

Water management in South Africa

Presentation to ANBO

5 March 2007

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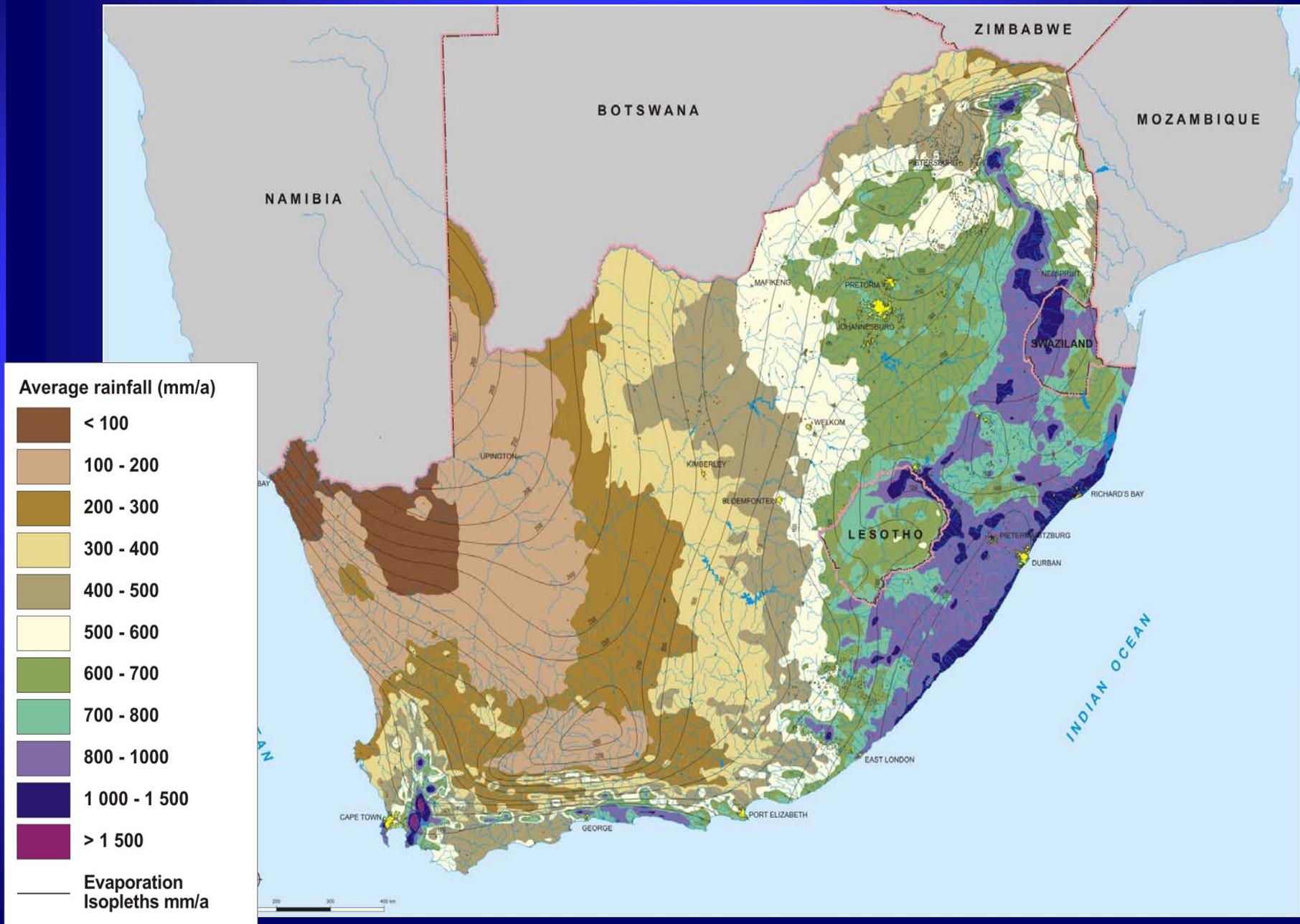
- South African water context
- Service delivery in water and sanitation
- Relevant policies currently in place
- Key challenges/ programmes



