



**National Stakeholder
Consultations on Water:
Supporting the Post-2015
Development Agenda**

Tanzania

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Country Consultation Report on Water in the Post-2015 Development Agenda

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Prepared by: Mr Sylvand M Kamugisha

1.0 Introduction

The period for Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) targets are expected to end by 2015, making the UN through the UN Task Team to start preparing a post - 2015 agenda in consultation with stakeholders at different levels globally, regionally and nationally to contribute to future Sustainable Development Goals. Water is one of the eleven Global Thematic Consultations. For more specific inputs and discussion on water, the Water Consultation has been divided into three sub- streams: Water Resources Management (WRM), Water Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) and Wastewater Management and Water Quality (WM/WQ).

2.0 Objective

The objective of this consultation is to bring together a broad range of stakeholders, to review progress on the MDGs and to discuss future challenges and priorities in a new (post 2015) development framework.

The consultation in Tanzania has been facilitated by Global Water Partnership Southern Africa and Tanzania Country Water Partnership. The consultation was held on 26th and 27th March in Dar es Salaam and attended by stakeholders from different water related sectors in the government and beyond. The consultation was officially opened by the Permanent Secretary (PS) and the speech which was delivered by The Director of Water Resources in the Ministry of Water. The PS emphasized the importance of excellent plans in water resources in order to contribute towards poverty eradication, increased food security, and protection of the environment and their ecosystems.

3.0 Importance of water in national development

Water is very important for national socio-economic development, sustaining ecosystem health and the livelihoods of the people. Tanzania has abundant water resources in terms of rivers, lakes, wetlands and aquifers; however, its availability (in space and time) is not evenly distributed. Of late, Tanzania has experienced frequent and severe water shortages resulting in serious water use conflicts. An example is in Great Ruaha Catchment, where the second largest National Park in Africa and the largest water reservoir for electric power production are downstream of the irrigators and the portion of the river dries up during dry season because of upstream uses. The threat to biodiversity in the area is a threat to tourism which contributes to the economic development of the country. The importance of water and energy linkage may be explained by the indication that the installed Hydropower system (amounting to 561 MW) was producing 73% of the total power generation in the country by 2010. A report by S Noel, 2010; on Water Resources – Economics of Climate Change, quoted a World Bank report stating that power rationing in Tanzania was “causing huge losses” in a number of sectors costing the economy at \$ 1.7 million per day. This provides an indication on how important water is in the electric power sector.

Tanzania also shares a number of international lakes and rivers, which amounts to eleven sources within neighbouring countries. The country has entered a number of treaties, agreements and memorandum of understandings to safe guard the national interest.

In budget consideration, the water sector allocation is low compared to other sectors. Referring to Citizens' Budget edition issued by the Ministry of Finance in collaboration with Policy Forum for financial year 2012/2013 water sector allocation was 5%, while other water related sectors like energy, agriculture and health got 26.3%, 19.1% and 10% respectively of the total budget.

The country has a National Water Sector Development Strategy 2006 – 2015 which is a tool aimed at addressing water sector challenges in achieving National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (NSGRP) targets by 2015 and MDGs by 2015 and Vision 2025. Also, the development of the agricultural sector has the highest priority in meeting NSGRP targets and MDGs. Hence investing in improving the infrastructures and water management associated with irrigation in the 2.3 million hectares classified as potentially high, ensure increased production and income to farmers. At present most of the industries are served through urban water supplies system, however, with the expanding demand industries are now sourcing private sources, groundwater in particular.

Furthermore, the National Water Board which comprises of stakeholders from different sectors has been established to integrate inter-sectoral planning, coordinate basin planning and management, resolve inter-sectoral / inter-basin conflicts and determine investment priorities and financing patterns as provided by the water resource management act no.11 of 2009.

4.0 Key national priorities for the sustainable development of water

This brief report summarizes the views of the participants on key priorities for water resources management, wastewater and water quality as well as water, sanitation and hygiene, which were made and prioritized through groups and panel discussions. However, on suggesting areas for future sustainable development targets for water, it was seen to be too early for participants to suggest any meaningful target, but, status of the present targets are provided.

