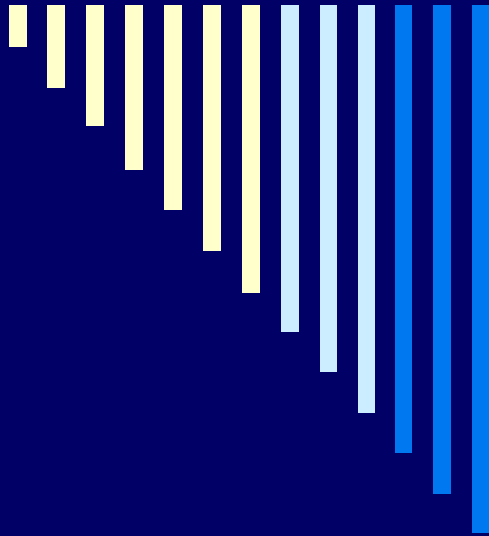


Catchment Forum

Why the need?



**Presented by Sylvia Machimana
Inkomati CMA**



Forum?

- To come together as stakeholders in the Komati catchment
 - The NWA recognises the need for integrated management of all aspects of water resources
 - Catchment Forums have been and are being used extensively by ICMA to involve stakeholders in decisions about water resource management
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Forum? – cont'd

- These Forums have now become important bodies representing stakeholders in the establishment of CMA's and
 - Envisaged to play an important/active role in assisting these CMA's after their establishment
 - Catchment Forums are very important in the development of strategies to address local priority water related/WRM issues
 - Provides means to facilitate the co-ordination and or the integration of WRM with **spatial planning** and land use management
 - Forum as an institution to build capacity
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Summary/roles

