

GWP West Africa Journal

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1. IWRM Water Policy & Strategy development facilitated at relevant levels

1.1. Activities of past six months:

1.1.1. The Programme Officer of the WAWP, Mrs Birguy LAMIZANA, accompanied by the Network Officer, Mr Daniel LOPEZ, Ms KIRSTEN, PAWDI Officer at the GWPO Secretariat and Mr GORM, consultant at DHI, went to Dakar (Senegal) from 21 to 24 January 2007. This mission aimed following up on the implementation of the PAWD programme that supports the development process of National Integrated Water Resources Management Plan (PNGIRE), funded by Canada. After having met the various parties involved in the programme, the delegation went to Mali from 24 to 28 January 2007. The mission met the Director of Water Resources Management and Planning (DGPRE), CREPA-Senegal which is the Hosting Institution of Senegal CWP and the members of the Management Committee (CD) and of the Scientific and Technical Committee (CST) of Senegal CWP before being received in audience by Mr Adama SALL, the new Minister of Water Resources.

IWRM Plan development

1.1.2. In Senegal the document of IWRM plan was validated by experts and water sector actors during a national workshop held in Dakar. A workshop on the development of the Senegal integrated water resources management strategy and action plan was held on 18 and 19 January 2007. The workshop which aimed to discuss the strategies and to define the actions, indicators, means and sources of verification of the draft 2008-2015 action plan falls in line with the PAGIRE development process. This workshop was followed on 11 and 12 April 2007 by another one to discuss the content and guidelines to be included in the plan. This workshop was followed by more than a hundred participants from around the whole country including water experts, professionals, users, NGOs, government bodies and private institutions.

1.1.3. Mali has validated its IWRM Plan document during a workshop organised on 23 to 25 May 2007 in Bamako. More than a hundred experts and water sector actors amended and validated the document. GWP reference Group members, GWP West Africa regional coordination and GWPO took part in the workshop and brought substantial contributions for the improvement of the document. According to the Deputy Director of Hydraulics, Mrs Fatoumata Kane, GWP support was well appreciated and has helped Mali a lot. The document that was validated by technicians will be forwarded to Government for political adoption after inclusion of outstanding remarks. "We cannot say when the government will adopt the document", said Mrs Kane who is somehow very optimistic.

Validation of water situation analysis

1.1.4. In the framework of the IWRM planning process, the Ministry of Mines, Energy and Water (MMEE) in collaboration with Benin CWP, organized on 4 and 5 January 2007 the national workshop on the validation of the report on the "Study of water management/use systems and definition of priority actions of local valorisation of water resources according to the IWRM approach in Benin ". Ninety six (96) representatives of the various categories of actors in the water sector of Benin attended the workshop. Participants validated the two-volume study including the situation analysis of water management and proposals of pilot actions for water valorisation in an IWRM approach. Participants recommended the acceleration of the IWRM planning process in Benin, so that IWRM becomes by the end of the current year a reality in the country. They also recommended a sensitisation of executives in the public services and various layers of the population on good practices that can avoid the waste of water

Workshop on Water Financing

1.1.5. March 29 and 30 was held in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) the Regional Workshop on Water Financing in West Africa. Convened by the West African Water Partnership and GWP with the financial support of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the European Union Water Initiative, this workshop aimed to bring together the water and finances actors in the region to discuss the available funding mechanisms and means to reach them. It brought together resources persons of the ministries in charge of water resources and those in charge of finances, leaders of civil society, representatives of basin organisations, public and private water utilities, as well as development partners.

1.1.6. National Dialogue on IWRM

The Guinea CWP organized a national dialogue on IWRM on September 10 and 11, 2007. This national dialogue was organized under the form of a colloquium with the participation of all the main actors involved in water from the whole country. In Niger a public conference was

organized by the CWP on the theme of implementing IWRM in the country. These activities were funded by WWF through a collaboration programme with GWP/WA.