4.1 Water Resource Management priorities

Key priorities for sustainable development identified in the water resource management sub-consultation include:

- The *coordination, integration and communication* on the water, food, and energy nexus is necessary so as to ensure food security, energy security and environmental protection. Water governance issues like appropriate policies, administrative versus hydrological boundaries, participation of stakeholders and competition among stakeholders/sectors that call for cross-sectoral engagement need to be better understood and applied; following an integrated approach and planning for multiple use, infrastructure to serve both energy and food demands is still needed; the need for cross – sectoral engagement is also evident from the inadequate variety and number of relevant sectors engaged in the basin IWRM plans;
- The availability of *water storage structures* (rainwater harvesting infrastructure and small dams for example) and improved water efficient irrigation infrastructure ensures sustainable water for domestic and

productive uses for a longer periods; protection from contamination (for example by livestock) of the stored resource is also important;

- Increased funding of water resources management is urgently needed as WRM is usually under budgeted in national budget allocation systems and the water user fees system is inadequate, thus it is currently under review to enhance basin institution revenues;
- *Watershed management*: the rate of encroachment of water sources (surface and groundwater) in most of the basins is on the increase, calling for a holistic approach in conserving land and water resources in an integrated way. Participants believed that better use could be made of land use plans towards reducing conflicts among different stakeholders;
- Strengthening *groundwater management* aspects: due to increased pressure on surface water in most of the basins, users have turned to groundwater as an alternative source. There was a call for *managing aquifers and groundwater quality* threats. Uncontrolled groundwater abstraction may lead the country into problems of irreparable damage once it happens. Presently, the country has *limited information on groundwater status*;
- *Transboundary water resources management*: the enormous resources in shared international waters, call for proper cooperation among the riparian states especially for peace, food and energy security. Follow up and implementation of agreements, treaties and memoranda of understanding will ensure a more secure and productive future; the country has 11 rivers and lakes and 5 aquifer systems, which are transboundary; Tanzania has focused primarily on the 9 basins within the country and the international dimension needs to be better catered for in water resource management and planning, in relation also to the broader economic development imperatives for the country and the region;
- Mainstreaming *climate change adaptation* and resilience building in all water related initiatives; the impact of climate change and variability is evident in Tanzania, for example the recent droughts and floods, calling for a need to develop appropriate adaptation and coping strategies for the future. The prevention web indicates Tanzania reported 26 flood events since 1980 to 2010 with economic damages amounting to 3,790 (US\$ x 1000). Capacity to develop and implement these is essential;
- Enabling policy and legislative environment for good governance and sustainable management are well established, however, its *implementation* is lagging behind. There is a need to speed up implementation of the Water Resources Management Act of 2009. In particular, to establish catchment institutions (catchment committees and water user associations) at the lower levels for effective water resources management in the basin. More dedicated attention and resources towards this will be a significant move towards sustainable management of the resource in Tanzania;
- Environmental management and water resource management laws provide for allocating enough water for the environment. The critically important issue is how much does the environment need? Determining this and how to implement it is a challenge. Support in the implementation of this legal requirement will ensure a future sustainable and healthy ecosystem, which provides a substantial number of services to support

human livelihoods; Effective implementation of EIAs and enforcement is inadequate and was identified as a priority issue given the risks caused by un-monitored, planned developments.

- Capacity building in IWRM at various levels is a priority. Strengthening the capacity of beneficiary organizations, relevant institutions and implementers of water related initiatives and other relevant stakeholders and institutions is needed so that these institutions and stakeholders can achieve their intended objectives in the sector.

4.2 Key WASH priorities

In ensuring everyone has access to safe and sustainable drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services the following were identified as key priorities:

- Availability of **financial resources**: opportunities for financing the WASH initiatives are still limited particularly on sanitation and hygiene aspects. Appropriate financial strategies are needed;
- Appropriate environment friendly technologies and adequate consideration of cultural and spiritual concerns are needed
- More **research for development** to improve delivery on WASH (availability, accessibility, affordability etc) and this includes better research, data collection and statistical analyses to assess implementation success at all levels;
- **Education and awareness** creation at all levels by all stakeholders is very important for success in accessing safe water, sanitation and hygiene and so in rural areas;
- **Managing the transition from MDGs to SDGs** should also be carefully considered and implications, expectations and processes catered for
- **Inadequate coordination and communication among key institutions dealing with WASH**. Effective and adequate linkages need to be made between the key sectors and different levels of institutions and governance and delivery. These include Ministry of Water, Ministry of Health and Social Welfare, Prime Minister's Office and Local Government and others; It was felt that more WASH opportunities could be created by better linkages with other sectors and their initiatives – for example PPPs on solid waste management; green economic development etc;
- **Better linkages between WASH and WRM**: and clearer reporting and communication requirements on who needs to know what for better coordination and integration
- **Conflicting legal frameworks** – there is a need to harmonise health, environment, human rights based policies, strategies and legislation;
- **Public-Private Partnerships**: the government is now a policy maker and regulatory entity. This calls for strengthening more and effective PPPs

4.3 Key Wastewater and Water Quality priorities

- Pollution in urban centres from industries, households, solid waste disposal and inadequate sewerage services; Increase in population and socio-economic development are exerting pressure on the existing service systems.

