

# UMGENI WATER ANNUAL REPORT 2009

**U**mgeni Water presented its Annual Report on 22 October 2009.

The revenue grew by R204 million to R1 289 million from 2007 to 2008 /2009. This growth in revenue stems from the 3% increase in potable water and the 3% tariff increase to municipalities. The secondary activities which raked in R128 million helped to reduce tariffs.

The increase in operating costs were due to the significant increases in chemical, energy and maintenance costs. The positive cash flow allowed the Board to finance Capital Infrastructure Programmes whilst reducing debt at gearing levels. The total interest bearing borrowings have reduced by R100 million in 2009. The surplus of R527 million will be used for debt reduction, capital infrastructure investment and to ensure that the bulk water tariff is kept affordable.

## PROJECTS

The Ngcebo Bulk Supply Scheme serving 16000 people in maphumulo ; Honolulu Pipeline from eThekweni to KwaDukuza; the Northern Aqueduct Booster Pump Station and the Western Aqueduct to improve water supply to eThekweni; the D.V harris to World's View Pipeline to supply the Western Aqueduct at Umlaas Road.

## COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY

Sanitation for 47 schools was provided; eight historically disadvantaged schools were renovated and seven schools received water; in UMgungundlovu, 6300 homes were provided with sanitation; Fifty people – mainly women and youth were trained as community health workers in areas where Umgeni Water implemented sanitation projects; Fifty Grade 11 learners visited Umgeni Water's water treatment centre – many from rural areas, a reflection of Umgeni Water's commitment to drawing rural youth into the mainstream of its community outreach activities.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Being mindful of climate change and the potential threat to water supply, Umgeni Water has teamed with University of Kwa Zulu-Natal to research and explore the future water supply and related matters.

It is pleasing to note the excellent work done by Umgeni Water and other such water suppliers can only learn and benefit from this organization. We at Umvoti Light / Ukukhanyakomvoti wish the new Board members every success.