- 1.1.7. In Côte d'Ivoire and Togo, the National Dialogue on water governance project has started. Consultants were hired and studies carried out. The documents are being finalised for national validation workshops to take place in early 2008 in both countries.

1.2. Outcomes and the past activities that influenced them:

- 1.2.1. It has been noticed a lot of communication between actors of the water sector because of the preparation of different workshop.
- 1.2.2. There is at least one thing everybody agrees on is that there are lots of problems facing the water sector in all countries and only it is through consultation that solutions can be found.
- 1.2.3. In Mali as well as in Senegal, there has been a great social mobilisation in the framework of the development process of the IWRM plan. Since the CWP was an essential element in this mobilisation, many people who didn't know the CWP are aware of its existence. In Mali, many partners are contacting the CWP to develop joint activities and some of these activities are to be implemented soon.
- 1.2.4. In Benin, the CWP is well known and almost nobody event and mostly at government level, speaks of water resources management without mentioning the CWP. This, because the CWP has developed during the last months or so many activities to involve almost all potential actors at every relevant level (primary school actors with a book to teach on water, hygiene and health, radio programmes, mayors and municipal agents, etc.).
An IWRM Plan document is now available for Mali. This document has been validated by experts and water actors involved.
In Benin, a member of the Managing Committee of the CWP was nominated Minister. She was in charge of communication in the committee.
- 1.2.5. It has been noticed that many countries have developed programmes and are discussing with donors. The water financing workshop gave an opportunity to discuss some weaknesses of the existing approaches and recommendations were made to improve the situation. Funds have been transferred to Ghana to hold its workshop.
- 1.2.6. The two-day meeting permitted to discuss important themes related to the management of water resources in the country. The discussions permitted to recall once more the important role of Guinea as a country where main transboundary rivers take their source in the West African Region. There was a great participation of national authorities and the Minister in charge of water asked the CWP to raise funds in order to support such a dialogue for cabinet members to raise the political will on the importance of water resources better management. In Niger the participation was also high and interesting debates were done. These activities enhanced the collaboration between WWF Regional Fresh Water Programme and GWP/WA.
- 1.2.7. The processes started and there is a great enthusiasm of the national authorities for the dialogue. CWPs are positioning themselves as good interlocutors on water management issues.

1.3. Next steps

- 1.3.1. Recommendations from this national debate in Guinea are being transmitted to the Ministry in charge of water resources. Raise funds to organise such meetings for raising political will at the highest possible level at government and Parliament levels.
- 1.3.2. Workshops will be held early 2008 to discuss issues raised and validate the document produced; then recommendations from the dialogues will be forwarded to Government. Collaboration will continue with WWF for the funding of future activities.
- 1.3.3. The documents of IWRM plans will be submitted to the Governments for formal adoption in both countries. But lobbying should continue at all levels to keep IWRM high in the national political agenda.

2. IWRM Programs & tools developed in response to regional and country needs

2.1. Activities of past six months:

IWRM Training: principles, tools and planning

- 2.1.1. A workshop on IWRM principles, tools and planning was held in Lomé from 12 to 16 March 2007. This training which targeted the senior executives of the public or semi-public sectors, private and civil society was articulated around the three points which are the IWRM principles, the tools and the planning. The training was based on case studies. Participants were much interested in the training since many countries in the region have undertaken reforms to meet the IWRM approach implementation. Another workshop targeting

trainers was held on IWRM the economic and financial tools on 17 to 21 December 2007 in Lomé with the organization of WANet (Capnet).

Regional workshops on IWRM and Environment

2.1.2. A regional workshop on IWRM and environment was held in Cotonou (Benin) from 5 to 7 February 2007. Convened by GWP WA in partnership with WWF regional programme on fresh water based in Niger and the Niger Basin Authority, this workshop gathered about thirty participants from seven countries in West Africa plus Cameroon. Taking into account the weak environment considerations in the processes of water resources management, partners in these sectors decided to support capacity building of water managers on "IWRM and environment" thematic.

