

## Regional dialogue

**“Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water-related SDGs in West Africa: challenges, innovative approaches and roles of partnerships”**



## Report

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## LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

VBA	Volta Basin Authority
ACMAD	African Centre for Meteorological Applications in Development
AEP	Drinking Water Supply
AfDB	African Development Bank
AGRHYMET	Regional Centre for Training and Application in Agro-Hydro Meteorology
ALG	Liptako Gourma Authority
AMCOW	African Ministers Council on Water
ANBO	African Network of Basin Organizations
APFM	Associated Programme on Flood Management
BWBM	World Bank
CapNet	International Network for Capacity Building on Sustainable Water Resources Management
CIEH	Inter-African Committee for Hydraulic Studies
CILSS	Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel
CSE	Ecological Monitoring Centre
CSO	Civil Society Organizations
CWP	Country Water Partnership
DNA	Designated National Authority
DNH	Direction Nationale de l'Hydraulique
DSGRE	Water Resources Monitoring and Management Division
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
ED	Executive Director
ES	Executive Secretary
EWS	Early Warning System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
GEF	Global Environment Facility
GWPO	Global Water Partnership Organisation
GWP-WA	West Africa Regional Water Partnership
ICPAC	International Climate Prediction and Application Centre
IDMP-WA	Integrated Drought Management Project in West Africa
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
IFM	Integrated Flood Management
IFM	Integrated Flood Management
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
IGO	Intergovernmental Organization
IUCN	International Union for Conservation of Nature
IWMI	International Water Management Institute
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
LCBC	Lake Chad Basin Commission

NDC	Contributions Determined at the National level
OMVG	Organization for the Development of the Gambia River
OMVS	Organization for the Development of the Senegal River
PAM	World Food Programme
PREE – ACO	Regional Partnership Project on Water and Environment in Central and West Africa
PTF	Technical and Financial Partners
RCGC	Head of Communication and Knowledge Management
RLAT	Rapid Legal Assessment Tool
SADC-CSC	Southern African Development Community - Climate Services Centre
SAGE	Water Development and Management Scheme
SDAGE	Master Plan for Water Development and Management
SDG	Sustainable Development Objectives
SHN	National Hydrological Services
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SMHN	National Meteorological and Hydrological Services
SMN	National Meteorological Services
SP GIRE	Permanent Secretary for Integrated Water Resources Management
UEMOA	West African Economic and Monetary Union
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
WACDEP	Water Climate and Development Programme
WARWRP	West African Regional Water Resources Policy
WASCAL	West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use
WHO	World Health Organization
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WRC	Water Resources Commission
WRMC	Water Resources Management Centre
WWF	World Water Forum

## Introduction

As part of the work of the 9<sup>th</sup> Assembly of Partners of Global Water Partnership West Africa (GWP-WA), the regional dialogue of key stakeholders from West African countries and sub-regional levels on the theme **“Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water-related SDGs in West Africa: challenges, innovative approaches and roles of partnerships”** was held on September 25 at Ramada Pearl Hotel in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. This dialogue is organized by GWP-WA in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso, the Water Resources Management Center (WRMC) of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the West African Monetary and Economic Union (UEMOA) Commission in charge of the Department of Agriculture, Water Resources and Environment (DAREN).

For the organization of the regional dialogue, GWP-WA and its partners were supported by the SDG6 Global IWRM Support Programme, which aims to help countries adopt a targeted and coordinated approach to the monitoring and implementation of SDG target 6.5: *“By 2030 implement IWRM at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate”* in order to boost the countries’ efforts towards achieving sustainable and equitable development. The programme is coordinated by Global Water Partnership (GWP), in close collaboration with UN Environment-DHI Centre and Cap-Net UNDP, as well as a blend of partners representing national governments, civil society and the private sector.

The main objective of the regional dialogue is to contribute to advance implementation of the UN development Agenda through improving water governance and ensuring water security to achieve SDG6 and other water related SDGs at national, transboundary and regional levels in West Africa.

