Report of the Inception Workshop for the research project 'Integrating Drinking Water Needs in Watershed Projects'

12-15 September, 2000

at

AWARD (Association for Water and Rural Development), Wits Rural Facility (Nr. Hoedspruit, Northern Province, South Africa)

This report is an internal project document for project R7804 'Integrating drinking water needs in watershed projects'. This joint Indian, South African and UK research project is supported by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) through the Infrastructure and Urban Development Division's Knowledge and Research (KaR) programme.

October 2000

Contents

SUMMARY	1
BACKGROUND AND INTRODUCTION	2
WORKSHOP OUTLINE	2
WORKSHOP OUTCOMES	3
ISSUES IN INDIA AND SOUTH AFRICA, AND WORKING TOWARDS A COMMON LANGUAGE PROJECT DESIGN AND WORK PROGRAMME	7 4 7 7
CONCLUSIONS	2
ANNEX 1 LIST OF PARTICIPANTS	3
ANNEX 2 ORIGINAL WORKSHOP OUTLINE AND AGENDA	4
ANNEX 3 NOTES FROM THE WORKSHOP PROCEEDINGS [ATTACHMENT]	8
ANNEX 4 LINKING CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT WITH WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION - THE SAND RIVER WATER CATCHMENT: DESCRIPTION AND ISSUES (WORKING PAPER BY SHARON POLLARD & PHILIP WALKER, AWARD) [ATTACHMENT]	•
ANNEX 5 PRESENTATION BY EUSTATHIA BOFILATIS (DEPUTY DIRECTOR - CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE DWAF, SOUTH AFRICA) [ATTACHMENT]	8
ANNEX 6 COMMUNITY WATER SUPPLY AND WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT ANI MANAGEMENT: INDIAN SCENARIO (WORKING PAPER BY B.K. KAKADE, BAIF) [ATTACHMENT]	

Summary

This internal project report of the 12-15 September 2000 Inception Workshop provides a review of the workshop outcomes, together with a record of the key discussions and materials from the workshop. This includes working papers from South Africa and India on issues relating to water supply and sanitation and land and water resources management in these countries.

The workshop involved participants from the Association for Water and Rural Development (AWARD, South Africa), BAIF Development Research Foundation (India), the Natural Resources Institute (NRI, UK), the University of Leeds (UK), Water Resources Management Ltd (UK) and the Department for Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF, South Africa). It was held over 4 days and comprised:

Day 1 - Introduction

Day 2 - Field visits in the Sand River Catchment, Northern Province and reflections

Day 3 - Working papers and presentations from South Africa by AWARD and DWAF,

and on India by BAIF. Refinement of research project objectives.

Day 4 - Detailed project planning, focusing on the inception phase of the project.

The workshop built upon correspondence between researchers and target institutions during the proposal development period, and some exciting research themes on integrating water supply and sanitation (WSS) and land and water management emerged from the discussions. In South Africa, research issues relating to WSS and the emerging catchment management agencies and integrated catchment management initiatives such as 'Save the Sand' are being developed. In India, the role of WSS in relation to watershed development was agreed to be a crucial area requiring research to tackle the severe drinking water problems associated with competition for scare resources. A conceptual framework for the research was jointly developed and agreed. These research issues will be developed, with target institutions, during the inception phase of the project. The likely scope and nature of guidelines to be developed by the project will also be developed during this phase, with stakeholders in South Africa and India, as well as two or three countries from Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Linkages are now in place to undertake part of the action research in South Africa in the Sand River Catchment, Northern Province, in co-ordination with the 'Save the Sand' project. In India, it was agreed that the project should include review work based upon grassroots experience of watershed development, water management and water supply by BAIF in different states, and that the project should seek to work in partnership with the Andra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project (APRLP) during the action research phase. An action plan has been developed for the inception phase leading into reviews and the action research. During this period, the key activities to be undertaken include:

- finalisation of the detailed work programme and sub-contracts with research partners,
- demand assessments in India and South Africa and other target countries with the participation of key target institutions,
- commencement of reviews focused on South Africa, India and experiences elsewhere.