Another capacity building workshop on the same topic targeting Journalists was held in Bamako (Mali) on 27 to 29 December. It gathered about 50 participants from 13 countries of West Africa (journalists, communication managers of regional institutions and continental and national networks of journalists).

2.1.3. Conflicts Management and negotiation

Cape Verde CWP organized on 15 and 16 February 2007 a training workshop on conflicts management and negotiation. This workshop gathered a score of participants of the water sector from the islands of St Vicente and St Antão E S. Nicolau. In St Antão, an exhibition on water and environment took place from 15 to 18 February 2007. This activity was organized in partnership with the Association for the Defence of Environment and Development (ADAD), a CWP partner. These two activities offered the chance to make Cape Verde CWP known and to call on associations having taken part in the training to join in. The CWP also has a chance to meet the local authorities, in particular the mayors of the three municipalities of St Antão.

About twenty technicians working in the water sector were trained in the islands of Fogo and Brava on « conflicts management and negotiation » the 1st and 2nd March 2007 in São Filipe (island of Fogo). A meeting and debates took place with the mayors of the three municipalities of Fogo to whom the CWP Cap Verde was presented. Discussions on water issues at the level of these municipalities took place.

IWRM workshop in Atacora-Donga

2.1.4. Benin CWP in collaboration with Protos organized on 13 and 14 February 2007 a training workshop on IWRM to sensitize the actors in the water sector in Atacora and Donga on the problematic of water resources management. It allowed providing the technical players with knowledge and facilitation needed to promote comprehension and the implementation of IWRM at the grassroots level in their locality.

The workshop thus allowed marking out the course framework of pilot experiences for the promotion of IWRM application in the two departments. It moreover allowed obtaining the adhesion of development structures and the local councillors to the process of definition and establishing IWRM type pilot experiences. This workshop is the second of the kind after that held in the Mono-Couffo.

2.1.5. The 3rd international training session on IWRM jointly organized by the Ramboll Foundation and GWP/WA went on from 19 August to 8 September 2007 in Stockholm (Sweden). The 2nd phase of this training took place from 26 November to 7 December 2007 in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) under the coordination of GWP/WA Executive Secretariat.

2.2. Outcomes and the past activities that influenced them:

2.2.1. There are many more professionals asking the GWP regional secretariat for information and documents on IWRM and IWRM plans development after the workshop on IWRM principles, tools and planning. Many countries in the region are willing and doing activities to meet the WSSD target on Water and water efficiency plans. Recently we went in Guinea and met with the National Directorate of Hydraulics and were told that this training has been useful. It's the lack of means to duplicate at national level that is hindering efforts to go ahead, we were told. Municipalities in the department of Benin concerned with workshops in Atacora-Donga or Mono-Couffo are integrating the IWRM approach in the municipal development plans. There is common view between various local actors as far as water resources management is concerned.

2.2.2. About 26 officers from various francophone and Portuguese speaking countries of West Africa were trained.

2.2.3. This was a trainers' training that gathered high levels officers from francophone Africa.

2.2.4. About fifty (50) journalists, communication managers of regional water institutions and national and continental networks of journalists took part in the workshop. Participants unanimously greeted the initiative and said they learned a lot from the workshop. A group is now established at regional level between journalists and communication managers for information sharing on IWRM. Journalists committed to cover water related issues in the countries and work closely with CWPs.

2.2.5. Every year there are more requests to take part in the training. It has created great collaboration relationships between many executives of many French and Portuguese speaking countries of West and central Africa.

2.3. Next steps

- 2.3.1. Extend and duplicate trainings on IWRM to help form a critical mass of experts in the countries to help change the way water planning is done.
Extend this training on IWRM to all departments in Benin and try to involve more local actors.
- 2.3.2. In 2008 the experience that has started now since three years will continue always with Ramboll and the financial support of SIDA.
- 2.3.3. Make sure that for the next three years or so workshops are organised with journalists. It would be better to associate journalists and other sectors like Parliamentarians for increased impacts and great outcomes.

