Seminar for the CMA Boards (project in South Africa)

Content
These days, South Africa is changing towards a sustainable management of water sources. Its objective is improvement of the socio-economic position by means of a more fair allocation of the water usage and access for everyone. The framework for future water resource management is the National Water Act. One of the elements of the National Water Act is restructuring the water institutions. This means decentralization from the central government to a regional government and the establishment of nineteen Catchment Management Agencies (CMAs).
This project focuses on capacity building in order to empower the new CMAs. To meet the requirements of good governance and proper management, the need for a board and management program for the first two CMAs was proven.

Proposal
World Water Academy was requested to design a program tailored to the CMA board and staff. World Water Academy suggested to develop a seminar for the CMA board members and their stakeholders. This seminar contributed to broader knowledge, an appropriate attitude of their stakeholders and governing skills. The main subjects were vision and mission development on integrated water resource management in practical cooperative governance planning and control cycle. The seminar was specified on the local situation of the two CMAs.

Realization
The development of the seminars took place in South Africa and were delivered right before the seminar, this to be ascertained of a tailor-made program. The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) cooperated by making logistic arrangements. The seminar consisted of four sessions, all with a different theme. According to the World Water Academy concept, the trainers and lecturers were professionals of two Dutch water boards in addition to South African water professionals. Various teaching methods were applied like lectures, role plays, group discussions, presentations and excursions. The results of the seminars (like focus on stakeholders, identity of the board) were integrated in a business plan. The result of the evaluation; governors and staff were all positively surprised with these seminar series.

Location:
Cape Town

Period:
2007-2008

Partners:
Logo South project team of VNG International (NL – *financer*)

Dutch Union of Water boards (NL), Waterschap Groot-Salland (NL) Wetterskip Fryslan (NL), Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (ZA), Breede-Overberg CMA (ZA) & Inkomati CMA (ZA).

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