The workshop agreed that an inception report, reporting on these tasks, will be jointly prepared by the end of January 2001.

Background and introduction

The purpose of the research project 'Integrating drinking water needs in watershed projects' is for better institutional and operational solutions for integrated water resources and catchment management, to be identified and adopted that promote improved access of the rural poor to safe water supplies for consumptive and productive use. This 4-year collaborative project focuses on research in India and South Africa and aims to bring together researchers and target institutions, and to develop and draw upon south-south linkages, to develop, validate and disseminate demand-led guidelines that promote and support, in appropriate circumstances, the integration of rural water supply and sanitation within watershed development and catchment management programmes.

An inception workshop was held on the 12-15 September 2000 bringing together the research partners from India, South Africa and the UK, hosted by AWARD at Wits Rural Facility, near Hoedspruit, Northern Province, S Africa. The workshop involved participants from the Association for Water and Rural Development (AWARD, South Africa), BAIF Development Research Foundation (India), the Natural Resources Institute (NRI, UK), the University of Leeds (UK), Water Resources Management Ltd (UK) and the Department for Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF, South Africa).

Workshop outline

The purpose of the inception workshop was to agree and refine the project work programme with a common understanding of the research issues and the collaborative research process, and to provide an initial opportunity for preliminary validation by some key stakeholders.

The specific objectives were:

- familiarisation and appreciation of the team with issues in India and South Africa, and working towards a common language
- agreed and refined project design and work programme, and collaborative research process (i.e. management, communication issues etc.)
- agreed methodologies for stakeholder assessments in South Africa and India and other SSA/south Asian countries
- agreed methodologies for assessment of demand for research and identification of promotion pathways in South Africa and India, and other SSA/south Asian countries
- shortlist of other SSA/south Asian countries for limited project activities
- · agreed criteria for selection of sites in India, and shortlist
- feedback on the project design from some local stakeholders in South Africa

A list of attending participants is included at Annex 1, and the workshop programme is given in Annex 2 with a summary of the project that was also circulated with invitations to the workshop. The main outcomes of the workshop are discussed below. Annex 3 also provides a record of some of the workshop discussions and materials generated to serve as an *aide memoire* of the outputs and discussions and agreements.

Workshop outcomes

Progress made against each of the expected workshop outputs is summarised in this section. Key issues and actions arising are also highlighted. For a more detailed list of actions for the Inception phase please see Table 3 Action Plan in Annex 3.

Issues in India and South Africa, and working towards a common language

Through presentation and discussion of working papers and field visits in the Sand the River Catchment, considerable progress was been made in familiarising the team with issues in the different countries. A number of similarities in 'context' in both India and South Africa were identified. For example, both countries have functioning (if not perfect) administrative systems, conducive macro- policies and recent policy innovations relating to water management, and a strong civil society.

Several strong differences were also identified. In South Africa catchment management has historically included water supply (although there has been a strong emphasis on surface water and neglect of groundwater) which is not the case in India - where watershed development programmes are focused on increasing agricultural production in headwater catchments (often focusing on soil and water conservation) and have tended to ignore water management issues generally (including water supply and sanitation). Arguably, in South Africa the challenge is to identify building blocks for implementation within the framework created by recent legislation and the emerging catchment management authorities, to serve the interests of communities and water users at local level where there are pressing development needs. In India, the challenge is to scale up and broaden from successful (but narrow i.e. excluding water management) micro-watershed projects to effective management at a larger scale (perhaps clusters of villages, or catchments between micro-watersheds and river basins in size that can be more effectively related to administrative units) where competition between users is a major issue that is not being addressed adequately. Existing efforts have focused on increasing supply, but in dry areas there is little scope to increase supplies and the focus should shift to managing demand.

