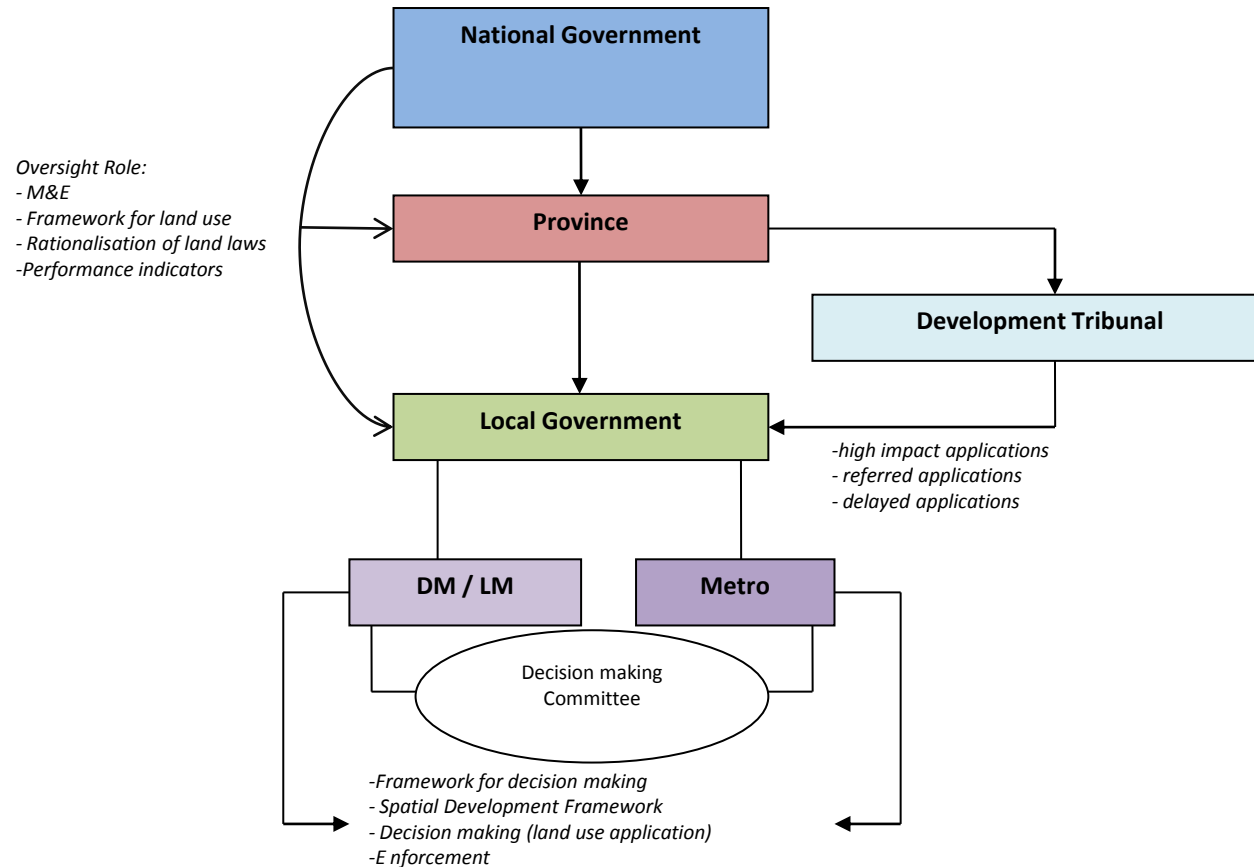


Figure1: Primary institutional relationships between various water sector institutions

Strategic Water Governance Cooperation



Example: Land Use Governance and Impact on Water



What has happened so far on Cooperative Governance in Water Sector?

- WfGD
 - High level engagement (all stakeholders)
 - High level recommendations
 - Driven by crisis rather than natural cooperation
- WSLG
 - Promoted sector collaboration
 - Limited participation of Water Resources
- Supportive Regulation by DWA on LG
 - Blue drop / Green Drop
 - WSDP – raising the standard of reporting



What has happened so far on Cooperative Governance in Water Sector?

- CME
 - HO and Provincial offices cooperation
 - Challenge on other role player engagement, e.g. Police, Courts
 - Role of other WMI, e.g. CMAs, WUA,
- Corporate Strategies
 - Realisation by corporates to engage on water as it forms part of input costs
 - Various corporates developed strategies on how to engage government institutions for water management



What has happened so far on Cooperative Governance in Water Sector?

- CMAs – Inkomati and Breede CMAs
 - CMS development processes
 - Cooperation with various role players - public and private sectors
 - Institutional arrangements for stakeholder engagement



What are the Challenges?

- Realising the role and impact of cooperative governance
- Spheres of Government
- “Turf”
- Knowledge retention (swamps vs rivers)
- Capacity within institutions
- Champions for cooperative governance



Challenges Cont.

- Identifying areas of interface
- Alignment and coordination of strategies
- Understanding processes and procedures
- Understanding functions of each institutions
- Structural organisation
- Developing appropriate mechanisms



What are the Mechanisms for Cooperation?

Institutional Mechanisms

- 💧 Governance, accountability and representation
- 💧 Legislative and policy alignment
- 💧 Coordinated strategy development
- 💧 Participation
- 💧 Informal meeting and formal review
- 💧 Joint strategy development
- 💧 Institutional Structures, e.g. committees
- 💧 Institutionalising Cooperation
- 💧 Information sharing



How do we begin to work Cooperatively?

1. Recognise the role and impact of Cooperative Governance
2. Recognise and respect each institutions autonomy mandate
3. Identify areas of interface
4. Develop strategies for engagement
5. Develop mechanisms for engagement
6. Institutionalise Cooperative Governance
7. Build capacity
8. Monitor and Evaluate

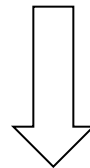


Conclusion

“Unless we change the direction, we will end up where we headed”



→ **“Un-integrated Development and Management of water resources ”**



Unsustainable Development

THANK YOU