Specifically, this regional dialogue aims to:

- Assess the level of implementation of IWRM in relation to Indicator 6.5.1 of SDG 6 and the challenges that limit related progress;
- Discuss approaches to implementing ongoing or planned initiatives to advance IWRM at national, transboundary and sub-regional levels in West Africa;
- Develop proposals for a quality participation of the West African sub-region in the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (WWF) in March 2021 in Dakar;
- Make recommendations to consolidate and promote the scaling up of innovative approaches and partnerships to support progress in the implementation of IWRM to boost the achievement of water-related SDGs in West Africa.

The concept note in Annex 1 provides information on the context, objectives and agenda of the dialogue.

This report focuses on the proceedings of the dialogue, and the exchanges and the recommendations made by the participants.

## 1. Initiation of the regional dialogue

### 1.1. Opening ceremony

The official opening ceremony of the regional dialogue took place under the chairmanship of the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso who was represented by the Permanent Secretary for IWRM (SP-GIRE), Mr. Moustapha CONGO. The ceremony was marked respectively by the welcome address of the Vice-chair of the Country Water Partnership of Burkina Faso (CWP Burkina Faso), Mr Robert NANA, the Chair of GWP-WA, Prof. Amadou Hama MAÏGA, the Representative of the Global Secretariat of the Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO), Ms Julienne ROUX, the Executive Secretariat of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum Dakar 2021 delivered by the Technical Advisor, Mr. Amadou NDIAYE, the speech by the Commissioner in charge of DAREN/ UEMOA delivered by the Director of Environment and Water Resources (DERE), Mr. Christophe DAGUENON on behalf of the three sub-regional institutions ECOWAS, the Permanent Interstate Committee for Drought Control in the Sahel (CILSS) and UEMOA and the opening speech of the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso delivered by his representative SP GIRE Mr. Moustapha CONGO (Photo 1).



**Photo 1:** Officials at the opening ceremony of the regional dialogue

*(from left to right : Mr. Bougonou K. DJERI – ALASSANI, Head of Division Governance and Water Policies of WRMC/ECOWAS, Mr. Amadou NDIAYE, Technical Advisor to the Executive Secretary of the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF Dakar 2021, Mr. Moustapha CONGO, Representative of the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso, Prof. Amadou Hama MAÏGA Chair of GWP-WA and Mr. Christophe DAGUENON, Director of Environment and Water Resources (DERE) Representing the DAREN/ UEMOA Commission*

Emphasizing the relevance of the co-organization of the event, the Chair of GWP-WA, Prof. Amadou Hama MAÏGA recalled that the multiple programmes, which are ongoing or planned at community and State levels in the sub-region, involving actions of several stakeholder institutions and countries with a view to achieving the SDGs and ensuring adaptation and resilience to climate change, can be more efficient and achieve the expected results within the time frame if coordination of actions and synergies with other initiatives are strengthened.

Speaking on behalf of the three regional institutions (UEMOA, ECOWAS and CILSS), the DERE of the Commission in charge of DAREN/ UEMOA, Mr Christophe DAGUENON, agreed with the Chair of GWP-WA by emphasizing that *"it is by pooling our efforts and expertise that we will succeed in the efficient implementation of the SDGs for the benefit of Member States and the well-being of the populations of the Regional Economic Communities"*.

The Representative of the Executive Secretariat of the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF, Mr. Amadou NDIAYE informed the actors of the sub-region that the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, the 2<sup>nd</sup> of its kind to be organized on African soil, after Marrakech in 1997, is that of all Africa, in view of the great international mobilization that supported Senegal's candidature and validated its choice to host the said Forum.

The Representative of the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso recalled the context, objectives and main results expected from the dialogue. He commended the foresight of GWP-WA, WRMC/ECOWAS and the DAREN/UEMOA Commission for having been right in organizing this regional dialogue, which focuses on a highly important and strategic theme as part of the reflection efforts in the West African region to achieve the SDGs in general but especially SDG 6, which focuses on water and sanitation.

