



water affairs

Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOI



Civil Society
Support Programme



COVER

CSO quarterly bulletin

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Dear Reader

The inception of the Masibambane Program established a process that support active engagement and participation of civil society organizations within the water sector. However, the sector remains unaware of the efforts due to poor documentation and communication of CSO activities. The perception that very little is being done is reflected in the persistent question: what are CSOs doing? by sector partners, in sector forums. A question that continually remained unanswered.

This issue was recently tabled at an NSC meeting and a decision to improve on the branding and marketing of CSOs and their work was taken. Commitment to improve on documenting and reporting the work undertaken by CSOs to the sector was shared by all. CSOs need to show-case their work, market their skills and capacity and highlight the impact of CSO driven initiatives. The MCC, WSLG and other sector forums, documented learning journeys, and CSO national workshops, were identified as key spaces in which to do this. However, the key vehicle to document, consolidate, package and disseminated CSOs initiatives among CSOs and within the sector is a **NEWSLETTER**. The need for a **CSO NEWSLETTER**, one owned by CSOs, with their own identity, own branding, and own issues, cannot be overstated and is long overdue. The vision is for this communiqué to be the tool through which CSOs will share their knowledge, experiences, challenges and highlight their successes with each other and the sector.

CSOs who would like to profile /show-case their work or success stories, share experiences and raise challenges in the newsletter, can contact:

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Civil Society Organizations meaningful involvement within the Water Sector

Unathi Mila

Everyone has a role to play in the water sector to ensure efficient management of our water resources and effective, efficient and sustainable water services. Civil Society Organizations has a vital role, in ensuring efficient, effective and sustainable water resources and service. As the voice of communities and the eyes and ears on the ground, and the link to the water sector, they share the grassroots experienced and their input is vital in addressing both the challenges experienced around water issues, but also in acknowledging or confirming what is being done right.,.

The value in CSO participation and the recognition thereof was boldly expressed by the Department of Water Affairs and sector partners through the inception of the Masibambane CSO program, which dedicatedly allocated funds towards the active participation and involvement of CSOs. While this was by and large limited to service provider type NGOs or CBO's, 2008 saw shift towards incorporating broader civil society organizations within the water sector i.e. those CSOs involved in advocacy, networking research etc. covered under the Masibambane umbrella. The international and national laws and conventions support the active involvement of CSOs and to name just few(noting that it is not limited to) in the context of South Africa, National Water Act (106 of 1998), our constitution, and policy notably the Strategic Framework of Water Services, approved by cabinet and published in September 2003.

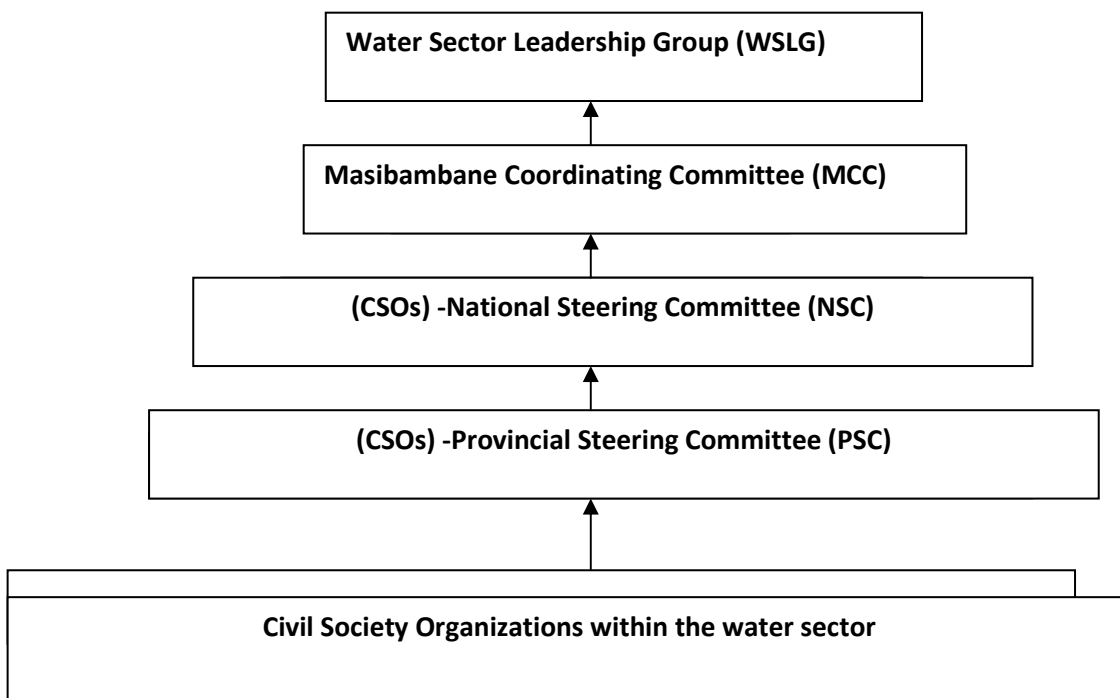
According to the CSOs Strategies (2004 & 2008) the meaningful involvement of Civil Society Organizations is defined as