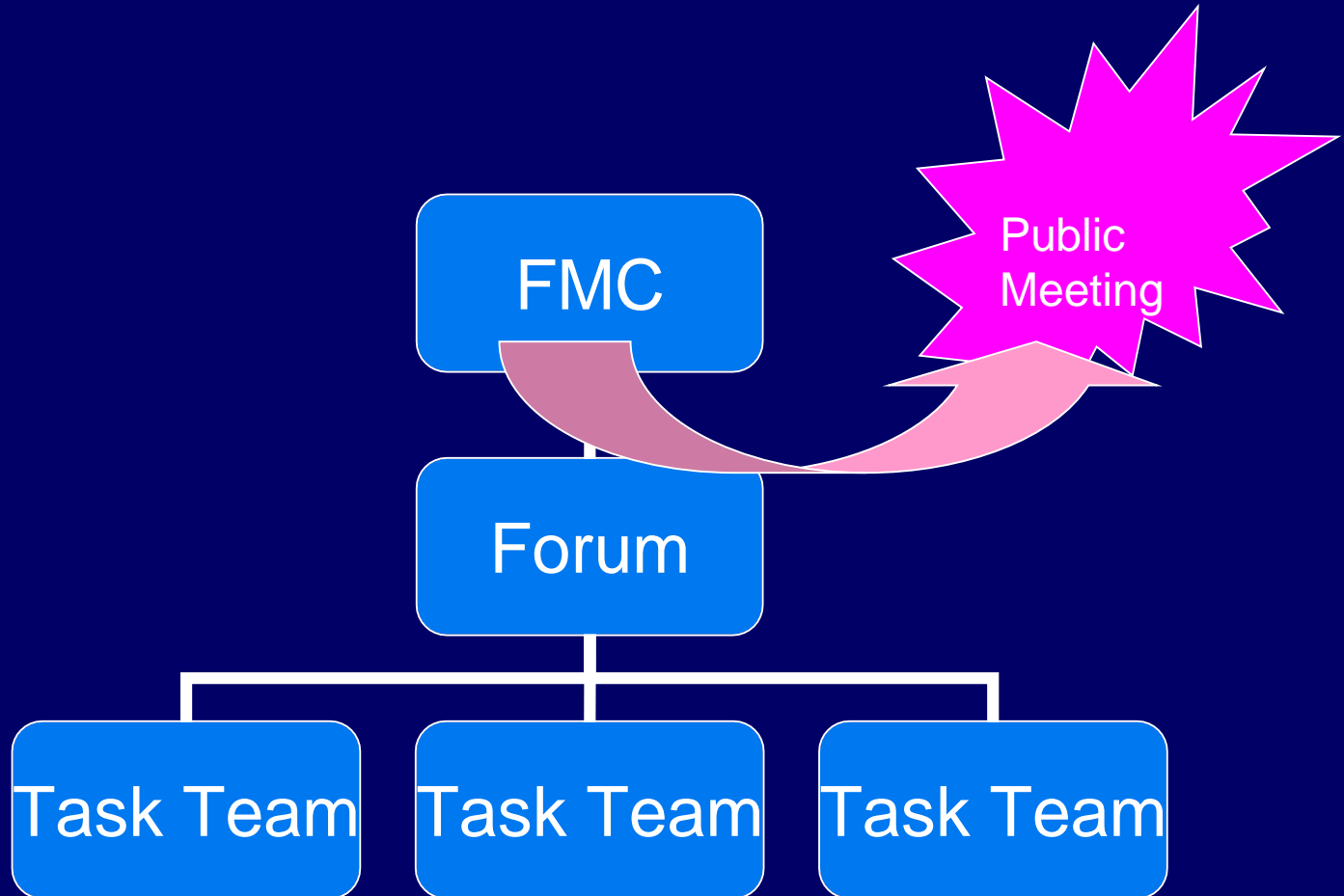
- To facilitate stakeholder consultation and participation around the establishment & functioning of the CMA & to support the development & implementation of CMS
 - To develop capacity in the WMA prior to CMA and consolidation period