3. Linkages between GWP and other frameworks, sectors & issues ensured

3.1. Activities of past six months:

Round table with primary education actors in Ghana

- 3.1.1. Ghana CWP organized on 16 January 2007 a round table with primary education actors in the water sector. This workshop was hosted by the Ministry of water resources, Equipment and Housing and was attended by the Ministry of local government, local development and environment, the Ministry of finances and economy, the Commission on water resources. Proposals of projects were amended and round tables with the donors must take place

GWP WA signs MoU with ECOWAS

- 3.1.2. GWP West Africa signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on June 5, 2007. This MoU is formalising long time existing working relationships with ECOWAS through its Water Resources Coordination Unit (WRCU). The MoU was signed for ECOWAS by the Chair of the Commission, Dr Ibn CHAMBAS and for GWP WA by the Executive Secretary, Mr Dam MOGBANTE. It will allow GWP WA to officially benefit from the political support of ECOWAS that will profit and call for GWP expertise in the implementation of their respective activities.
- 3.1.3. GWP/WA and the UNESCO Center at Dundee (Scotland), in partnership with WWF International and the Senegal CWP organized a regional workshop on the United Nations 1997 Convention on the non-navigational uses of international watercourses. The meeting was held on 20 and 21 September 2007, and aimed at pointing out the necessity and the relevance for the countries of the West Africa Region to ratify this Convention.
- 3.1.4. Benin CWP organized the award ceremony on Friday July 20, 2007 on behalf of the "super" winners of the sketch competition (quizzes) on water in schools.
- 3.1.5. GWP/West Africa took part in the civil society meeting in Niamey aiming at bringing the contribution of the civil society to the finalization of the Sustainable Development plan of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA). In December 6 and 7, national meetings were organized in Mali, Burkina, Chad and also Côte d'Ivoire (November 20 and 21) with users of the natural resources of the Niger basin in the countries. GWP/WA, Eau Vive and the International secretariat for Water are in charge of coordinating the involvement of the civil society in the NBA Shared Vision process.
- 3.1.6. With IUCN and CILSS, GWP/WA monitors a data collection dialogue on Climate change in West Africa with financial support from the World Bank. A second meeting was held in Niamey (Niger) in early December after the first one held in Cotonou (Benin) in May 2007.

3.2. Outcomes and the past activities that influenced them:

- 3.2.1. Experience showed that when people are influenced early in their life, they are likely to bring change easily. Good water management when introduced in the primary level education can easily be achieved successfully. Ministers took it for something good to link up with primary sector actors.
- 3.2.2. Since the signature, WRCU and GWP WA are feeling closer so there were working relationships since 1999. An important official step has been taken. Since the setting up of the ECOWAS Framework for IWRM Follow up in West Africa, WRCU Coordinator insisted so that GWP WA became a member. The Framework is ECOWAS supervisory body of the implementation of the Regional IWRM Plan. WRCU is sitting as a permanent observer at GWP WA Steering Committee.
- 3.2.3. One of the greatest achievements of the meeting was the appeal made to the States, the basin organizations and the civil society to undertake actions for the ratification of the Convention. Fruitful discussions and recommended to carry out sensitization in their respective countries in order to have the convention ratified. It was recommended that GWP/WA, WWF, Green Cross, CILSS under the leadership of the Water Resources Coordination Unit (WRCU) of ECOWAS lobby to bring the issue at all relevant levels and raise fund for the ratification.
- 3.2.4. All the nominees received, in addition to their prizes, T - shirts and caps with the Logo of CWP-Benin. The three other schools were given consolation prizes. This is a follow up on the same

activity that was organised in 2006 and goes into the general framework of activities organised by CWP Benin to get all categories of actors involved and interested in the water management issues.