- Strong awareness of and participation in water and sanitation planning and delivery processes by communities and CBOs;
- Increased numbers of NGOs, CBOs and community members actively engaged in local level planning processes for water and sanitation service delivery;
- Increase numbers of NGOs and CBOs contracted for water and sanitation delivery services by municipalities;
- Greater proportions of water and sanitation programme financing flowing through and being managed by NGOs and CBOs;
- Increased numbers of NGOs and CBOs, constructively involved in policy review and reformulation processes at provincial and national level;
- High quality of services provided by NGOs and CBOs in service delivery contractual arrangements;
- Perform the watchdog role by monitoring and advocating services for the disadvantaged section of the community
- Active involvement in the regulation of the water sector

To formalize the representation a structure for CSO, the National Steering Committee (NSC) and Provincial Steering committee (PSC) was established. Provincial representation which reported to and linked with the NSC, was the provincial steering committee which were set up in all of the regions. Each region had a provincial chair who was nominated in the province and is represented at the NSC.

Initially membership to the NSC and PSC's were limited to Masibambane CSOs however since August 2011 the attempt to broaden this to other CSO was augmented through A special NSC. Leadership at the NSC level is much broader and in time this broadening is anticipated to be reflected at the provincial levels as well. Currently the NSC is headed by the Deputy chairperson, and he represents Those at the NSC in water sector platforms such as the Water Sector Leadership Group (WSLG), Masibambane Coordinating Committee (MCC) and the National Stakeholders regulation Forum.

Reporting Structure



Under the current NSC ToRs's the role of the various structures and their representatives are defined as:

The Role of NSC

- Identify and represent Civil Society issues through its national network
- Provide guidance and vision in the programme
- Provide strategic input, interventions and takes decisions on civil society involvement in water sector programmes by effective dialogue in the sector.
- Position civil society within the priorities of the sector
- Support provincial structures (PSC)

The Role of PSC

- Lead program in own provinces
- Monitor and Report to progress of their programmes to NSC
- Facilitate and support involvement of CSO in provincial sector activities

The Role of Department of Water Affairs

- Provide strategic information and advice
- Create platform for CSO engagement in the sector
- Provide financial support
- Facilitation of CSOs capacity building

Under the current CSO program a review of the existing CSO strategies structures their roles and functions and the NSC TOR's were undertaken. The need to redraft a CSO strategy by CSOs for the sector has been agreed too. A CSO strategy committee was formed by members of the NSC, to redraft the CSOs strategy and all the relevant stakeholders will be consulted. The CSO strategy is a guidance tool to Civil Society Organizations and it requires to reflect, the work and needs of Civil Society Organizations within the water sector.

One of the key lessons coming out of the masibamane evaluation and discussion with sector partners was the poor communication and documentation of CSOs their work and experiences in the sector. Then this newsletter is an answer to CSOs work to be showcased, communicated and documented in the water sector. We are committed to the program and marketing the value proposition that CSO participation holds for the sector.

IWRM Community Driven Projects

Cynthia

SANGOCO North West was commissioned by the national Department of Water Affairs to coordinate and IWRM in ten Crocodile Marico Catchment from 2007 to 2009. 13 projects were selected with focus on the following, Water Conservation, Food Security, Rain Water Harvesting and Water Resource Management., with the aim of supporting emerging farmers under the land reforms.

The aim of the IWRM Community driven projects was to empower marginalised communities through a rights based approach, and through capacity building so that they are able to participate in management of Water Resources in their local areas. Another key objective was to enhance the communities understanding of the extent to which water contributes to poverty alleviation, attainment of Millennium Development Goals MDG' s, Provincial growth and development strategies and Integrated development plans (IDPs).