SP GIRE urged actors at different levels in the West African sub-region to become more involved in the implementation of IWRM, which remains an essential step in ensuring water security, essential for any sustainable human development. He then added that it is on this basis that Burkina Faso and the other ECOWAS countries are firmly committed to it through the design and implementation of robust IWRM programmes that are well monitored.

After expressing the deep gratitude and appreciation of the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso to the organizers of the Dialogue, whose work should make it possible to advance the implementation of the United Nations Development Agenda 2030 in the countries, SP GIRE officially opened the regional dialogue on the theme "Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water-related SDGs in West Africa: Challenges, innovative approaches and roles of partnerships".

The addresses and speeches delivered during the official opening ceremony of the dialogue are presented in Annex 2 of the report.

## **1.2. Introduction of the participants**

The official opening ceremony of the regional dialogue was followed by the presentation of the participants, the family photo and the conduct of interviews with officials by the press.

In total, the regional dialogue brought together some 50 participants representing Governments, regional organizations and partners, including:

- Ministries in charge of water resources management in ECOWAS countries;
- Regional Economic Communities (UEMOA, ECOWAS and CILSS);
- Transboundary Basin Organizations (NBA, VBA);
- Organizations and development partners (FAO, Embassies, IUCN, NGOs);
- The Executive Secretariat of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, Dakar 2021;
- GWPO, GWP-WA, Country Water Partnerships (Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger and Nigeria).

The list of presence of the dialogue is included in Annex 3 of the report.

## **1.3. Context, objectives and agenda of the dialogue**

The Executive Secretary of GWP-WA, Mr. Armand HOUANYE, presented the background, objectives and agenda of the regional dialogue. He recalled the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development adopted on 25 September 2015 by the 193 Member States of the United Nations with the aim of transforming our world to end the differentiation between developing and developed countries with the collective ambition of "Leaving no one behind". He also highlighted the SDG targets related to IWRM as well as sustainable water and sanitation management, which is essential for the progress of all other SDGs and vice versa to eradicate poverty, promote sustainable development and ensure peace and stability.

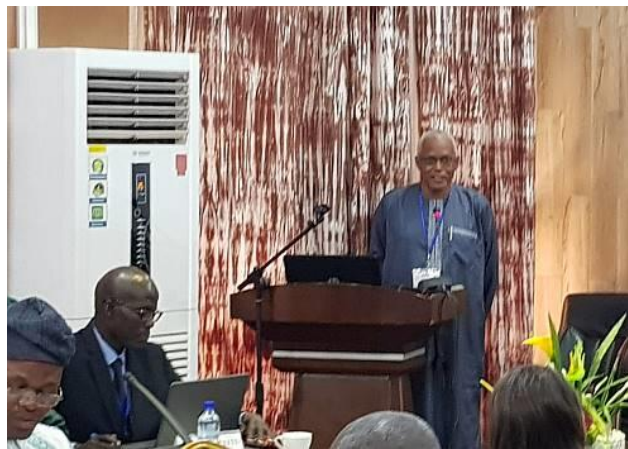
The objectives and agenda of the dialogue presented were unanimously adopted by the participants.

The concept note for the dialogue is presented in Annex 1 of the report.

## 2. Proceedings of the regional dialogue

### 2.1. Inaugural communication

The inaugural presentation focused on the implementation status of Indicator 6.5.1 of 6.5 Target and the challenges to achieving SDG 6 and other water-related SDGs in West Africa. It was given by Dr Boubacar BARRY, Emeritus Researcher of the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and Chairman of the GWP-WA Technical Committee. The communication was developed on the basis of: (i) the results of each country's self-assessment of progress towards the achievement of target 6.5 of SDG 6, namely "by 2030, ensure integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation where appropriate» and (ii) 2018 Status report on the implementation of IWRM in Africa (AMCOW et al, 2018). [https://ceowatermandate.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018\\_Status\\_Report-IWRM-Africa\\_Web\\_EN\\_\(1\).pdf](https://ceowatermandate.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/2018_Status_Report-IWRM-Africa_Web_EN_(1).pdf).