- 3.2.5. The contribution of the civil society was well appreciated by countries and the national meetings were a great success everywhere with a total participation of all categories of users of the natural resources of the Niger basin. A first phase of the involvement.
- 3.2.6. Data are being gathered on climate change and variability. This comes as a follow up on the dialogue that GWP/WA, IUCN and CILSS had on the same topic. This dialogue came out with a regional adaptation strategy to climate change.

3.3. Next steps

- 3.3.1. CWPs will play an active role at country level as well as WRCU focal points and participants at the workshop. At the continent's level, there will be a link with AMCOW, and GWP, UNESCO, and WWF will contribute in providing an international support
- 3.3.2. The Framework for the follow up of IWRM in West Africa of ECOWAS will hold its meeting by the end of January 2008. Also the Regional Association for Irrigation and Drainage in West and Central Africa (RAID) is organising its second African irrigation fair in Ouagadougou in February 2008.
- 3.3.3. A regional strategy is being developed and will serve to raise funds to support countries of the region in the ratification process.
- 3.3.4. The five remaining countries of NBA will hold in early 2008 their national meetings. Results will allow coming out with main preoccupations of the users of the basin's resources to be submitted to the ministerial conference. GWP/WA will continue to support the process and bring all necessary technical assistance needed.

4. GWP Partnerships established & consolidated at relevant levels

4.1. Activities of past six months:

- 4.1.1. Côte d'Ivoire CWP held its 1st ordinary Assembly of Partners on 31 January 2007. More than 100 representatives of various sectors attended. The theme of this Assembly was "actions on the ground for a national challenge", this to put forward the willingness to translate into concrete acts IWRM principles in Côte d'Ivoire. The opening ceremony was chaired by the Minister of Family and Social Welfare in the presence of the WAWP Executive Secretary and the representative of UCC-Water. The Assembly showed the extent to which the partners of CI CWP were interested by its effective operation.
CWP Mali held its 3rd General Assembly of Partners on 1 March 2007. About a hundred of delegates from all over the country took part in very animated debates.
Burkina CWP organized on 24 February 2007 its General Assembly. It was attended by about thirty delegates.
Benin CWP convened on 16 February 2007 the Assembly of Partners. Delegates from all the regions of the country took part in debates of interest on the country partnership effective operation.
The General Assembly of partners of CWP Niger held on 21 April 2007. It allowed amending and adopting the 2006 various reports and the 2007 work plan. The participants accepted the recruitment of Mr Abdou Hassane at the post of permanent secretary of the CWP.
Ghana, Nigeria, Senegal held their Assembly of Partners as well.
- 4.1.2. Benin Country Water Partnership and the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention held an information and sensitisation meeting on the topic: "Wetlands and fishing" in order to sensitize the bordering communities of the mangrove zone in Southern Benin on the importance of these zones and the need for a rational resources management.
- 4.1.3. A delegation of GWP including the Chair of GWP/WA, Dr Madiodio NIASSE, the Programme Officer, Mrs Birguy LAMIZANA and the Network Officer, Mr Axel JULIE went to Praia/Cape Verde from 26 to 30 August 2007. The aim of this visit was to meet and exchange with the officials of INGRH, the PAWD team and the members of the Cape Verde CWP.
- 4.1.4. A delegation of Senegal CWP including its Chair, Mr Oumar DIALLO, Mr Mamadou DAFPE, member of the Steering Committee and Mr Ibrahima MBODJI, visited Cotonou from 22 to 29 July 2007 in the framework of exchange and experience sharing visits with Benin CWP.
- 4.1.5. Benin CWP has signed an important convention with the Royal Embassy of the Netherlands in Benin. This funding agreement amounting to eight hundred millions (800,000, 000) CFA Francs (about € 1.220.000) over a period of five years will permit the Benin CWP to ensure the management of the activities of Component 4 of PPEA (multi annual programme for water and sanitation) by the side of the Directorate of Water Planning and Management (DPGE) of the General Directorate for Water.