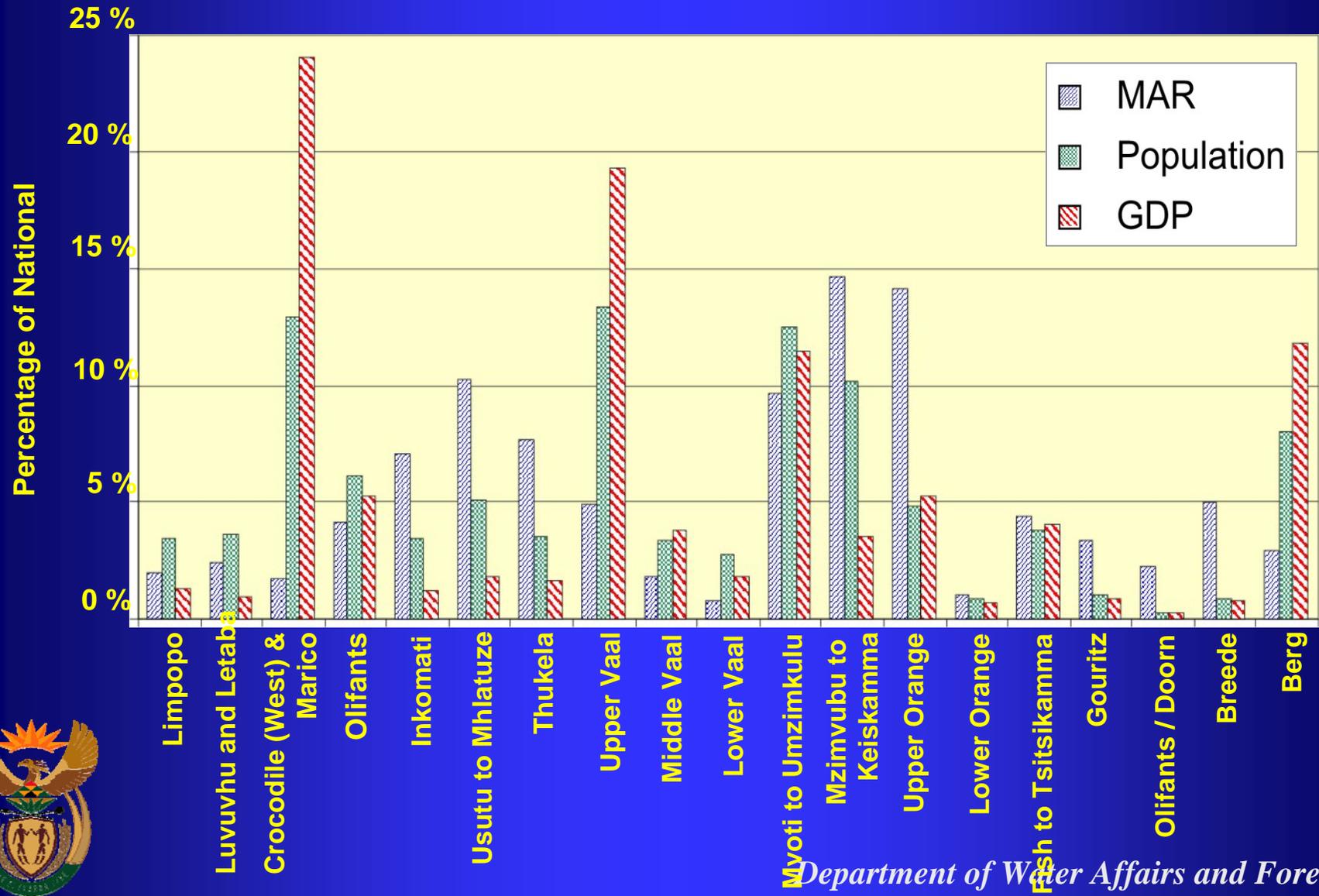
International Rivers shared by South Africa



