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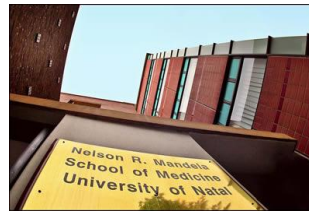
South Africa's potential for adaptive management, its day-to-day challenges and resulting windows of opportunity



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Presentation Outline

- ▣ A framework for analysing and understanding
- ▣ The potential for adaptive management
- ▣ Day-to-day challenges
- ▣ Windows of opportunity

The vulnerability approach calls for...



- Knowing the effects of climate change at a specific location,
- the relative importance of different groups and sectors,
- and the extent to which regions, groups and sectors are able to address effects of climate change.



... an adaptive and integrated approach focusing on reducing vulnerabilities



Building adaptive capacity* calls for...

- ❑ good understanding of the overall system.
- ❑ constant uptake of new information into decision making processes.
- ❑ flexibility to change and be responsive.

* “Adaptive capacity is the ability of a system to adjust to climate change (including climate variability and extremes) to moderate potential damages, to take advantage of opportunities,
or to cope with the consequences.”
4th IPCC Assessment Report (2007)

What are we aiming for?



- Important is to gain predictability of governance and government in times of change / in periods after change:
 - a) Building resilience of the system (adaptive cycles - offer repetition of actions as well as phases of repose in order to consolidate)
 - b) Integrating change within organisations (demanding for the organisation as well as its individuals as tenacity and planning reliability are essential for governance)
 - c) Mainstreaming social learning and change of individual actors (implement or rather include and apply newly learned knowledge)



Strengths and Weaknesses

- ❑ Recurring five-year review cycles (NWRS, CMSs)
- ❑ Incorporation of IWRM
- ❑ Supportive organisational structures (CMAs & WUAs)
- ❑ Holistic view, e.g. land-water link

- ❑ Shortage of skills and capacity (innovative management approach, organisational transformation, new organisations)
- ❑ Absence of an empowered civil society
- ❑ Technical control paradigm
- ❑ Missing open information system and communication plans



South Africa offers a unique set up in regards to its laws and policies but is also fragile based on current problems of missing implementation and enforcement as well as political interests.

(Stuart-Hill and Schulze, 2010)

Key roles of champions



- ❑ Creating institutional memory over time.
- ❑ Representing their expertise and organisation in the knowledge creating process as well as in prioritising adaptation activities and strategies (OUTWARD DIMENSION).
- ❑ AND being leaders and a knowledge resource within their “home” organisation for adaptive management practices and adaptation planning (INWARD DIMENSION).



- Climate Change in itself.
- Regulatory Windows of Opportunity,
 - e.g. NWRS, CMS, WAR, CC hotspots
- Policy Windows of Opportunity,
 - e.g. capacity building, illegal water abstractions, deteriorating water quality, ecosystem services and the second economy, biodiversity and development, the water - energy - food security nexus.



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