There are important differences in language between the two settings, and plenty of scope for misunderstandings. In South Africa, catchments and integrated catchment management (ICM) are the preferred terminology — emphasising the role of land-water linkages and integration management of a range of natural resources within catchments. In India, watersheds are where rural development or local management of resources happens — but as noted above, the scope of this rarely includes any water management.

Scale and the unit of focus will be a key issue for the research. Management of surface water resources may be most effective at the large catchment (e.g. Sand River Catchment) scale. Management of groundwater resources may necessitate a focus on much smaller units e.g. groups of villages. Administrative units may make be more effective decision-making, where institutions are not present or weak at the catchment level.

In both countries, and elsewhere, politics and corruption play a major role in decision making in relation to water supply. The research must be hard-nosed and realistic about these realities which are too easily ignored.

Actions: The comparisons between the Indian and South African contexts and planned South-South linkages are considered by the team to be a major strength of the project. These need to be followed through in exchange visits and collaborative work between South African and Indian research partners and target institutions. Workshops with involvement of key target institutions (e.g. DWAF, APRLP) should be considered when the project has ideas and preliminary results to discuss.

Identification of priority research issues

These were brainstormed and discussed for a short period during the workshop (see Session 3 in Annex 3). A number of potential researchable themes relating to the better integration of water supply and sanitation service delivery and management of water resources were identified and grouped, focusing on generic issues relevant to both the Indian and South African contexts and elsewhere. These are summarised in Box 1.

Box 1. Potential researchable themes

Institutional, political and governance issues

- the influence of corruption/lack of transparency over technology choices e.g. regional piped water supply schemes vs. local groundwater management
- subsidiarity in decision making

Planning issues

• harmonisation of planning procedures to optimise water supply and sanitation service delivery as part of ICM and watershed development programmes.

Allocation, entitlements and access issues

- how to secure domestic water resources according to priority given in policy e.g. the reserve in South Africa
- the role of domestic water supplies in small-scale economic development
- competition and conflict between domestic and other water users
- impacts, both intra and inter catchment

Demand management

• how can catchment management and watershed development programmes influence demand (for both irrigation and domestic use) and influence demand management

Economic issues

- the impacts of catchment management on costs of delivering water services in different situations and contexts
- impacts on cost recovery

Participation in catchment management

• issues included representation, awareness and motivation, and participation in establishment and function

How to generate, maintain and use knowledge?

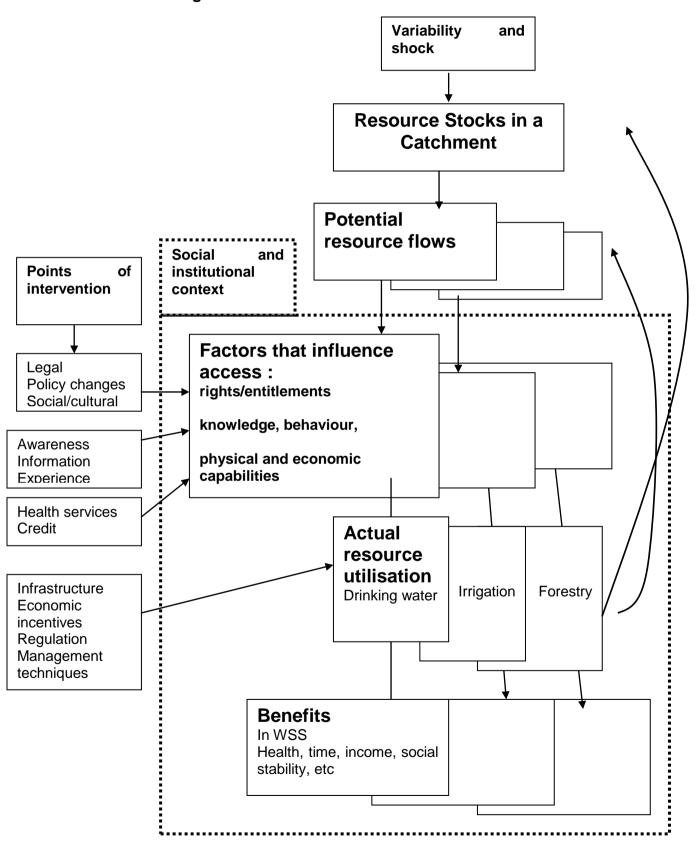
• issues included knowledge flows, stakeholders, participation, resource values, understanding scarcity and how one assesses e.g. generates knowledge

