

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A SOLICITED WRC PROJECT

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| KEY STRATEGIC AREA | Water Use, Wastewater Resources and Sanitation Futures |
| THRUST | 1. WATER SENSITIVE AND RESILIENT SETTLEMENTS |
| PROGRAMME | <i>Programme 4: Water services Institutional and management programme</i> |
| TITLE | The DDM model and its implications on Water Services Legislation, planning and regulation. |

Objectives

General

The President in the 2019 Presidency Budget Speech (2019) identified the “pattern of operating in silos” as a challenge which led to “to lack of coherence in planning and implementation and has made monitoring and oversight of government’s programme difficult”. The consequence has been non optimal delivery of services and diminished impact on the triple challenges of poverty, inequality and employment.

The President further called for the rolling out of “a new integrated district based approach to addressing our service delivery challenges [and] localise[d] procurement and job creation, that promotes and supports local businesses, and that involves communities...” The President is cognisant of the fact that such an approach will require that “National departments that have district-level delivery capacity together with the provinces ... provide implementation plans in line with priorities identified in the State of the Nation address”.

The Model consists of a process by which joint and collaborative planning is undertaken at local, district and metropolitan by all three spheres of governance resulting in a single strategically focussed One Plan for each of the 44 districts and 8 metropolitan geographic spaces in the country, wherein the district is seen as the ‘landing strip’.

The District Development Model builds on the White Paper on Local Government (1998), which seeks to ensure that “local government is capacitated and transformed to play a developmental role”. The White Paper says developmental local government “is local government committed to working with citizens and groups within the community to find sustainable ways to meet their social, economic and material needs and improve the quality of their lives”.

To which end, developmental local government is seen as having four interrelated characteristics of “maximising social development and economic growth; integrating and coordinating; democratising development; and leading and learning”. In order for local government to advance this, the Constitution calls on “national and provincial governments [to] support and strengthen the capacity of municipalities to manage their own affairs”.

Therefore, the model is a practical Intergovernmental Relations (IGR) mechanism to enable all three spheres of government to work together, with communities and stakeholders, to plan, budget and implement in unison.

In so doing the vexing service delivery challenges can also be turned into local level development opportunities, through localised procurement and job creation which “promotes and supports local businesses, and that involves communities...” This will also require national and provincial departments provide implementation plans and budgets which address local challenges and developmental opportunities whilst aligning with national, regional, continental and global goals and objectives.

The objectives of the District Development Model are to:

- Coordinate a government response to challenges of poverty, unemployment and inequality particularly amongst women, youth and people living with disabilities.
- Ensure inclusivity by gender budgeting based on the needs and aspirations of our people and communities at a local level.
Narrow the distance between people and government by strengthening the coordination role and capacities at the District and City levels.
- Foster a practical intergovernmental relations mechanism to plan, budget and implement jointly in order to provide a coherent government for the people in the Republic; (solve silo's, duplication and fragmentation) maximise impact and align plans and resources at our disposal through the development of “One District, One Plan and One Budget”.
- Build government capacity to support to municipalities.
Strengthen monitoring and evaluation at district and local levels.
Implement a balanced approach towards development between urban and rural areas.
- Exercise oversight over budgets and projects in an accountable and transparent manner.

The District Development Model (DDM) is an operational model for improving Cooperative Governance aimed at building a capable, ethical Developmental State. It embodies an approach by which the three spheres of government and state entities work in unison in an impact-oriented way, and where there is higher performance and accountability for coherent service delivery and development outcomes. It is a method of government operating in unison focusing

on the municipal district and metropolitan spaces as the impact areas of joint planning, budgeting and implementation.

This method refers to all three spheres of government, sector departments and state entities operating like a single unit in relation to achieving developmental objectives and outcomes in these district and metropolitan spaces over a multiyear period and over multi-term electoral cycles.

Although each sphere, sector or entity has its distinct constitutional powers, functions and responsibilities, they cooperate and undertake collaborative planning, budgeting and implementation processes converging efforts at the district/metropolitan level. This joint work is expressed through the formulation and implementation of a “One Plan” which is a long-term strategic framework guiding investment and delivery in each district and metropolitan space. (Sourced from DDM website <https://www.cogta.gov.za/ddm/index.php/about-us/>)

This new DDM model will impact of water services planning and legislation at all levels. It therefore become important that the aspect of the DDM be unpacked and allow alignment to the water services requirements and implications for greater integration to wards a seamless process as envisioned.

Specific

The specific objectives are:

- An unpacking and understanding of the DDM model in context of water services delivery
- Unpacking the alignment to water services planning and legislation
- Providing guidance on alignment of the DDM model to water service process and requirements.
- Alignment of programmes with National and Provincial Governments
- Unpacking if the DDM is an enabler in accelerating service delivery

Expected outcomes and impacts:

- Research report
- Policy recommendations
- Guidelines

Lighthouse:

- Water-Energy-Food Nexus

- Climate Change

Impact Areas:

- Water and the Economy; Water and the Environment; Water and Society

Knowledge Tree

- Sustainable Development Solutions

Time Frame: 2 years

Total Funds Available: R 500 000.00 inclusive of VAT. (2023 - R300k, 2024 -200K)