

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A SOLICITED WRC PROJECT

KEY STRATEGIC AREA	Water Use, Wastewater Resources and Sanitation Futures
THRUST	3. WATER SENSITIVE AND RESILIENT SETTLEMENTS
PROGRAMME	<i>Programme 4: Water services institutional and management programme</i>
TITLE	A study into benchmarking of household and communal sanitation delivery costs in Municipalities

Objectives

- Undertake a detailed analysis of costs associated with delivery of sanitation services projects and programs at a Municipal level.

Background and rationale

Water and sanitation services in municipalities are in serious decline across South Africa and citizens cannot rely on a safe and secure water services in many municipalities. When it comes to sanitation/wastewater the recent green drop trends in, and performance indicators show a very concerning situation where nearly sixty percent of wastewater systems not meeting compliance requirements for a variety of factors and challenges.

Furthermore, growing challenges in many Municipalities due to growth in water demand is putting severe pressure on existing infrastructure (sewers/wwts), as well as water resources. The situation is further compounded by climatic effects and many catchments are reaching their limits in terms of meeting the demands for the growth.

Current programs and interventions at a Municipal level (housing and services) do not factor these constraints in the planning and implementation and the consequences are severe. Further, the lack of resources, both water and capital, many times inhibit the development of new housing schemes, both low and high income. This is because there are no regulations which enable smart water and sanitation solutions which can respond to these constraints. Further the lack of good costing data on existing programs are not easily available to benchmark efficiency, but also benchmark against smart sanitation alternatives. The consequence is many smart sanitation solutions are overlooked due to their perceived costs being too high, both from a capital and operation perspective

Specific objectives

The specific objectives are:

- Develop an understanding and number of household sanitation systems per province and municipality and map against the settlement types (e.g. Chemical toilets, porta-potty, VIPs, Septic tanks, pour flush etc. and any of its derivatives)

- Develop an understanding and number of the communal sanitation systems being deployed other than waterborne sewer systems. (e.g. Chemical toilets, porta-porty, VIPs, Septic tanks, pour flush etc. and any of its derivatives) per province and municipality and map against the settlement types.
- Determine actual technology capital, support and delivery costs associated with the sanitation system implemented. (Per household and per capita)
- Determine actual O&M costs per household and per capita, as well as identifying the pathway and cost of management of human fecal wastes.
- Determine Budget allocations and commitments per year and multi-year forecasts.
- Assess how the municipality provides services and how frequently to these household and communal sanitation systems (survey) Assess who services these systems and the quality of services (survey)

Expected outcomes and impacts:

- Promotion of universal access to safe, equitable and dignified smart sanitation with flush toilets
- Improving public health, environmental protection, and socioeconomic conditions
- Improved performance and professionalisation of water services.
- Increase stream or acceleration of smart sanitation uptake.
- A good database of costs covering Metros, B and C Municipalities linked to reliable data.
- Better understand of costs to facilitate benchmarking and efficiency in spending.

Outputs:

- Inception report clearly demonstrating the requirements of the objectives and outputs.
- Final report covering the scope of work.
- High level position paper.

Outcomes Areas:

- Resilient and adaptive institutions and communities

Time Frame: 4 months

Total Funds Available: R 350 000.00 inclusive of VAT.