 - To promote integrated planning and cooperative WRM between role players, CMA & other organs of state
 - To support the WRM operation of the CMA, by performing activities and implementing projects under the auspices of the CMS
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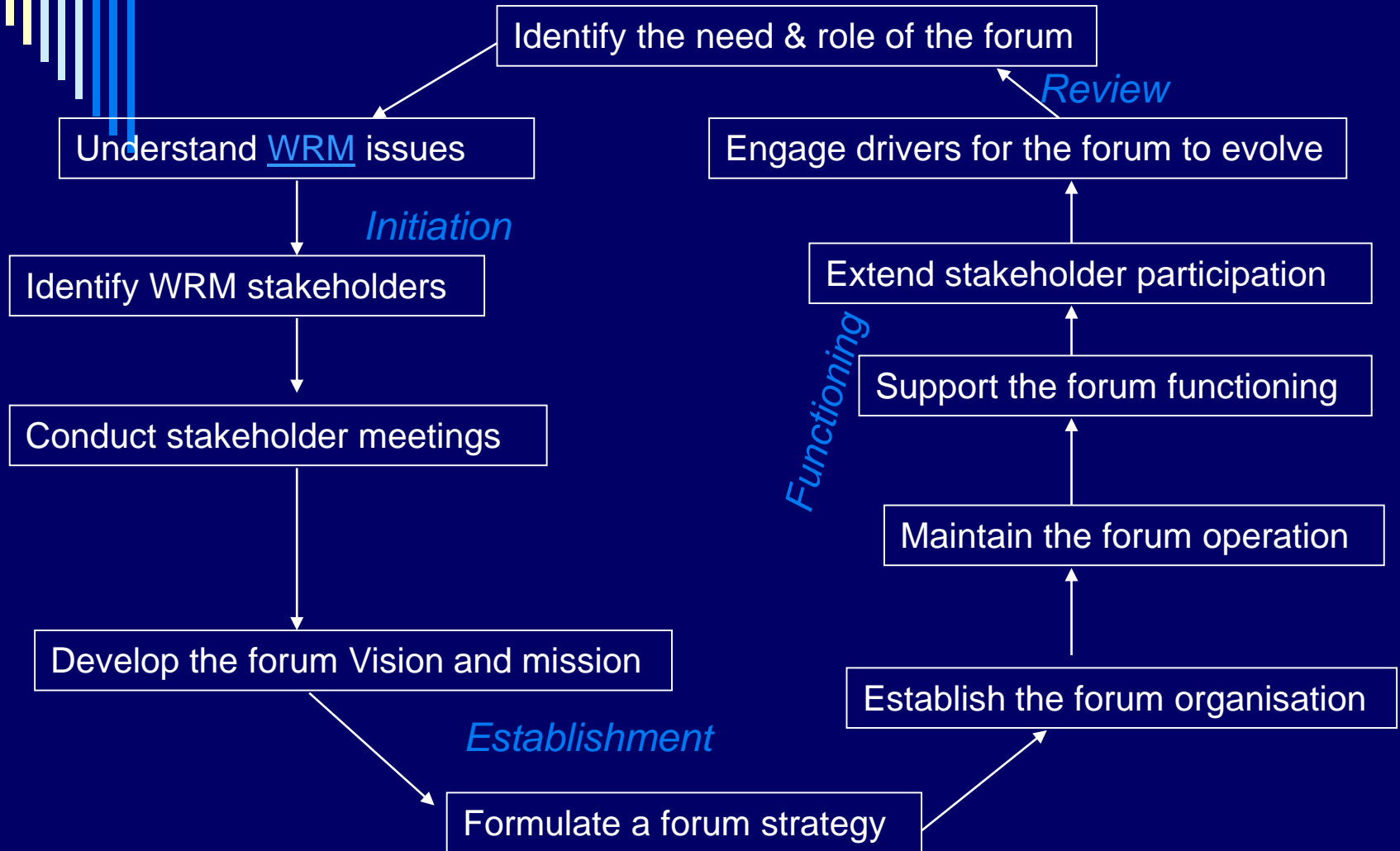
Character of a catchment Forum

