











Water Transfer Enabling Sustainability





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Bulk water transfer infrastructure is required for achieving:

Government Outcomes

- Efficient, competitive and responsive economic infrastructure network
- Environmental assets and natural resources that are well protected and continually enhanced

Department of Water and Sanitation Priorities

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- Contribute to Economic growth, rural development, food security and land reform
- Promote sustainable and equitable water resource management

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Government is tasked with the delivery of water and water dependant services under the growing risk of political volatility - manifesting in service delivery protests, failing infrastructure, declining water resource quality and growing water demand

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TCTA: Enabling Water Transfer

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TCTA projects impact on ecosystems that :

- Deliver essential environmental resources and services
- Are significant to a diversity of cultures
- Provide people with livelihoods

Sustainability requirements become loan conditions to ensure that Lender sustainability commitments are upheld.

Water availability enables Water Off-takers to operate and deliver on their commitments (including the supply of potable water, sanitation and power)



National Water Resource Infrastructure



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What is water transfer ?







Dams & associated infrastructure

















Pipelines & associated infrastructure













Project Scale Impact











Environmental Assessment:

- Biophysical and Social Impact assessment
- Project Level and Scale
- Specialist studies consider environmental sensitivity
- General consideration of development activities
- Specific focus on listed activities
- Sound public participation

Outcomes:

- Input into EA conditions
- An approved EMP for implementation
- Limited Impact Potential (Negative & Positive)

Challenges:

• Predictive interpretation without a mechanism for retrospective evaluation

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Limited developer representation

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• EMP and EA requirements which are often not objectives driven

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- Implementation challenges
- Compliance focus



Broader Impacts – Positive









Positive changes resulting from water transfer:

- Increased agricultural potential through irrigation
- Economic Growth
- Water and sanitation availability
- Electricity
- Industrial stability
- Employment opportunities
- Improved potential for political and social stability



Broader Impacts - Negative













Negative Changes resulting from water transfer:

- Mining of non-renewable resources
- Habitat destruction
- Reduced agricultural potential of land
- Aesthetic Impacts
- Air Quality Impacts
- Dirty energy generation
- Industrialisation

Environmental Requirements for mitigation

 Mining of non-renewable resources for the generation of dirty energy has been made more palatable through the imposing of air quality improvement measures such as Flue Gas Desulphurisation (FGD)



Mitigation Impacts?













Are strict environmental requirements a victory?

- Water cost of FGD in our arid region?
- An "unintended" impact of "cleaner" energy
- What is the real cost of water?
- Who uses energy being produced?
- Are these the driver of the pollution?
- What is the energy used for?
- Is the polluter prepared to pay the real cost of water & energy?





Sustainable Development











Sustainability is only achievable through sustainable development.



Sustainable Development is the selecting and implementing development options which allows for the achievement of appropriate and justifiable economic and social goals without compromising the natural system

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Sustainability Elements and Drivers





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EAP's role in realising sustainability?



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Find and Build Enabling Relationships











- Openness and less "independence"
- Identifying partners and clients
- The role of environmental representatives in the various phases of the proposed developments
- Get involved before and beyond EIA for true influence over options.
- Work with the Developer and use technical expertise
- Engage a new breed of EIA specialist Design Engineers

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Integrate



Know your tools and mechanisms











- Sound impact mapping
- Use of broader planning tools
- Understand co-ordination tools (SIP)
- Develop an understanding of the contractual mechanisms that can make objectives binding
- Understand what you require and how it



Up your Standards







- Compliance driven work is less effective
- Self evaluation even if not paid for it
- Alignment with good practice standards
- Adopt an objectives based approach with clear indicators
- Consider the consequences of your recommendations and their impact potential
- Challenge what may be harmful even if it is law ... what amendments and exemptions are for ?



















Thank you

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