**Photo 2 :** Dr Boubacar BARRY, Chair of GWP-WA Technical Committee

The self-assessment coordinated by UN Environment and DHI focused on the two complementary indicators of target 6.5 of SDG 6:

- 6.5.1- Degree of implementation of integrated water resources management (0-100);
- 6.5.2- Proportion of transboundary water basins where an operational cooperation mechanism is in place.

The methodology used is based on the completion of a self-assessment questionnaire comprising 33 questions covering the main elements of IWRM at national and basin level. It is organized into four sections:

- Enabling environment for policies, laws, plans and provisions for the implementation of IWRM;
- Institutional frameworks, intersectoral coordination, participation of the private sector and other stakeholders with a gender perspective;
- Management instruments and programmes for informed decision-making, covering monitoring water availability and sustainable water use, pollution control, ecosystem and water-related disaster management, and data and information sharing;
- Investment financing, including infrastructure, recurrent costs and revenue generation.



With regard to the overall degree of IWRM implementation, it should be noted that for the 51 countries in Africa that completed the questionnaire, the performance ranges from 10 to 65 out of 100 with the majority of countries below the African average of 41 out of 100. The overall IWRM implementation score in West Africa is 41.57 out of 100. Country performance is very variable and ranges from 15 out of 100 (Liberia) to 64 out of 100 (Cape Verde). The observation that emerges is that countries confronted with a situation of physical water scarcity make more efforts than wet countries. It should also be noted that if current trends continue, it is estimated that nearly 71% of African countries will not achieve the results set for indicator 6.5.1, but this would be possible if the process is accelerated and synergies are strengthened and developed. Significant challenges remain with regard to financing IWRM and strengthening institutional participation.

Africa is relatively well positioned however on transboundary issues; this is important as nearly 70% of our water resources are transboundary. The continent is lagging behind regarding the development of water infrastructure.

The discussions that followed focused on:

- Highlighting that there are challenges, but we should also recognize that there have been significant initiatives at the regional level for the past 20 years to create an enabling environment;
- Highlighting the efforts made by GWP-WA since 2002 to improve the institutional framework of IWRM in countries alongside UEMOA and ECOWAS;
- The words of thanks from the Chair of GWP-WA to the first Chair of GWP-WA, Mr. Athanase COMPAORE and the first Executive Secretary, Mr. Dam MOGBANTE;
- In a context of increased urbanization, the need to work on water resources management in cities, sanitation, and wastewater use in agriculture;
- The need to better document the application of management tools as part of the self-assessment of the degree of IWRM implementation by countries;
- The application of the Water-Energy-Food Security Nexus as an innovative approach to advancing the implementation of IWRM at all levels;
- The importance of political will, including at the regional level, to advance on water resources management;
- The need to mobilize resources both through the operationalization of IWRM economic principles, the development of bankable projects to access climate finance and with traditional financial partners for effective implementation of IWRM in West Africa.

## 2.2. Initiatives to accelerate IWRM-related progress in West Africa

This session was chaired by SP GIRE, Chair of the CWP Burkina Faso, Mr. Moustapha CONGO. It includes three (03) main communications followed by discussions.

The **first communication** was developed by Mr. Abdoukarim ASSAO, Senior Manager in charge of water resources within the UEMOA DAREN Commission. It focuses on the conclusions of the study on the IWRM implementation status in UEMOA Member States, accompanied by an Action Plan. The objective of the study was to support UEMOA Member States in their efforts to achieve the SDGs by 2030, in particular SDG 6 on water and sanitation and, more specifically, target 6.5 on IWRM and transboundary cooperation around shared waters. The methodological approach followed consisted in describing and analysing the situation at the date of IWRM, taking into account: i) the water resources management challenges facing the country; ii) the progress made and difficulties encountered in the formulation and reform of the general water governance framework (national policies, framework laws or water codes); iii) the financing and implementation of water management strategies and plans (in particular national IWRM plans); (iv) operationalization of laws and institution building in water management; and (v) where progress has been slow, the study focused on analysing the underlying causes, which may be related to the lack of political will, misguided choices regarding the institutional anchorage of IWRM, political instability, etc.