The projects benefited from the capacity development program which focused on understanding Water Legislation, LFA, Financial Administration & budgeting, Governance processes, Management of Water Resources, Building of Rain Water harvesting Tanks, Project Planning and Management, Health and Hygiene and many others.

Each project received a sum of R150, 000 for support towards water resources intervention and their project costs., Additional technical support was provided through the draw down facility from the DWA.

These projects are still functioning and self sustaining even after the DANIDA fund came to an end in 2009.

A total of 153 members from the 13 projects benefited from the Capacity Development programme.

EMANANG BASADI BA MOCOCE

WATER AND FOOD SECURITY

The project is situated \pm 25km outside Mafikeng in a rural village called Modimola. There are 8 members, 30 beneficiaries and 150 indirect beneficiaries. 5 women and 1 male were trained in construction of Rainwater Harvest Tanks. 4 Rainwater Harvest Tanks were erected at their project site which is located within Mococe High School premises in Modimola Village.



(a) RAMOSADI PRIMARY COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY PROJECT
THEME: WATER AND FOOD SECURITY

The project situated in a township called Montshiwa at Ramosadi Primary School in Mafikeng village called Montshioa. There 7 members in the project, 30 direct beneficiaries and 150 indirect beneficiaries. 4 Women and 2 Men we trained the building of Rainwater Harvesting Tanks. 3 Rainwater Harvest Tanks were constructed by trained members of the project. This group focuses on production of organic vegetables using the eco garden model. The vegetables are sold to the communities and some donated to elderly and orphan homes. They also educate the community on water and environment conservation.



(b) BOMME DINATLA HOME BASED CARE
THEME: WATER HEALTH AND FOOD SECURITY

Bomme Dinatla Home Based Care

This Project is situated at Mereting High School in Rustenburg and has 21 members, 105 direct beneficiaries and 270 indirect beneficiaries 6 Women were trained in building of Rainwater Harvest Tanks and 4 Tanks were constructed by trained project members



(c) TLHABOLOGO FOOD PLOT
THEME WATER AND FOOD SECURITY

This Project is situated in Madibogo Village which is \pm 100km south of Mafikeng. The project has 5 members, 30 direct beneficiaries and 150 indirect beneficiaries. 5 women from the project were trained in construction of Rainwater Harvest Tanks. 4 Tanks have been constructed with a capacity of 2000 litres per tank. The challenges before the rainwater harvesting tanks, were that, the water table in the area is low, and the area is rocky to actual drill borehole. After the Rain Water Harvesting Tanks being constructed, this gave the communities around the area hope, in getting water.





KWAZULU REGIONAL CHRISTIAN COUNCIL (KRCC)

Mxolisi Nyuswa-

KRCC is a faith based organisation working on issues of rainwater harvesting and sustainable gardens for livelihoods in kwaZulu Natal. The organisations works mainly in rural areas and the participants on the program are mainly women.

Following the recent heavy rains experienced early this year and the impact it had on communities, KRCC decided to implement a rainwater harvesting program to mitigate its impact in one of the communities in which we work. The mitigation would not only allow the communities to harvest the water but also use it productively. Tanks were sourced from a company called PENTANKS in Scottsburg , Durban, noting that the system is not only suitable for zinc, tiled or thatched roofs, See fig 1 below.



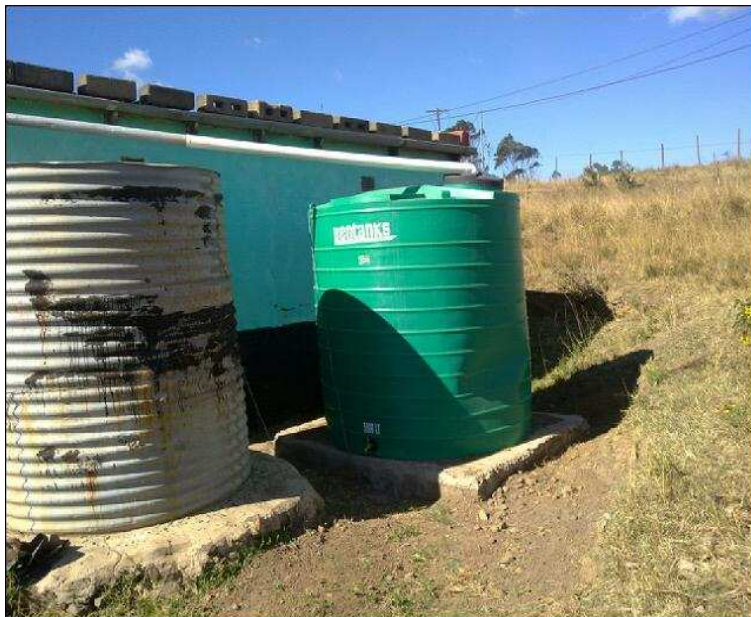
Fig 1

The picture below are the tanks KRCC sourced and loaded to transport Zululand.