It is clear that new exciting policies are emerging both in terms of water-related legislation (SA) and watershed development (India), with potential for strong complementarity. The researchable areas need to further developed after the workshop and it was agreed that a first concept paper should be prepared.

This concept paper would include further discussion of definitions and the conceptual framework of links between water supply and integrated catchment management that was also developed during the workshop. Figure 1 illustrates the framework developed by a working group during the workshop, building on discussions around definitions and principles (such as human and ecological sustainability; land-water linkages; need for co-operative governance etc.). This shows the relationship between water resources and their benefits in a catchment, identifying the potential points for intervention. For, example identifying what effects policy changes would have on access to resources, resulting changes in resource utilisation providing increased benefits in the terms of the livelihoods of the poor. This type of 'model' should help in identifying the different types of multi-disciplinary information and possible casual linkages to be investigated and acted on.

Actions: John Butterworth to take the lead in preparation of a concept paper – an initial think-piece setting out the rationale for the project.

Figure 1 A conceptual framework for the research: integrating WSS and water resources management



Project design and work programme

Good progress was made in improving the project design and work programme, especially developing the plan for proposed work in India (see later section), and plans for the inception phase of the project. Several substantive inception phase issues are discussed further below (stakeholder methodologies, demand assessment and target countries). A summary of project components and timetable is given in Table 1.

An important agreed principle for the action research is that the pilots must not depend upon project resources, which will be directed at monitoring but not implementation. The project must not be the glue linking WSS and ICM, and we should carefully consider the role we are having on the process.

Actions:

- 1. John Butterworth and the team at NRI to prepare guidance notes/ protocols for internal communications, publication strategy, and external dissemination and M&E. It was agreed that the process is as important as the products.
- 2. To develop project web-site, and prepare an attractive flyer with photos etc (John Butterworth would be grateful for copies of good photos for such purposes)
- 3. To start thinking about and developing a framework for the situation analysis and start scoping a robust and efficient M & E plan.

Stakeholders, demand assessment and promotion pathways

Although methodologies were not developed at the workshop, assessment of demand for the research and identification of promotion pathways was discussed in some detail. It was agreed that this was an important step in the inception phase, to ensure that the research outputs meet the needs of target institutions and to maximise uptake of the research findings. In India and South Africa, it was agreed that the project should be discussed further with key target institutions (e.g. DWAF in S Africa) and seek to build ownership, modifying the project design as necessary in response to feedback. The project should also make use of the WEDC report on promotion pathways for uptake of research on water supply and sanitation (http://www.wedc.ac.uk/ - research, current and recent projects, WEJP9 Spreading the word: Enhancing research dissemination strategies).

Actions:

John Butterworth to a prepare note on stakeholder assessment and demand assessment methodologies for use in S Africa, India and other countries.

Identification of target countries for the research

The project is committed to assessing demand for the research and subsequently promoting outputs, in 3 other (as well as S Africa and India) countries as part of the inception phase. This aims to enable the subsequent phases to be geared to meet generic needs and promote wider uptake of the research findings. It was agreed that in South Asia however, the focus should be on examining needs in other states within India (given the main focus on Andra Pradesh – see below). This will be undertaken as part of a national/ state review. In Africa, it was agreed that potential target countries include Mozambique, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Uganda. After initial contacts have been made and interest assessed, two or three countries will be selected.