- The growth rate of mining and mineral sector is now higher than before, thus calling for greater attention in management and monitoring the environmental issues and more the land degradation and pollution challenges that goes with mining.
- Uncontrolled activities in watersheds are a cause of ecosystem degradation. Deforestation, livestock keeping, poor agricultural practices cause a lot of sedimentation, nutrient loading and eutrophication of rivers and lakes. The existence of legally approved land use plans that are incorporated in the IWRMDP and their enforcement in the River and Lake Basins is needed. This is a cross-sectoral issue which deserves further attention.
- Establishment of a sustainable national water quality monitoring program with clear objectives will ensure the availability of water quality information (including maps – GIS based system) at various locations in the country.
- The availability of de-fluoridation technology in areas with high fluoride content will increase the number of population with access to safe water and water quality related problems.
- Implementation of the Water Resources Management Act No. 11 (2009), the Water Supply and Sanitation Act No.12 (2009) and the Environmental Management Act of 2004 which has provision that addresses adequately issues of wastewater management and water quality. There needs to be harmonisation and coordination mechanisms in implementation and monitoring between the 3 acts.
- Funding strategy to address the current limitation in wastewater management and water quality issues is needed. Public-Private-Partnerships is one of the strategies.

4.4 Existing development targets for water

- Water resource management: IWRMD plans are at the initial stage of being developed, however, enabling sustainable environment have been established. That is the water policy and legislation that provide for the establishment of the plans and strategy for its implementation are in place.
- Water Sanitation and Hygiene: National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty targets from 2010 to 2015 for rural households using improved sources from 57.7% to 65 %, at present is status is about 57%. While urban targets are: Regional Centres from 84% to 95%, Dar es Salaam from 55% to 75% and small towns from 53% to 57%.
- Wastewater management and water quality: Sewerage coverage to increase from 18% to 22%, with increased in population in towns and cities, the present status of coverage is estimated to be about 10% (verbal discussions with key people).

No clear target figures are provided on water quality at national level.

5.0 Water Resource Management Monitoring and Reporting

Water resource management involves regulatory functions/activities that aim at optimizing the available resources. These functions include: Water resources allocation (surface and groundwater); pollution monitoring and control; stakeholder participation; monitoring of the resources; information management; economic and financial consideration; integrated basin planning for the water sector and disaster management.

In order to measure the status of the resource and impacts of water related initiatives which in most cases fall under different institutions in the water sector, a system of monitoring and reporting needs to be established; a system that is uniform and consistent that can be used by different stakeholders.

UN Water team on indicators, Monitoring and Reporting proposed a set of indicators for assessing different issues in the sector. However, these need to be revisited for their relevance to different stakeholders.

The consultation had an opportunity to discuss the UN Water indicators that was used for level 2 survey in the preparation for Rio +20. The discussion centered on whether they are relevant to the country situation; whether they are being monitored or is data available or what is missing.

The management objectives monitored covered: Water governance (2 areas); state of the resource (13 areas); ecosystem (5 areas); human health (4); food agriculture and rural livelihood (4 areas); industry (6 areas); risk assessment (3 areas); valuing and charging for resource (5 areas).

The meeting observed that the list is very much relevant with exception of one area, “*volume of desalinated water produced*” this is considered to be irrelevant at this particular time in the country as the available resource is still abundant and is not affordable. However, with the technology development, the cost of desalination may be cheaper to warrant its use.

The constraints observed in relation to monitoring and reporting includes: Water resource management activities don't solely fall under one institution; hence the existing inadequacy in institutional framework is a constraint. For example, freshwater species population trends index, is an appropriate indicator for health of the river/lake systems, however, the current River/Lake Basin Boards are not addressing the issue and the institutions dealing with fisheries in these basins are not adequately integrated in water management framework. Hoping the IWRMDP is going to take on board these issues.

The other constraint is the **budget limitation** faced by institutions dealing with the management of the resource which limits the management issues to be monitored. For example the groundwater baseline information not well covered.

Water resource governance concept has a lot of components that include policy, law, institutions (and degree of establishment and effectiveness), regulations, signed treaties/agreements, protection of water sources, IWRM plan development and implementation, capacity development plans and initiatives ; engagement with other sectors (not monitored) and compliance mechanisms that need to be monitored and reported to achieve an effective governance system. In the present UN Water indicators these are not fully reflected. The meeting proposed to expand this management area to accommodate more issues like existence of policy and its implementation, stakeholder participation and the like.