Fig 2

In some instances the new tanks replaced the older ones that were in use.



Since many members of the community were familiar with rainwater harvesting methods they were trained specifically around the use and maintenance of the tanks. A workshop was then conducted with women to encourage them to partake in an agricultural project. The content of the workshop covered various methods of rain water harvesting and farming methods especially the digging of furrows in order to store water, which in turn nurtures the plant. See fig3 below.



Fig 3

- Conclusion: As a result of this intervention, there are now .
- 10 women projects in 5 villages identified
- Capacity building on modernised farming
- 10 water tanks installed for each project
- Brought relevant stakeholders on board
- 300 children & 100 women benefited directly
- awareness campaigns reached more than 30 000 - through drama & media

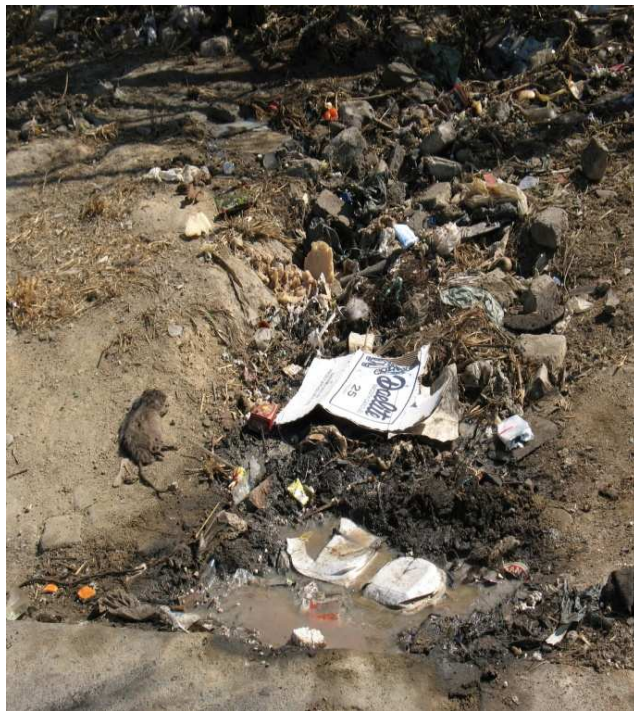
The major beneficiaries from this project have been women who now own the projects and are self -sustaining, and children who as a result of having constant sources of nutrition are able to go to school.

MVELEDZO COMMUNITY ORGANISATION: ESTABLISHING PARTNERSHIPS IN THEIR FIGHTING AGAINST POVERTY

Mabel Dikobe

Mveledzo is a non-profit community based organisation in Alexandra, north of Johannesburg. It was established in 2005 by a group of concerned residents of the area. Most of the projects run by Mveledzo focuses on the recycling of waste and scrap metal and 50 permanent jobs were created as a result. Alexandra, has seen certain areas infested with rats and Mveledzo has embarked on a program to rid the community of this health hazard.

The picture below depicts scrap, rubble, and rubbish which are common sites throughout the township and have become the breeding grounds of the rats.





Most of the work done by Mveledzo is on these sites and they are determined to clear these dumps. Once the dumps have been cleared, the land is ploughed and sustainable gardens are established in partnership with the community. The fresh produce from the gardens are sold directly to the community members and a portion is donated to a feeding program for orphaned and vulnerable children in Alexandra. This project is an example of the successful partnership between a CSO, a community, the Department of Agriculture and the private sector who are the donors of this initiative.