In total, all UEMOA Member States have national water policies, a water code, a national framework law on water resources based on IWRM principles and approach. Each of the States has formulated and implemented a National IWRM Action Plan, with the exception of Guinea Bissau, which has developed a Roadmap that should guide the subsequent formulation of an IWRM National Action Plan. The study revealed that the financing of the processes of formulation and implementation of IWRM plans was mainly provided by development partners, with a modest counterpart / contribution from States (rarely reaching 5% and exceptionally 10% of the financing mobilized). In most countries, the creation of funds to finance water governance (particularly IWRM) is planned, with a different name for these funds in each country. Concerning the institutional anchoring of the IWRM process, the experiences of the countries studied show that the management of water governance issues and the IWRM process is better ensured in the case where there is an IWRM mission administration placed at the highest level in the state organization chart. On the scale of the UEMOA region, 90% of the basins are transboundary river basins that have a River Basin Organisation - RBO- (OMVG, OMVS, NBA, ABVBAV, LCBC, ...). The founding texts of these RBOs are strongly inspired by the principles of IWRM.

The IWRM Action Plan, issued from this study and validated by the stakeholders in December 2017, aims to **strengthen the governance of water resources** in the UEMOA region in order to contribute to ensuring a favourable, easy-going and productive environment, thus improving the living conditions of the populations of the sub-region. It is organized around three (03) intervention axes: i) Water Governance Frameworks; ii) Catalytic Initiatives for IWRM Implementation in Practice; and iii) Stakeholder Information and Capacity Building. Each line of intervention is divided into twelve (12) lines of action. As for the lines of action, they are divided into forty-one (41) actions. The implementation of the Action Plan covers the period 2019-2030 with a total budget of CFAF 23.647 billion.

**The second communication** of this session concerns the Implementation Plan for West African Regional Water Resources Policy: Progress and Prospects for the Achievement of Water-related SDGs in West Africa. It was presented by Mr. Bogonou K. DJERI-ALASSANI, Head of the Governance and Water Policy Division at WRMC/ECOWAS. His presentation focused on water resources in the provisions of the ECOWAS Treaty, West Africa's regional water resources policy and implementation plan, the status of implementation of the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Regional Water Resources Policy and finally the prospects and priority actions for the achievement of the water-related SDGs in West Africa. It should be noted that the institutional framework for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of West Africa's regional water resources policy is based on ECOWAS/UEMOA/CILSS coordination. ECOWAS takes the lead role and, in consultation with UEMOA and CILSS, defines the action plan for the implementation of the Policy, in particular through the updating of the Regional IWRM Action Plan (RAP/IWRM). As part of the implementation of the RAP/IWRM, ECOWAS supported thirteen (13) West African countries in the implementation of their National IWRM Action Plans. It has also contributed to the establishment of the Regional Water Observatory, the adoption of the Directive on the Construction of Water Infrastructures, and the validation of the Directive on the Management of Shared Water Resources. However, it faces funding difficulties in supporting the effective implementation of national IWRM action plans, the weak capacity of IWRM institutions established and the weak integration of water-related issues into the different development sectors. Finally, Mr. DJERI-ALASSANI stressed the need to improve the planning and collaboration frameworks on IWRM between the three (03) main institutions (ECOWAS, WAEMU, CILSS) for the development and implementation of joint programmes and projects together with partners at different levels.



**Photo 3** : Partial view of the participants in the regional dialogue

**The third communication** of this session was developed by Ms Julienne ROUX of the GWPO Global Secretariat. It focused on the SDG6 Global IWRM Support Programme, which aims to help countries adopt a targeted and coordinated approach to the monitoring and implementation of SDG6 target 6.5, in order to stimulate countries' efforts towards sustainable and equitable development. It is a Programme coordinated by GWP, in close collaboration with UN Environment - DHI Centre and Cap-Net UNDP. It is deployed at the regional and national levels in close collaboration with key stakeholders including national governments and mandated institutions, civil society and other actors.