- 4.1.6. The Country Water Partnership (CWP) of Mali organized in July 2007 two big public conferences in the university. They were led by important personalities on the areas of health, education, water resource management and development.
- 4.1.7. The new Minister of Hydraulics, Honourable Tassiou Aminou received on July 25, 2007 the Executive Board of the Country Water Partnership of Niger (CWP – NIGER) led by its Chair, Dr. Yahaya Tounkara.
- 4.1.8. Many issues of the electronic newsletter were published and dispatched to partners. A special issue of Running Water was edited on the Assembly of Partners held in Lomé and distributed to partners. A lot of information is given to partners as well as all documentation produced at regional and global levels.

4.2. Outcomes and the past activities that influenced them:

- 4.2.1. All Country Water Partnerships that have more than one year of existence could hold their Assembly of Partners in preparation of the Assembly of Partners of GWP West Africa in Lomé. These meetings gave mandates to country delegates to the GWP/WA meeting. Stakeholders at national level feel more concerned by the network's activities and feel themselves as part of it.
- 4.2.2. These kinds of joint actions help tie strategic alliances between partners at national level.
- 4.2.3. A meeting gathered the various parties on the 29th August, and permitted to agree on the objectives to reach, which is to succeed in the implementation of the PAWD programme and develop in good conditions the document of IWRM plan for Cape Verde before March 2008. Firm commitments were taken on both sides.
- 4.2.4. Both parties had work sessions in addition to meetings with some partner institutions of Benin CWP, and also a visit to the Songhai project which is an example of IWRM implementation project. At the end of the visit, both parties formulated some recommendations in view of strengthening IWRM and their CWP.
- 4.2.5. Benin CWP, being a platform of all water sector stakeholders will provide a quality support to the public administration in the in-depth renewal process of the water resources management approach. This support aims at speeding up the process, contributing to capacity building of the actors both in the public sector and in the civil society to enhance the implementation of sound local initiatives that can be duplicated as good experiences in IWRM.
- 4.2.6. Various topics related to the water resource were discussed. From the debate that took place, we can say that those meetings permitted to inform and sensitize the lecturers, researchers and future physicians, the students, the public opinion and development stakeholder on IWRM and on the Network of the Mali CWP. Those conferences provided opportunities to ponder on water-borne diseases, the evolution of statistics of these diseases from 1995 to 2005, and the prevention measures, and to establish the link between integrated water resource management and ecological sanitation « ECOSAN ». They finally permitted the participants to have a clear vision of the IWRM concept, the objective and mission of GWP network in the framework of promoting IWRM in Mali, and to have a clear picture of the progress and current situation of the IWRM Plan in Mali, and to be aware of IWRM good practices.
- 4.2.7. The meeting was an opportunity for the CWP to formally congratulate the Minister and introduce the CWP (GWP in general), its vision and operation mode. The Minister welcomed the initiative and invited the CWP to get involved in finding solutions to the conflicts between the water users. He expressed his availability to facilitate any action that will be taken by Niger-CWP.
- 4.2.8. Partners are informed of the activities ongoing in the partnership. Communication is established at all levels.

4.3. Next steps

Follow up on all these activities and make sure that CWP are holding their statutory meetings to get partners at national level involved in their activities. Make sure that friendly working relationships are developed between partners for the better promotion of IWRM at country level.

5. GWP Network effectively developed & managed

5.1. Activities of past six months:

- 5.1.1. From 14 to 19 January 2007, a delegation of Cape Verde CWP visited Bamako (Mali) as part of experience sharing between the two CWPs. The delegation comprised Ms Armida BARROS, member of the scientific and technical Committee of Cape Verde CWP, Mr Orlando SANTOS, communication officer and Mr Jacques SANTOS, Executive Secretary of Cape Verde CWP. Meetings with the authorities and partners of Mali CWP marked this visit in Mali in addition to a field visit at the Office of Baguineda Irrigated Perimeters (OPIB).