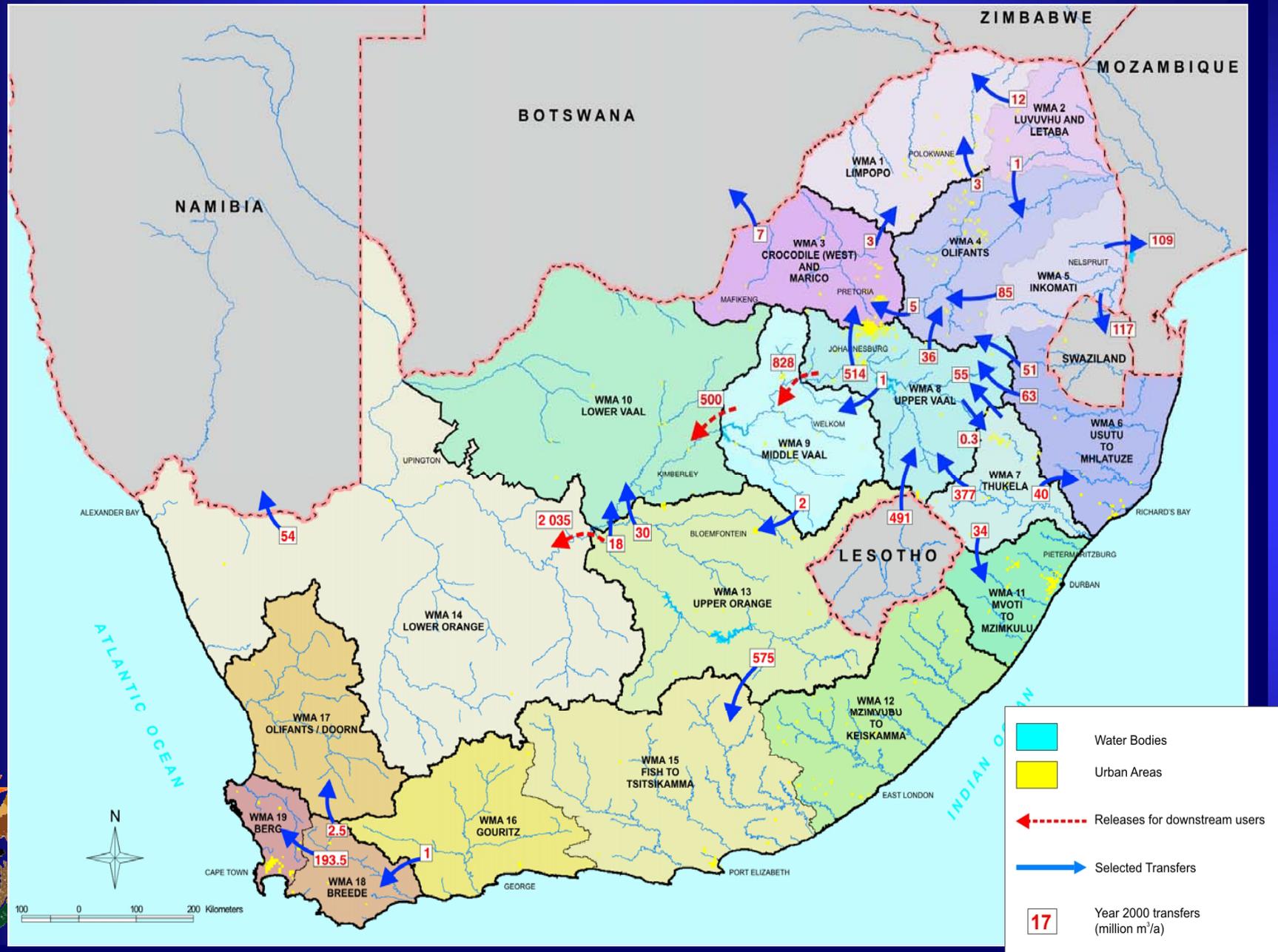
National Rainfall and Evaporation



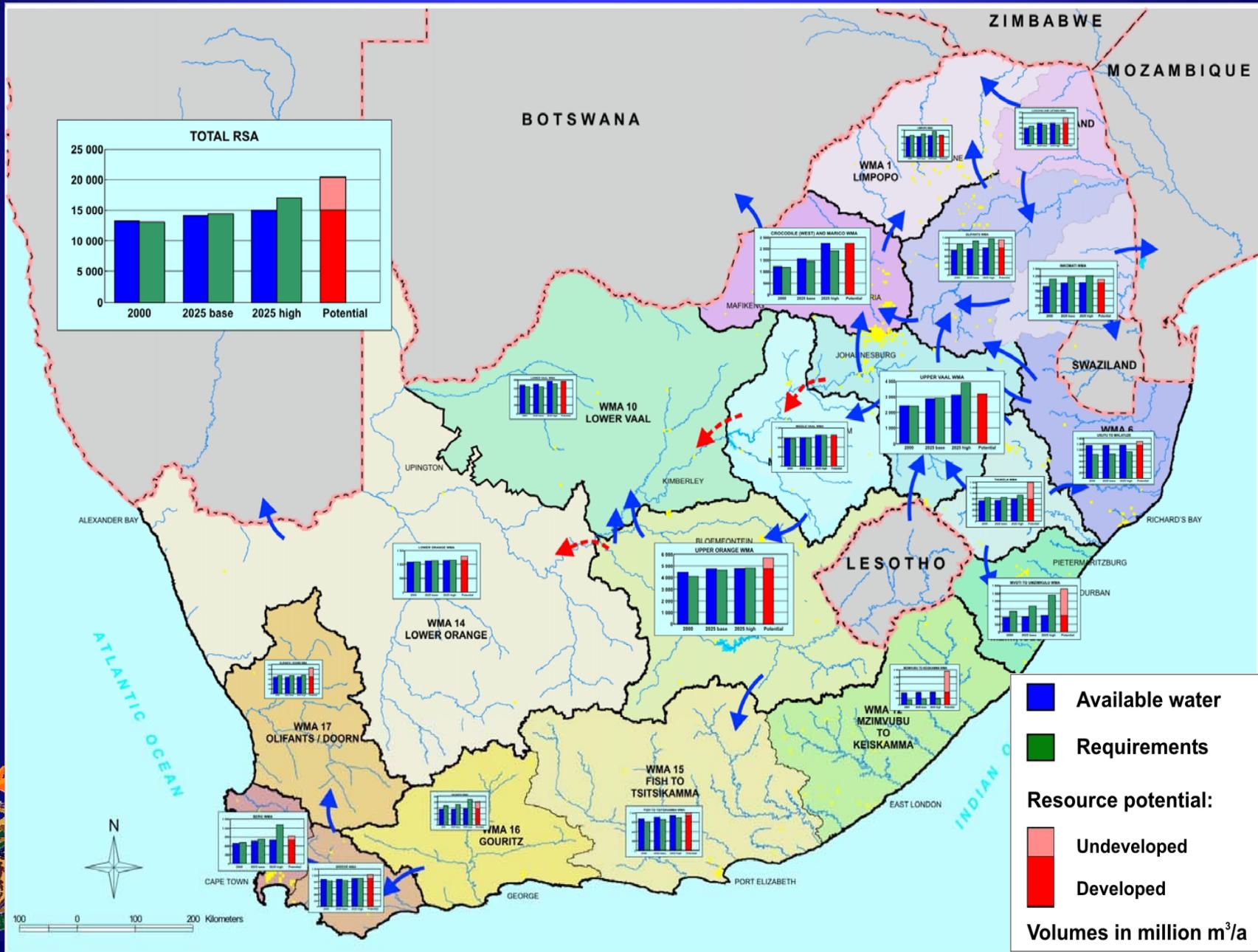
Comparison of mean annual runoff, population and economic activity