Mrs Julienne ROUX first of all recalled the definitions of SDG6 and IWRM. She presented the 2019 - 2022 SDG6 Global IWRM Support Programme, which is structured in three (03) main stages: (i) monitoring and reporting process on SDG 6, (ii) assistance in formulating appropriate responses in accordance with country priorities and (iii) implementation of solutions. To date, thirty-six (36) countries have been covered by phase 1 of the Programme and four (04) pilot countries by the last two phases, with additional countries currently in the process of deploying the second stage. She highlighted key lessons learned from the pilot countries, including the importance of government ownership, of involving a wide range of actors, and of building on existing national processes for planning, climate adaptation, and SDGs implementation. She concluded by indicating the possibilities that exist for an extension of the programme to other countries and emphasized that the upcoming monitoring and reporting process on SDG 6 in 2020 will be a key opportunity to reflect back in countries on progress made and mobilize for action.

The concerns raised by the participants in relation to these three (03) communications are related to:

- The need to strengthen gender mainstreaming in the implementation of regional IWRM policies and action plans, ensuring the effective implementation of related policy documents and programmes at both UEMOA and ECOWAS levels;
- The need for sub-regional institutions (UEMOA, CILSS and ECOWAS) and basin organizations to develop synergy in their interventions and support to countries in order to avoid dispersing funding efforts. At this level, it should be noted that CILSS is currently mapping ongoing initiatives in order to avoid possible duplication and better planning of interventions in the field;
- The imperative strengthening of UEMOA and ECOWAS support to countries in the implementation of their IWRM action plans. At this level, ECOWAS highlighted the opportunities available at its level to support countries in the implementation of their national IWRM plans and to strengthen countries' capacities to develop bankable projects. It also proposes to countries to operationalize to this end the implementation of the economic principles of IWRM, i. e. the user / polluter-pays;
- The importance to be mobilized together for the preparation of the upcoming World Water Forum. In this regard, it is very good to see that this is one of the lines of action in WAEMU action plan.

### **2.3. Sharing and discussion focused on innovative approaches to accelerate progress in IWRM implementation**

The second session was chaired by Mr. Ndri KOFFI of the Union of Embrella Industries of Côte d'Ivoire. It focused on sharing and discussions focusing on innovative approaches to accelerate progress in IWRM implementation in order to achieve SDG 6 and other water-related SDGs. It also includes three (03) communications.

**The first communication** concerns the IWRM Programme 2016-2030 and the national tax law known as the "Financial Contribution for Water (CFE)" - innovative financing of IWRM in Burkina Faso. It was presented by SP GIRE, Mr. Moustapha CONGO. The latter reviewed the implementation of the National IWRM Plan (PN GIRE) in Burkina Faso, the results already achieved, which include the creation of five (5) water agencies, forty-six (46) Local Water Committees (LWCs), the adoption of three (03) SDAGEs (Master Plan for Water Management), the establishment of the water police service, training, communication, protection and restoration actions for water resources. He also reported the progress made on the operationalization of the water tax (Contribution financiere en matière d'eau – CFE), in particular through the law on the financial contribution to water and the adoption of the decree on raw water withdrawals.

The 2016-2030 phase of the National IWRM Programme, aims to "contribute sustainably to meeting the freshwater needs of users and aquatic ecosystems". It has for a total budget for the fifteen years of 69.0 billion CFA francs with financing modalities that are 21% for the State, 58% for donors and 21% for the CFE. The budget for the first part 2016-2020 amounts to CFAF 26.9 billion. From this communication, it should be noted that with all the challenges facing the water sector, the CFE is a tool for financial empowerment based on taxes on the withdrawal of raw water and the management of both the modification of the water regime and water pollution.

Some lessons learned on the water tax include that the success of such a mechanism relies on a strong political commitment and support, and that it is important to set up tax levels that can be supported by users, to start by the biggest users, and to carry out visible activities with the profits from the tax; these reassure the water users.