Table 1 Summary description of project components

Year 2000		2001		2002		2003		2004		Key outcomes/ outstanding issues
Incep	ption - Fo	cus on	India + 1 o	ther state; S	outh Africa,	+ 2/3 other S	SA countries			
and d	tifying demandissemination ways.	on	6							Project design in India to be finalised Protocols to be developed for demand assessment etc. Researchable issues to be developed
Revie	w - Focus on developing countries world-wide									
Identi preco	Identifying options and preconditions Validation analysis									Agreed this will focus on India/ South Africa with more limited global review
			n of							To agree focus on identifying best practices or to identify research priorities.
	P	Piloting	- India an	d South Afric	a only					
	S	Site elec- on								How many research issues to address? Must establish buy-in by stakeholders
			Water Aud baseline of gathering institutions and leg)	ata (livelihood						To ensure participation in situation analysis and option identification
			Option selec- tion							Pilots must not depend on project resources M&E indicators for option selection
			1.011	Implementat	ion and Moni	torina				M&E indicators for outcomes/impact
				Tools tested						i '
								Validation of	outcomes	Indicators for sustainability
	Development of guidelines Generic, world-wide									
	D	Oraft								To be produced integrally/
	G		Guidelines	nes tested - see above					simultaneously during review and	
								Validation and finalisation		piloting. Prefer guidelines to tools.
								Dissemination promotion	n and	Linked to initial demand assessment

Actions: Sharon Pollard to make initial contacts in Mozambique (John Soussan to provide suggestions). John Butterworth to make initial contacts in Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Uganda.

Selection of states for undertaking action research in India

In South Africa, it has already been decided that the research will focus on the Sand River Catchment working in parallel with the Save the Sand pilot ICM and Landcare implementation programme. In India, specific locations have yet to be identified. As a result of discussions during the workshop, a tactical decision was taken to try and implement the action research in Andra Pradesh – where state policies are favourable, strong demand for the research has been expressed, and there is good potential to develop linkages with and support the Andra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project (APRLP). This will however necessitate involvement of additional research partners with a presence in Andra Pradesh.

Leading in to the action research phase, it is proposed that there would be two reviews. One by BAIF focusing on 'watershed development and drinking water supply' to synthesise and document BAIF's experience, for different micro-watershed development models and in different Indian states, linkages between provision of drinking water supplies and watershed development. The study would be based upon a series of case-studies of watershed development projects implemented by BAIF and through comparison with projects implemented by other agencies using different models. It would assess evidence for impacts of WD on WSS and catchments at the larger scale (i.e. downstream tanks). It will identify key attributes and good practices.

The second review would focus on a review of national and state (AP) WSS & WD best practice. lessons learnt and current status.

It was also suggested that John Soussan or Charles Batchelor could take on a further role to support the research team in providing 'intellectual direction' to the work in India.

Actions:

- 1. John Butterworth would make initial contact with DFID India followed by John Soussan and Charles Batchelor initiating contact with APRLP and potential partners to undertake the research in AP Development Alternatives, RDT and A.J. James. John Butterworth to make follow up visit to make detailed arrangements (contracts etc.) as soon as possible.
- 2. John Butterworth to prepare ToRs for proposed BAIF study.
- 3. To agree oversight role for John Soussan or Charles Batchelor in India and revise contracts accordingly.

Feedback from stakeholders in South Africa

There was only very limited opportunity for feedback from local stakeholders given that only Eustathia Bofilatis (Deputy Director – Catchment Management, DWAF) was able to attend of the invited key stakeholders. However, Eustathia offered to act as a focal point for follow up with DWAF. Staff members from DfID South Africa were unable to attend, but AWARD and the project will activily develop contacts during the inception phase. AWARD will also, as part of the project, further discuss the project with local stakeholders.

Actions: Further feedback will be sought from key stakeholders in S Africa and India as part of consultations during the inception phase. The project summary or flyer needs to be improved to help facilitate making these contacts.