Meeting of the Steering Committee

5.1.2. The Steering Committee of WAWP took place on 31 March 2007 in ordinary session. The meeting allowed examining and adopting the 2006 activities and financial reports, as well as the 2007 work programme of the Regional Partnership. The members of the Steering Committee gave their agreement for the venue of the AP in Lomé and gave instructions for the good organisation. The draft bylaws was examined but not adopted as well as the decision points submitted by the chairman. On 8 and 9 May before the Assembly of Partners in Lomé the SC met and adopted the AP agenda.

New chair for the CWP in Senegal and in Burkina

5.1.3. The CWP Senegal held its 1st General Assembly on 13 April 2007 in presence of GWP/WAWP delegation. This meeting gathered a score of participants with democratic debates. The General Assembly analysed and adopted the various reports from 2003 to 2006 as well as the 2007 work programme. The statutes were amended to fit with the conditions of accreditation. At the end of the meeting a new chairman was elected at the head of CWP in the person of Mr **Oumar Diallo**. In Burkina Faso, the Assembly of Partners held in February elected **Dieudonné NIKIEMA** as new chair to replace Ouseni DIALLO.

GWP WA Assembly of Partners

5.1.4. The Assembly of GWP West Africa's Partners was held in Lomé on 10 and 11 May 2007. The meeting gathered about 70 delegates from 12 countries out of the 16 of the region. Many partner organisations made presentations on their institutions and activities.

5.1.5. Consultations are ongoing to hold a Steering Committee meeting early 2008 to validate the work plan and give orientations to the Executive Secretariat for the better implementation of the EU funded project entitled "Programme for the Improvement of Water Governance in West Africa (PIWaG)".

5.1.6. All the quarterly financial and semi annual progress reports were produced and forwarded to the Global Secretariat in Stockholm.

5.2. Outcomes and the past activities that influenced them:

5.2.1. This visit allowed Cape Verde CWP to familiarise with the Mali CWP working methodology, the structuring of bodies, the relations between Mali IWRM team and Mali CWP. Explanations were also given on the methodology of convening local workshops and the operation of local water partnerships as well as the strategies of financial resources mobilisation to make viable Mali CWP after the PAWD. The visit also allowed Cape Verde CWP to make remarks to Mali CWP in particular as regard on the need to motivate members of the Scientific and Technical Committee of Mali CWP and to integrate women in the same body.

5.2.2. The SC give orientations to the Executive Secretariat to better implement the work plan. They help the chair have a clear vision on his guidance to the secretariat.

5.2.3. It is hoped that the renewal of chairs will be bring a new dynamics in the ruling of the CWPs and push activities forward. In Burkina the situation had become critical with the CWP totally absent in all debates on IWRM.

5.2.4. Among the main decisions of this meeting of partners, we can note :

- ❖ The steering committee was recomposed
- ❖ The chairman mandate was renewed for two years,
- ❖ The terms of the Executive secretary were renewed according to the standard of GWP a mandate of two years renewable without limitation.
- ❖ The name of the West African Water Partnership was aligned on the standards and become « GWP/West Africa- or GWP/WA" instead of GWP/WAWP.
- ❖ The partners renewed their confidence to CREPA and thanks the institution that served as host institution to the GWP/AO as well as Burkina , the host country.
- ❖ The draft of the bylaws was adopted.
- ❖ Some articles of the statutes were amended.

5.3. Next steps

5.3.1. The Steering Committee will meet to approve the budget and work plan 2008 and give orientations for the implementation of PIWAG.

5.3.2. CWP Côte d'Ivoire is preparing to hold its AP on 31 January 2008.

6. Observations

The activities in the region were very intense mostly with the implementation of the PAWD in the four countries (Mali, Senegal, Benin, and Cape Verde).

The PAWD 1 that started in 2003 is coming to an end with its financial support by December 2007.