Missing areas, one of the areas identified is the **economic loss** / quantifying/ valuation of inadequate supply water or not investing in water resources management or water's different uses. It may add value if the impacts of not managing water effectively and sustainably were captured – the costs of not doing for e.g. inadequate access, crop losses costs – loss of income and livelihood values etc.; water in the family or in the productive uses like irrigation or hydropower is known.

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Annex: List of Participants

S. No	NAME	DESIGNATION	INSTITUTION	MOBILE PHONE	EMAIL
1	Ruth Beukman	GWPSA - Exec sec.	GWPSA	27128459119	r.beukman@cgiar.org
2	Prof. J. O. Ngana	Country Water Partnership - Member	Institute Resource Assessment	0 754432108	jngana@gmail.com
3	Flora A. Muro	Community Development Officer	Ministry of Water	0715 423557	muroflora@yahoo.com
4	Florence Mahay	Ag. Basin Water Officer	Lake Rukwa Basin Water Board	0719 915364	kajilu@yahoo.com
5	Mtoi Kanyawanah	Basin Water Officer	Internal Drainage Basin Board	0754 596122	mkanyawana@yahoo.co.uk
6	Eudosa A. Materu	Assistant Director Water Quality	Ministry of Water	0754 770948	materufriend@yahoo.com
7	Neema R. Khamis	Hydrologist	Ministry of Water	0713 396078	neema_kh@yahoo.com
8	Moses N. W. Mnzava	Principle Agricultural Officer	Ministry Agriculture Food & Cooperative	0754 521166	mmnzava77@yahoo.com
9	Alex Kikarugaa	Economist	Ministry of Water	0754 059704	alex_kikarugaa@yahoo.com
10	Rosemary Olive Mbone Enie	Executive Director Geologist	* IETC TANZANIA	0683 756729	rosemaryenie@gmail.com
11	Dieunedort Ngaro	IT Engineer	*IETC TANZANIA	0683 756729	ndieunedort@yahoo.com
12	Amandus D. Lwena	Asst. Director – Irrigation	Ministry Agr Food & Cooperative	0784 400772	adlwena@yahoo.co.uk
13	Prof. Mark R. Mujwahuzi	Water Resources Research	**IRA, UDSM	0754 260893	mujwahuzi@udsm-ac.tz
14	Christopher	Energy	Ministry of	0719 652008	bites19772003@yahoo.

S. No	NAME	DESIGNATION	INSTITUTION	MOBILE PHONE	EMAIL
	Bitesigirwe	Engineer	Energy and Minerals		com
15	John K. Jibbo	Principal Technician	Ministry of Water	0713 061172	jkenny067@gmail.com
16	Zulfa Kikoti	Secretary	Ministry of Water	0716 189285	zkikoti@ymail.com
17	Juma Kawa	Principal. Technician	Ministry of Water	0719 323558	
18	Elibariki Ngorovil	Ag. Assistant. Director - Rural	Ministry of Land	0714 979804	barikikiriba@yahoo.com
19	Sylvand Kamugisha	Hydrology/Water Resources	RiverCare Initiative	0754 844320	sylvandm@gmail.com
20	Dr. George Lugomela	Asst. Director	Ministry of Water	0784 574122	lugomela@yahoo.com
21	G. Ngogomba	Facilitator	MIA	0787 004647	gngogomba@yahoo.com
22	Pamella Temu	Hydrologist	Ministry of Water	0784 913044	vanpatt200@yahoo.co.uk
23	Martha Ngalowera	Environmental Officer	Vice President Office – Environment Div.	0784 589610	stinatheo@yahoo.com
24	Stella Juma	Economist	Ministry of Water	0658206465	
25	Songelael Shilla	Foreign Service Officer	Ministry of Foreign Affairs.	0784 372951	shilla70@gmail.com
26	Zephania Mihayo	Engineer	Ministry of Water	0713 530094	shosela54@yahoo.com
27	Diana Kimbute	Hydrologist	Ministry of Water	0786 752925	dkimbute@gmail.com
28	Hamza Singano	Hydrologist	Ministry of Water	0784 519871	rhsingano-mow@gmail.com
29	Amour Selaman	Environmental Health officer	Ministry of Health Social Welfare	0784 734275	matipula@hotmail.com
30	Monica A. Kagya	Principal Beekeeping Officer	Ministry Natural Resources Tourism/DPP	0754 263464	monicakagya@hotmail.com

*IETC: Ikra Educational Training Centre

**IRA, UDSM: Institute of Resource Assessment, University of Dar es Salaam