**The second communication** concerns the Project Integrating Flood and Drought Management and Early Warning for Climate Change Adaptation in the Volta Basin. It was presented by Mr. Ramesh TRIPATHI, Project Officer at WMO. The latter focused on the context and supporting elements of the project, the objectives and expected results of the project, the components of the project and its implementation structures. Indeed, the project is justified by the extreme vulnerability of the populations of the Volta basin, who are highly exposed to climatic hazards such as floods and drought but have a low adaptive capacity; this makes them vulnerable due to the high poverty rate, financial and technological constraints and the high dependence on rainfed agriculture. The project focuses on the institutional and operational technical strengthening of the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHSs), VBA and other relevant authorities in the six (06) riparian countries. NMHSs and VBA will have innovative solutions and approaches for disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, including so-called "green" solutions as well as gender-sensitive participatory approaches. Early warning systems will be designed taking into account civil security services and other private entities and public actors. The project will be implemented by WMO, GWP-WA, VBA and SMHN in the countries. The overall budget for the project is approximately US\$8 million. The project has three components, including:

- **Component 1: Risk prevention** whose main results include the development of risk maps, the development of climate scenarios and the promotion of ecosystem services, as well as the implementation of long-term risk management strategies;
- **Component 2: Concrete adaptation measures and stakeholder engagement** whose main results are: the development of early warning systems, demonstration actions at pilot sites, the promotion of nature-based solutions and the mainstreaming of gender issues;
- **Component 3: Improving Governance** whose key activities include building the resilience and capacity of policy makers.



**Photo 4** : Partial view of the participants in the regional dialogue

**The third communication of session 2** was presented by Prof. Aboubacar AWAISS, Regional Coordinator of the Regional Thematic Programme "Water Resources and Wetlands" at the IUCN Regional Office for Central and West Africa. It concerns the Regional Partnership Project on Water and Environment in Central and West Africa - PREE - ACO. This is a regional project that is justified by, among other things, the need to consolidate and scale up the achievements of previous initiatives funded by the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida) and implemented by IUCN in the region and the need to support regional institutions in their efforts to respond to the challenges of climate change. The overall objective of the project is to strengthen the resilience of natural ecosystems and local communities in the river and lake basins of West and Central Africa. Specifically, the project aims to strengthen the implementation of IWRM and the resilience of communities and ecosystems in order to prevent and manage conflicts over the use of natural resources in the basins of Niger, Volta, Mono, Lake Chad and the Fouta Djallon Highland. The project's interventions are essentially structured around five (05) axes, namely:

- Capacity building of regional institutions;
- The operationalization of IWRM in basins;
- Taking into account the risks and opportunities of conflict sensitivity in basins;
- The restoration of particular degraded ecosystems; and
- Increasing the capacity of local communities to adapt to climate change and strengthening the resilience of ecosystems.

The total budget of the project is about 14 million Euros.

In response to participants' questions and observations about the communications in Session 2, speakers indicated that :

- The establishment of the water police in Burkina Faso is the result of coordinated efforts to implement certain laws that are not applied in the field. This water police force identifies itself as a coordination of the various services already in existence in charge of prevention, control and repression missions, in the implementation of water resources legislation;
- In order to promote gender mainstreaming in the composition of the management boards of Local Water Committees in Burkina Faso, a minimum of 33% of women is required;
- The CFE contributes to the implementation of visible protection and restoration actions in Burkina Faso. To this end, the CFE contributed CFAF 100 million to the rehabilitation of the Koubri dam dike;
- The CFE is supervised and there are ratios for the allocation of the resources generated;
- The CFE cannot directly finance the CWP - Burkina Faso in place of the LWC;
- The national water and sanitation utility (ONEA) is a user who therefore pays its CFE to the water agencies in Burkina Faso;
- Parliamentarians were mobilized for the deployment of the CFE in Burkina Faso, through the network of Parliamentarians for Water;
- The application of the polluter-pays principle applies to all industries in the event of pollution in Burkina Faso;
- The training manual being prepared, as part of the project to integrate flood and drought management and early warning for climate change adaptation in the Volta Basin, will take into account aspects related to the management of the two themes (flood and drought) and gender;
- The selection of prospective pilot sites for the project integrating flood and drought management and early warning for climate change adaptation in the Volta Basin was made in collaboration with the VBA, taking into account areas frequently affected by drought and/or floods;

- The PREE ACO project which will start certainly in 2020 until 2023 with the possibility of extension. The Gambia is not part of the intervention area but the project will operate in the Fouta Djallon Highland, part of which is in the Gambia.