Conclusions

The workshop was successful in bringing together researchers from South Africa, India and the UK to build upon correspondence during the proposal development period, and some exciting research themes on integrating water supply and sanitation (WSS) and land and water management emerged from the workshop. In South Africa, research issues relating to WSS and the emerging catchment management agencies and integrated catchment management initiatives such as 'Save the Sand' are being developed. In India, the role of WSS in relation to watershed development was agreed to be a crucial area requiring research to tackle the severe drinking water problems associated with competition for scare resources. A conceptual framework for the research was jointly developed and agreed. These research issues will be developed, with target institutions, during the inception phase of the project. The likely nature of guidelines to be developed by the project will also be developed during this phase, with stakeholders in South Africa and India, as well as two or three countries from Uganda, Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Mozambique.

Linkages are now in place to undertake part of the action research in South Africa in the Sand River Catchment, Northern Province, in co-ordination with the 'Save the Sand' project. In India, it was agreed that the project should include review work based upon grassroots experience of watershed development, water management and water supply by BAIF in different states, and that the project should seek to work in partnership with the Andra Pradesh Rural Livelihoods Project (APRLP) during the action research phase. An action plan has been developed for the inception phase leading into reviews and the action research. During this period, the key activities to be undertaken include:

- finalisation of the detailed work programme and sub-contracts with research partners,
- demand assessments in India and South Africa and other target countries with the participation of key target institutions,
- commencement of reviews focused on South Africa, India and experiences elsewhere.

The workshop agreed that an inception report, reporting on these tasks, will be jointly prepared by the end of January 2001.

Annex 1 List of Participants

From S Africa

*Malcolm White, AWARD whitemalcolm@hotmail.com
Sharon Pollard, AWARD sharon@award.org.za
*Philip Walker, AWARD philipwalker58@hotmail.com
Peter Segkobela, AWARD peter@award.org.za
James Rhoda, AWARD james@award.org.za
Toka Molapo, AWARD toka@award.org.za
Eustathia Bofilatis, DWAF Depury Director - Catchment Management (14 September)
qmd@dwaf.pwv.gov.za

From India

BK Kakade (BAIF): mdmtc@pn2.vsnl.net.in or baif@vsnl.com (also bharatkakade@usa.net when out of station)

From UK

Charles Batchelor (WRM Ltd), wrmltd@aol.com
John Soussan (University of Leeds) john@env.leeds.ac.uk
John Butterworth (Natural Resources Institute - project team leader) j.a.butterworth@gre.ac.uk
Jim Hancock (NRI workshop facilitator), j.hancock@gre.ac.uk
Liz Robinson (NRI), e.robinson@gre.ac.uk

^{*} Malcolm White and Philip Walker have left or are about to leave AWARD at the time of finalising this document (Oct 2000), Sharon Pollard will be the key AWARD contact initially, with James Rhoda.

Annex 2 Original workshop outline and agenda

Inception workshop for the research project 'Integrating Drinking Water needs in Watershed Projects'

Date: 12-15 September 2000

Location: The workshop will be hosted by AWARD AT Wits Rural Facility (Nr.

Hoedspruit, Northern Province, S Africa)

Background

The purpose of the research project 'Integrating drinking water needs in watershed projects' is for better institutional and operational solutions for integrated water resources and catchment management, to be identified and adopted that promote improved access of the rural poor to safe water supplies for consumptive and productive use. In order to achieve this aim, action research is to be carried out during the period July 2000 to March 2004 by NGOs in India and South Africa, but will also include key stakeholders from elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia.

In India, the research will be carried out by BAIF, working in collaboration with on-going water supply and sanitation and watershed development projects. The Association of Water and Rural Development (AWARD) will undertake research in South Africa working with relevant development projects. In particular AWARD co-ordinates the 'Save the Sand Project' focusing implementation of pilot Integrated Catchment Management Plan in the Sand River Sub-Catchment which deals with issues at the heart of the research project. South-South linkages between India and South Africa are an important aspect of the project approach to promote sharing of experience and to help develop research capacity in both countries. UK inputs are led by the Natural Resources Institute, and also includes expertise from the Environment Centre at the University of Leeds and Water Resources Management Ltd. For more details on background, see attached flyer.