PEU YA BALIMI COLLAGE

TRIBUTE TO Mama Catherine Sepipi project manager of PEU YA BALIMI

Mrs Kethabahle Catherine Sepipi , mama Catherine was born on the 29th July 1939 and died on the 05 December 2010. She established a cooperative called Peu Ya Balimi which focuses on Vegetable Production, Poultry, Stock Farming, Piggery and Aquaculture. Peu Ya Balimi was one of the thirteen projects that were funded by DWA through the assistance from DANIDA. The project received assistance in the drilling of 2 boreholes, drip irrigation, rehabilitation of the a dam and training on project management team in financial admin and budgeting, water resource management, governance and leadership. Mama Catherine was one of the women to participate in the Water User Association and she received the Women in Water Awards in 2008. She also received a certificate in March last year for her participation in IWRM community driven projects. She was an inspiration to both young and old women and her memory lives on in her project which is now self sufficient. Mama Catherine participated in most of the local water structures and last year she was part of the projects that were selected to exhibit at National Water and Poverty Conference in Durban. She has left a void in the water sector, and we have a huge footprint to fill. Her work and legend will continue through the sterling work and passion of her daughter Letta who is determine to carry on the legacy. July marks the birth of the CSO newsletter and the birthday of mama Catherine who would have been 73 years. We pay tribute mama Catherine.



Distribution of Hippo Water Rollers

This is the distribution of Hippo Water Roller's SANGOCO together with Operation Hunger. Our beneficiaries we identified in Ratlong Municipality and Ramotshera Moilwa Municipality were the physically challenged, the elderly, child headed families and people under medical treatment.

On the 05 July 2011 we distributed 50 Hippo Water Rollers at Setlagole Village, which is under Ratlong Municipality.

Here are some of the photo's.



The 50 Hippo Water Rollers distribution.

The beneficiaries, that attended the

On the 06 July 2011 we also had the same distribution of 50 Hippo Water Rollers at Ntsweletsoko, which is under Ramotshere Moilwa Municipality. The event took place at the Tribal Office.

Here are some of the photos:



Some of the beneficiaries, the elderly.
Water Rollers.

Mr Leonard Davids, demonstrating how to use the Hippo

-



The elderly with their Hippo Water Rollers.



Our beneficiaries were all happy to be going home with their Hippo Water Rollers.

River Health: Cleaning of Bruma Lake and Juskei River



Mvedzo has been cleaning both the Bruma Lake and the Juskei River. We started cleaning the Bruma Lake in 2005 together with Mr Paul Fairall a conservationist who is very passionate about conserving nature more especially the endangered species and the river. Mvedzo grew to be a brand that people could reckon with when it comes to conserving our nature. We partnered with Soul Foundation, Toyota SA and Buccleugh Primary school.



Upcoming events?

August: Date still to be confirmed

National Steering Committee meeting National CSO workshop September CSO learning journey CSO input into the National water resources strategy CSO input on review of Water services Act and Water Research Act CSO ongoing engagement in Institutions Reform and Realignment Process with DWA national

Who is who?

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CSO Support: CPUT-Centre for Water and Sanitation Research - represented by Hamed Deedat, 0219596702, deedath@cput.ac.za, and Alvin Lagardien, 0219596111, lagardiena@cput.ac.za

National Steering committee members-

Deputy chair- Xola Mlandu, SANGOCO Cynthia Chishembe, South African Water Caucus- Phillip Owen, Coalition of Environmental justice -Thabang Ncgozela, KRCC(faith based organisations) - Mxolisi Nyuswa,Eco-Care trust -Chamara Pansegrouw,

Provincial Chairs

Langa Mthembu, Eastern Cape
Frans Kitcher & Leon Oliphant Northern Cape
Bongani Dlamini, Kwa-Zulu Natal
Mabel Dikobe-Gauteng, Mapule Phokompe
North West
Vicky Muvhali-Limpopo Province
Neliswa Mbelwa- Deputy chair Western Cape

Interesting publications



- **Devillersdale village, lost corner of the**

Limpopo province

- The fieldnote covers the work of the Limpopo consortium of NGOs (LINGO). LINGO is currently working in the village to provide basic services, with the long term mission to turn around the village into a best practice and model for community development.

WIN-SA Civil Society Learning Journey: Voices from SADC



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Organized in partnership with the Department of Water Affairs, Mediterranean Civil Society programme and the Southern African Knowledge Centre on Sustainable Sanitation and Appliances coordinated by on Cape Town and ITC. © 2010 May 2010, South Africa.



