

Namibia's Water Situation Insights & Thoughts

Dietrich Remmert: IPPR Research Associate



Institute for Public Policy Research

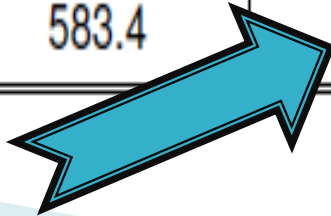


How Serious is the Situation?

- ▶ Namibia is facing a creeping yet increasingly precarious situation of freshwater scarcity
- ▶ Namibia has ca. 600 Mm³ per annum sustainable water resources
- ▶ Estimated demand to outstrip sustainable supply before or by 2025
- ▶ Biggest demand increase estimate: Irrigation, Urban areas & Tourism
- ▶ Current severe water crisis in Windhoek area
- ▶ Erongo's water supply under growing pressure – concerns about costs & pollution

Projected Water Demand

CONSUMER GROUP	DEMAND IN Mm ³ /a				
	2008	2015	2020	2025	2030
Urban	66.0	80.0	91.1	103.5	117.2
Rural Domestic	10.3	10.6	10.9	11.1	11.4
Livestock	86.8	86.8	86.8	86.8	86.8
Irrigation	135.3	204.6	344.6	379.8	497.2
Mining	16.1	17.2	18.1	19.1	20.3
Tourism	19.6	27.5	31.9	35.2	38.9
TOTAL	334.1	426.7	583.4	635.6	771.7



How Did We End up Here?

- ▶ Namibia has a set of ambitious & complex policies, laws & regulations—however many remain fragmented & unimplemented
 - Water Act 2004 & 13 and IWRM Plan
- ▶ Loss of technical expertise & capacity from water sector institutions
 - Staff Loss – MAWF & NamWater
- ▶ Overall lack of investment in capital water infrastructure projects & maintenance backlog
 - N\$ 1,5 / 2 billion WHK by 2023, N\$ 14–24 billion overall (???)



Estimated Funding Gap

COVERAGE TARGETS AND CAPITAL INVESTMENT REQUIREMENTS

SUB-SECTOR	AREA	2006/7 Access (%)	2010 Target (%)	2015 Target (%)	INVESTMENTS (MILLION USD)		
					REQUIREMENTS	AVAILABLE 2008/09	GAP
Water	Rural	80	85	90	74	9,6	64,4
	Urban	98	99	100	29	1,0	28,0
	Total	86	91	96	103	10,6	92,4
Sanitation	Rural	25	30	65	30	0,1	29,9
	Urban	76	95	98	260	2,1	257,9
	Total	51	62	85	290	2,2	287,8

USD 287,8 Million

(2010)

What Can We do About It?

- ▶ Enact Water Act 2013 & Approve IWRM Plan
- ▶ Establish Water Advisory Council, Water Regulator & Basin Committees
- ▶ Realistically explore finance options & PPPs
- ▶ Make provisions for & Fast-track financing for planned & costed projects
- ▶ Planning Water Resource Management needs to become transparent & holistic
 - Decentralisation? Green Scheme? PPPs?
- ▶ Emphasis Water Demand Management over Water Supply



Thank You!