The inception workshop is to be held at an early stage in the implementation of the project in order to bring together the project team from different countries. It is necessary to begin to identify the more detailed aspects of the research issues, and discuss opportunities and constraints in implementing the 4-year research project. This will then form a basis for agreeing together detailed plan for activities in the inception phase, for which an Inception report is required by end December 2000. It is also important at an early stage to promote participation and include stakeholders involved in implementing catchment management: get their feedback and provide space for them to shape the project.

Workshop purpose

To agree and refine the project work programme with a common understanding of the research issues, and the collaborative research process, and to provide an initial opportunity for preliminary validation by some key stakeholders.

Workshop outputs

- familiarisation and appreciation of the team with issues in India and South Africa, and working towards a common language
- agreed and refined project design and work programme, and collaborative research process (i.e. management, communication issues etc.)
- agreed methodologies for stakeholder assessments in South Africa and India and other SSA/south Asian countries
- agreed methodologies for assessment of demand for research and identification of promotion pathways in South Africa and India, and other SSA/south Asian countries
- shortlist of other SSA/south Asian countries for limited project activities
- agreed criteria for selection of sites in India, and shortlist
- feedback on the project design from some local stakeholders in South Africa

Invited participants:

From S Africa -

Malcolm White, Sharon Pollard and other key staff from AWARD

Eustasia Bofilatis (National DWAF), 14 September

Magda Ligthelm (Mpumalanga DWAF, WRM) to be confirmed

Tumelo Mashego (BN TLC, BWB, SSP steering com) to be confirmed

Zulu Seerane (BWB) to be confirmed

Mark Harvey (DfID) to be confirmed for 15 September

Peter Smith (DfID) to be confirmed for 15 September

From India -

BK Kakade (BAIF)

From UK-

Charles Batchelor (WRM Ltd), John Butterworth (NRI), Jim Hancock (NRI), Liz Robinson (NRI), John Soussan (UoL)

Workshop agenda

Day 1 - Tuesday 12 September

Session 1 - Arrival and Introductions

p.m. Participants arrive at Wits Rural Facility.

Early evening. Introductions and dinner. Welcome from AWARD and discussion of workshop purpose and agenda.

Day 2 - Wednesday 13 September

Session 2 - Field Visit

Start after breakfast

- 1. Briefing for field visits
- 2. Field visits to sites in and around the Sabie-Sand Catchment

Late afternoon and after dinner

3. Reflections and discussions back at AWARD

Day 3 - Thursday 14 September

Session 3 - Issues of water supply and sanitation and catchment management

~8 am

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Presentation of highlights from working papers from AWARD (S Africa), BAIF (India) and presentation from DWAF on catchment management in S Africa
- 3. Structured discussion
- 4. Summing up and agreement on key needs

1 pm Lunch

Session 4 - Review and refinement of research project objectives

2 pm

- 1. Presentation of the existing project design, and process
- 2. Refining Purpose.
- 3. Refining Outputs group work
- 4. Feedback from groups, discussion
- 5. Summary and agreements.

Close of the day, dinner

Day 4 - Friday 15 September

Session 5 - Detailed project planning

~8 am

- 1. Recap of previous day
- 2. Overview of the work programme, overall and inception phase,
- 3. Refining methodologies for inception phase activities

Lunch 1-2 pm

- 4. Refining methodologies for inception phase activities
- 5. The research process and outstanding issues
- 6. Finalising detailed action plan for inception phase.
- 7. Brief summing up of the workshop

Dinner at Lodge

Day 5 - Saturday 16 September

Option for extra workshop session, or field visit Midday - Participants depart

PROJECT OUTLINE

Integrating WSS & catchment management: Promoting access of the poor to secure, safe and sustainable rural water supplies in areas of water scarcity

A joint Indian, South African and UK research project

The relative quantities of water used by the poorest groups of society for consumptive and productive activities are small, often less than 30 litres per person per day. But competition for water from other sectors is reducing the availability or quality of water resources in many areas, and raising the costs of future provision of water services. In areas of relative water scarcity - the more arid regions of the world and areas where high demands result in competition for water resources – rural water supplies can no longer be improved through the development of new sources alone. Competition for limited resources and potential conflicts need to be addressed using integrated water resources management approaches at a catchment level that reflect the needs of consumers and service providers (such as local government).