Sustainable Sanitation: the broken chain
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Environmental Camp 2010 for youth in Action PAGE 9

Highlights from the Workshop and CSO Issues to be addressed by the Water Services Sector

By Naomey Olive

Lottering: a Graduate Trainee at Department of Water Affairs, Western Cape



Workshop participants at Mma Tshapo's food garden.

The WIN-SA facilitated workshop that brought Civil Society Organizations together with the South African Development Community (SADC) to participate in a capacity building learning journey. The workshop capacitated participants with skills on knowledge development, writing processes, dissemination of information, marketing and branding of their organisations. The workshop brought various organisations and development practitioners together from South Africa, Uganda, Malawi, Tanzania, Botswana, Zambia and Sweden. Sharing of knowledge and experiences within the context of water services and sanitation was encouraged as well as networking amongst workshop participants. Networking amongst participants on a regional level opened up marketing and positioning potential for CSOs within the SADC region.

Highlights of the workshop

The workshop included various site visits and presentations. Highlights that come to mind include the very educating and inspiring visit to Mma Tshapo (Mma Tshapo Khumbane environmental activist) on her smallholding. The visit opened the visitors' eyes on what can be done to alleviate poverty and address the issue of

food security while in turn reducing, reusing and recycling of resources.

"The visit opened the visitors' eyes on what can be done..."

The second site visit educated and made workshop participants aware of different sanitation options that are available. The group visited the Batrom group which are the manufacturers of the Amalobolo urine diversion technology. They also embarked on a field visit to a community within the Montele municipality where the Amalobolo toilets are installed by the implementing agent contracted by the municipality. Participants questioned the installation process, the maintenance of the toilet and the use of urine as fertilizer and compost.

Various discussions came out of the site visit since many CSOs are involved in sanitation provision in their communities. The very important presentation that can be highlighted is the presentation on how CSOs should create a communication strategy and how easy it can be to market the organisation. Lastly, CSO learning journey

presentations from the other SADC countries opened the eyes of the South African CSOs since sanitation conditions are often worse in other countries but conditions for some South Africans are still similar.

Key challenges faced by CSOs which can be addressed by Water Services Sector CSOs still experience lack of support from other government departments and local government. The relationship between the community and the local councilors was highlighted as the main concern when CSOs want to address the needs of the people since local government (municipalities), often do not recognize CSOs as a stakeholder in service delivery. Secondly, the lack of funding for organisations to grow and play a role in the community is an issue. Thirdly, the overall involvement of CSOs in all decision-making processes is still lacking in all sectors since CSOs should play a role in the creation of policies, bylaws, etc. through public participation processes. The fourth issue highlighted is that CSOs are not being involved when contracts are given to provide services in the various municipal areas as part of the water services sector development, since the employment of local skills and human resources plays a vital role.

The last highlight is a concern around the issue of the maintenance of public toilets for communities or also known as communal toilets. Municipalities often do not provide maintenance plans for infrastructure installed and hygienic and safe sanitation is still a concern in most communities since people share toilets.

The workshop was informative, educational and inspirational as CSOs pledged to proceed with their work no matter what the circumstances.

In conclusion, some key issues to be addressed by the water services sector has been mentioned and processes are being followed by the Department to address these issues hence the workshop was facilitated.



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lessons series

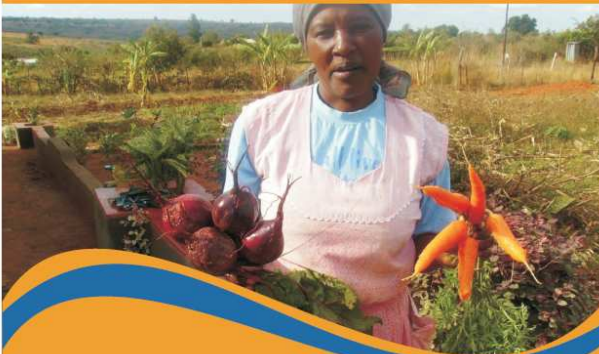


November 2009



An NGO Consortium engages local government in Limpopo for sustainable service delivery

A case study on the role of CMI Society Organisations in sustainable water and sanitation service delivery in partnership with local government



"Making knowledge work for us"

lessons series

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PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY
THROUGH "CITIZENS' VOICE":
CITY OF CAPE TOWN SHARES
GOOD PRACTICE



"Making knowledge work for us"

lessons series

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MUNICIPALITIES IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CIVIL SOCIETY



"Making knowledge work for us"