Water Management Areas and Main Water Transfers



Water reconciliation scenarios (2025)



Wealth and poverty

- 40% of population are poor
- Very high Gini co-efficient
- Rural households and female headed rural households are particularly poor
- Increasing number of child headed households
- Small minority earn most of the wealth of the country



Legal basis of South African water management



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Legal basis of water management in SA

- Constitution (1996)
 - Right of access to sufficient water
 - Right to environment not harmful to health or wellbeing
 - Ecologically sustainable development and justifiable social and economic development
- White Paper on a National Water Policy for SA (1997)
- National Water Act (1998)
 - legal framework under which the nation's water resources are protected, developed, managed, etc
 - three key principles: equity, efficiency and sustainability
 - time limited allocations
 - integrated water management
 - establishment of catchment management agencies
 - Reserve –water for aquatic ecosystems and basic needs
 - Recognition of international allocations



Legal basis of water management in SA

- Strategic Framework for Water Services (2003)
- Water Services Act (1997)
 - under revision
 - legal framework for provision of potable water supply
 - enables setting of national norms and standards, regulations etc
 - requires Water Services Authorities (municipalities) to consider public delivery option first
- SADC protocol on shared water courses



Service delivery in water and sanitation

- Constitutional responsibility of local government (declared Water Services Authorities)
- National government has oversight and support role and driving implementation on certain programmes
- Focus on provision of basic services to all and maintenance of services currently in place
- Provision of free basic water
- Water ladder approach



Service delivery in water and sanitation

- In 1994 (estimated):
 - 12-14 million people did not have access to safe drinking water
 - 20 million people did not have access to adequate sanitation
- Major campaign put in place to provide water and sanitation



Service delivery in water and sanitation

- Eradication of buckets by end 2007
- Water and sanitation to all clinics by end 2007
- Provision of water and sanitation to all schools asap
- Safe drinking water to all by end 2008
- Adequate sanitation to all by end 2010
- Operation Gijima
Project consolidate



Service delivery in water and sanitation

- **Latest Estimated Backlog**
 - Basic Water Supply 7.6 million people (1.95 million households)
 - Basic Sanitation 15,0 million people (3,7 million households)
 - Bucket Eradication 570 400 people (142 600 households)



Key challenges/programmes

- Using access to water to
 - stimulate black economic empowerment
 - empowerment of women
 - poverty eradication and equitable economic growth
- Race and gender redress in access to water
 - Water Allocation Reform programme
- Major infrastructure programmes (water services and water resources)
 - Meeting targets (water = 2008; sanitation = 2010)
 - New infrastructure (national and local)
 - Refurbishment of aging infrastructure (water resources and water services)
 - Asset management (water resources and water services)



Key challenges/programmes

- Enhanced interaction with riparian and SADC states
- Water conservation and demand management
- Resource protection
 - Classification of water resources and implementing reserve determinations
 - Water pollution control and management including
 - implementation of waste discharge charging strategy (polluter pays principle)
 - Enforcement and compliance



• Training and capacity building

Key challenges/programmes

- Continued clearing of invasive alien species
- Use of state dams and surrounding land for development purposes eg aquaculture
- Sustainable groundwater management
- Establishment of:
 - National Water Resources Infrastructure Agency
 - Catchment Management Agencies
 - Reform of water services providers



• Dealing with global climate change

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