In India, widespread groundwater drought has recently impacted severely upon the livelihoods of the rural poor. In many areas, village water supplies now fail routinely during the dry season, largely as a result of abstraction of water for irrigation. Tankering of supplies is a costly short-term solution, and regional piped water supply schemes have faced many problems especially the high costs of O&M. Local solutions are sought to manage water resources better, and secure resources for consumptive and productive use (including watering livestock). Participatory watershed development projects offer one approach to develop and implement innovative solutions. In South Africa, recent legislation has set the scene for the new mechanisms and institutions to manage water resources on a catchment basis. Here, participation in the emerging catchment management processes by rural communities and local authorities relating to the rural water supply sector will be important. In particular, the improvement of provision of water for small-scale economic activities of the poor will be necessary to achieve poverty alleviation targets.

The project:

The purpose of the research is for better institutional and operational solutions for integrated water resources management to be adopted that promote improved access of the rural poor to safe water supplies for consumptive and productive use. In order to achieve this aim, action research to be carried out during the period July 2000 to March 2004 will:

- 1. Assess existing mechanisms, in water-stressed areas (quantity and quality) with competition for water between multiple uses, to promote more sustainable and equitable access for the rural poor to water supplies for consumptive (drinking and other domestic uses) and productive use (inc. small-scale irrigation, livestock, SMEs).
- 2. Pilot, monitor and evaluate new or improved approaches that integrate rural water supply and sanitation with watershed development and management, and synthesise methodologies and lessons for replication elsewhere.
- 3. Develop, validate and disseminate demand-led planning tools with guidelines for use that promote and support, in appropriate circumstances, the integration of rural water supply and sanitation with watershed development and management.

The action research will be carried out by NGOs in India and South Africa, but will also include key stakeholders from elsewhere in sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia. In India, the research will be carried out by BAIF, working in collaboration with on-going water supply and sanitation and watershed development projects. The Association of Water and Rural Development (AWARD) will undertake research in South Africa working with relevant development projects. South-South linkages between India and South Africa are an important aspect of the project approach to promote sharing of experience and to help develop research capacity in both countries. UK inputs are led by the Natural Resources Institute, and also include expertise from the Environment Centre at the University of Leeds and Water Resources Management Ltd.

For further information please contact:

BK Kakade BAIF Development Research Foundation Pune India

mdmtc@pn2.vsnl.net.in

India

South Africa
Sharon Pollard
Association for Water and Rural
Development (AWARD)

Acornhoek, South Africa sharon@award.org.za

United Kingdom

John Butterworth Natural Resources Institute University of Greenwich Kent, UK

j.a.butterworth@greenwich.ac.uk

This project is supported by the UK Department for International Development (DFID) through the Infrastructure and Urban Development Division's Knowledge and Research programme. Project R7804 'Integrating drinking water needs in watershed projects'.

Annex 3 Notes from the workshop proceedings [attachment]

Annex 4 Linking catchment management with water supply and sanitation - The Sand River Water Catchment: Description and Issues (working paper by Sharon Pollard & Philip Walker, AWARD) [attachment]

Annex 5 Presentation by Eustathia Bofilatis (Deputy Director - Catchment Management DWAF, South Africa) [attachment]

Annex 6 Community Water Supply and Watershed Development and Management: Indian Scenario (working paper by B.K. Kakade, BAIF) [attachment]