Air Quality Management Awareness and Capacity Building Programme

Session 6.1

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Presentation Outline...

• Background
• Purpose
• Objectives
• Identified focus areas
• Implementation Phases
• Coordination and collaboration
• Monitoring, evaluation and reporting
• Review of the programme
• Conclusions
• Wayforward
Background

- Government has been involved in awareness and capacity building initiatives since the implementation of the AQA;
  - Uncoordinated initiatives – no plan in place
  - Inefficient implementation of the activities and lack of feedback on the activities
  - Adhoc/ project driven training initiatives
Background

• During the consultations with the stakeholders, it has come to light that there is:
  – Lack of awareness and education in communities on AQ issues
  – Limited formal training available,
  – Limited of collaboration between government, universities and other research institutions
  – The lack of a forum for sharing of published local research work on air quality;
  – Limited number of trained individuals in air quality management,
  – Limited publications designed to provide information on local air quality issues.
Background

• There is a need to enhance awareness and capacity building initiatives at all three spheres of government, organisational, at individual levels; and in the community;
• DEA is now developing a five year awareness and capacity building programme
Purpose

• The purpose of this programme is to provide a guide to raise awareness in air quality matters

• To serve as a five year framework for government to build capacity in Air Quality Management
Objectives of the programme

• Awareness
  – Encourage the dissemination and exchange of accurate and relevant AQ information
  – Ensure that AQ information is readily and easily available through different platforms;
  – To create awareness and facilitate the education and training of communities with a view for enhancing their participation in AQ matters;
  – Improve the level of coordination and communication between government and affected stakeholders;
Objectives of the programme

• **Capacity Building**
  – To assist in strengthening the capacity of AQOs by facilitating the development of their technical skills and competencies;
  – To facilitate the building of capacity through short courses and identified on-going programmes e.g. seminars, etc;
  – Support the development AQM education materials for use in different levels of education
  – To establish, maintain and strengthen mechanisms for facilitating networking and partnerships with academic institutions, research institutions;
  – To facilitate on-going AQM research to inform policy decision making.
Key focus areas of the programme

- Institutional capacity building
- Professional development and training programmes
- Learning support materials
- Networking and partnerships
- On-going research
- Awareness
- Media and public education
Key Focus Area (1)

Objective: Developing the technical skills and competencies

• Institutional capacity building
  – Mentoring and Peer Learning
  – Public Meetings /Forums/ Workshops
  – Consultancy and Technical Support (Hands-on- Support)
  – Establishment of operational tools and systems
Key Focus Area (2)

Objective: Developing the technical skills and competencies

• Professional development and training programmes
  – Benchmarking and Study Tours
  – Employee Exchange Programmes.
  – Informal Skills Programmes/ On-job training
  – Formal Skills Programmes (SETA programme)
  – Internship and Learnership
Key Focus Area (3)

Objective: To support the development of AQM education materials to be used at different levels of education

- Learning support materials
  - Online library for students
  - Learners/teachers guides
  - Input to the curriculum
Key Focus Area (4)

Objective: Enhancing partnerships, cooperation and networking between Universities, and other research institutions

• Networking and Partnerships
  – Research institutions
  – Intergovernmental forums
  – Academic institutions
  – NGOs and CBOs
Key Focus Area (5)

Objectives: To facilitate the on-going research to inform policy decision-making
To encourage sharing of experiences and information

• On-going Air Quality Research (Research Strategy)
  – Identification of priority areas of research
  – Development of the research programmes
  – Research forums and seminars
  – Publication of research findings
Key Focus Area (7)

Objective: Improve the knowledge and increase the level of awareness on air quality issues

• Media and public education
  – Development and distribution of information materials
  – Engage with environmental journalists
  – Distribution of information through print and broadcast media
Implementation Phases

• This programme will be implemented in five phases
• Implementation plan to be developed
Coordination and Collaboration

• DEA will facilitate the implementation of the programme in collaboration with
  – All spheres of government
  – Research institutions
  – Academic institutions
  – NGOs, CBOs and other affected stakeholder
Monitoring and reporting

- Reporting templates will be developed
- Closure report after every phase of this programme has been successfully implemented
Review of the programme

- The programme will be reviewed in five years to share experiences and lesson learned, however the implementation plan for this programme will be review when the need arises.
Conclusion

• DEA cannot address the awareness and capacity building challenges alone, hence encourages everyone to be involved;

• The programme is intended to serve as a guide for all spheres of government to respond to awareness and capacity building challenges;

• DEA will continue to support all stakeholders with awareness and capacity building initiatives, where necessary
Way forward

• This plan will be refined with the WGII
  – Outline five phases for the programme based on priority requirements
  – Implementation plan for the next five years to be developed
  – Implementation of phase I of the programme in the 2014/15 financial year
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