- Be stakeholder consultative (participatory) body
 - Represent multiple viewpoints that are water related
 - Exist to enable stakeholders to participate to achieve agreed objectives
 - Apolitical/non-political
 - Not a pressure group*
 - ** Might however be used to enforce legislation (in the interest of the public/stakeholders)*
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TYPICAL FORUM STRUCTURE



Process of establishment & management





Need for a catchment forum

With the introduction of integrated water resource management (IWRM), the NWA requires a paradigm shift in the way water resources are managed. In particular, this requires:

- *Equity, sustainability and optimal use* in the protection, development and utilisation of water resources, as well as the institutions that are established for water resources management.
 - *Decentralisation* of decision making through the establishment of catchment based institutions (particularly CMAs), based on a *participatory* approach to water resources management through the involvement of stakeholders.
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Need for a catchment forum

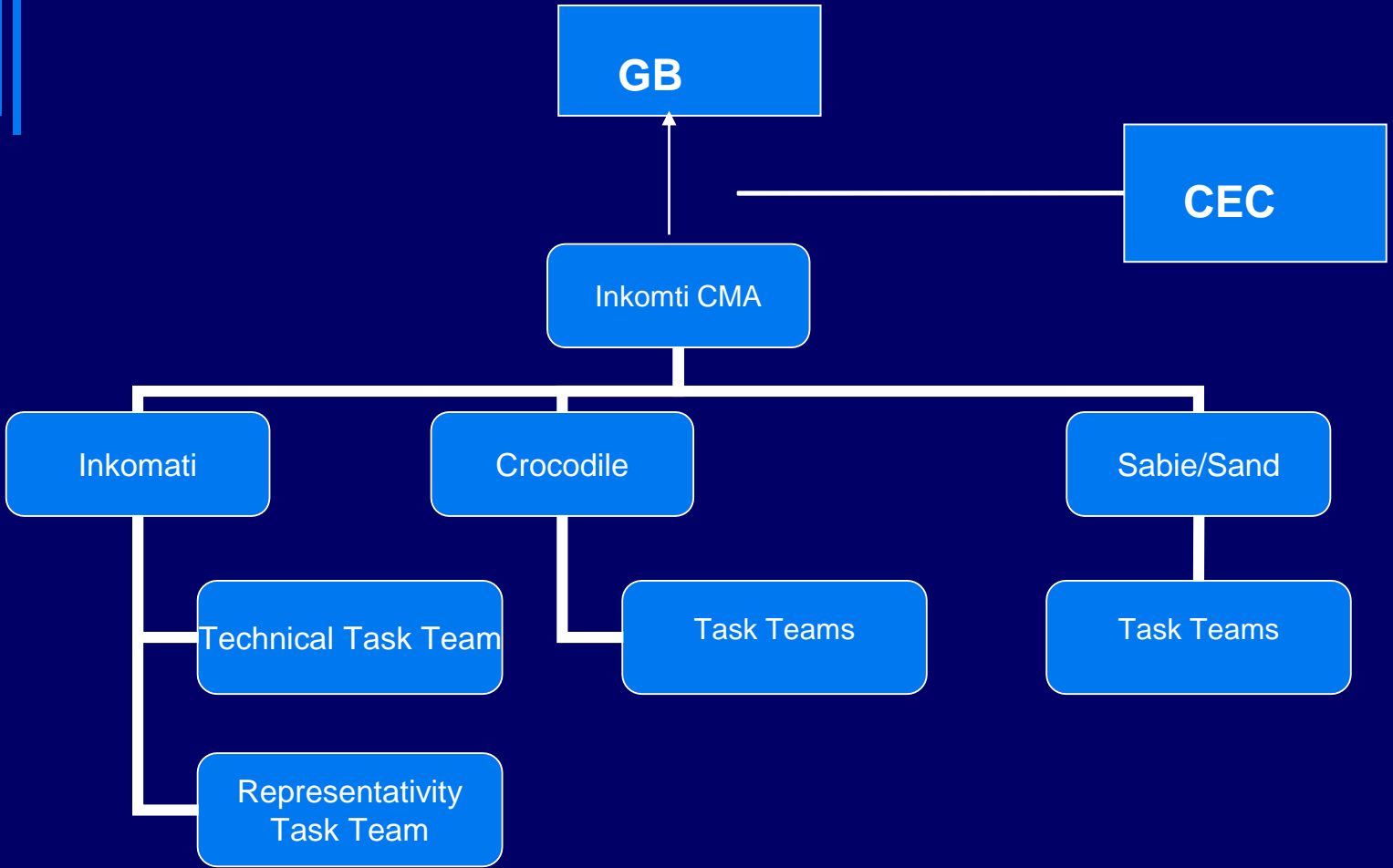
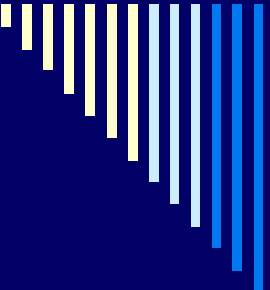
Catchment forums provide the most suitable body to facilitate stakeholder participation in the formulation of a catchment vision, determination of the RDM and the development of a CMS, thereby creating buy-in with the strategies to be implemented. CMAs should therefore make every effort (and may even have an obligation) to drive and/or support the creation and maintenance of catchment forums, in order to give effect to the purpose of the NWA in terms of public participation. In fact catchment forums should be seen as an integral component of the institutional environment of a CMA, and should play a key role in facilitating stakeholder participation during the establishment of the CMA.

Catchment forums should support IWRM. Therefore, although they may be oriented to addressing particular priority WRM issues within a catchment area, this should be done in an holistic and integrated manner, rather than being sectorally and/or discipline based.



The forum

Hence catchment forums are organisations that are essentially *interactive* and *multistakeholder*, with a primary focus on matters pertaining to the protection, use and management of water resources in a catchment. They should enable the public (anyone) to participate meaningfully in water resources management.

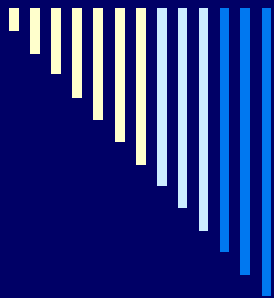




WUA?

□ Water User Associations (WUAs) are statutory bodies established by the Minister of Water Affairs & Forestry under **Section 92** of the NWA. They provide the opportunity for water users (authorised under the NWA) to pool their resources in order to perform collective activities, which are generally related to the management of water resources schemes.

□ However, they must also fulfill the fairly comprehensive requirements for a Constitution, business plan and management arrangements specified in the NWA. A WUA is accountable to its members (the water users) and the Minister. This differs from a catchment forum, which is primarily accountable to all stakeholders (whether water users or not) that wish to participate in WRM.



AMALGAMATION OF INKOMATI CMA AND USUTHU CMA

- ❑ An interim Regional Steering Committee (RSC) was established in mid 2012 (made up of DWA HO, DWA RO MP, DWA RO KZN and ICMA)
- ❑ Stakeholders were incorporated on the meeting of 12 Feb 2013 which made the RSC to be permanent
- ❑ All forums in the Inkomati WMA and Usuthu forum are represented
- ❑ Take note that the Inkomati-Usuthu is on top of the list of the NSC



THANK YOU