Photo 5 : Partial view of the participants in the regional dialogue

#### 2.4. Sharing of experiences in implementing IWRM in countries within the framework of the United Nations Development Agenda 2030

Session 3 was chaired by Mr. Dam MOGBANTE, resource person and former Executive Secretary of GWP-WA. It includes four (04) communications on country experiences in IWRM planning and implementation.

The **first presentation** focuses on the experience of implementing the SDG6 Global IWRM Support Programme with the development of a roadmap to accelerate the implementation of IWRM in Ghana. It was presented by Mrs Theodora ADOMAKO-ADJEI of the Executive Secretariat of the Community Water and Sanitation Agency (CWSA) and Member of the CWP Steering Committee in Ghana. The IWRM roadmap was developed through a strong multi-stakeholder engagement process. The implementation of this IWRM roadmap is coordinated by the WRC Executive Secretariat with the support of the CWP-Ghana. Exchanges are underway with the World Bank and other financial partners to finance the implementation of the roadmap. UNESCO has already decided to support some actions identified through the roadmap for example.

The **second communication** focused on the assessment of the implementation of the IWRM National Action Plan 2007-2018 as well as the ongoing implementation of the IWRM National Programme 2019-2030 in Mali. It was presented by Mr. Daouda TRAORE, Head of the Water Resources Monitoring and Management Division (DSGRE) of the National Directorate of Hydraulics (DNH) of Mali. The objectives of Mali's 2007-2018 PAGIRE are to contribute to the implementation of the IWRM process, in particular by applying the Water Code in order to promote economic and social development and the preservation of ecosystems. It specifically aims to define and plan the future framework for IWRM in the country; then to identify specific actions and propose the necessary means for their implementation.

At the beginning of 2019, a National IWRM Programme (PNGIRE) 2019-2030 was adopted. It aims to establish a functional IWRM framework in all its aspects, i.e. to implement the elements of water management reform adopted by the Government since the early 2000s with the 2002 Water Code and the 2006 National Water Policy. The PNGIRE 2019-2030 has four (04) specific objectives, namely:

- The establishment of an institutional framework adapted to IWRM;
- The functionality of an IWRM financial contribution (IWRM CF) based on the user-pays and polluter-pays principles, and mobilized for the benefit of the water sector;
- The functionality of a Water Police;
- Capacity building.

The budget for the implementation of the 2019-2030 PNGIRE amounts to CFAF 17.39 billion, of which 20% will be provided by the State, 22% by the IWRM financial contribution and 58% by Mali's financial partners (loans or grants).

The **third communication** concerns the implementation of the Niger PANGIRE. It was presented by Mr. Sani ABDU, Head of the Monitoring and Evaluation Department of the Permanent Secretariat of the PANGIRE. In his presentation, he recalled the content of the PANGIRE document, the activities of the institutional and organizational component, the activities of the technical and scientific component focused on groundwater monitoring and the prospects for the future.

The **fourth communication** of the session was presented by Prof. Euloge AGBOSSOU, Chair of the Country Water Partnership of Benin (CWP Benin). It concerns the evolution of the IWRM issue and the positioning of the Benin CWP, the implementation of the partnership approach by the Benin CWP. Particular emphasis was placed on the Benin CWP - Netherlands Embassy partnership, which has enabled the CWP to position itself as a strategic actor for the coordination of the implementation of the Governance Component of the OmiDelta Programme. In his intervention, Prof. AGBOSSOU placed particular emphasis on the recognition of the CWP as a major actor in the promotion of IWRM, a credible network to bring together Water Civil Society actors around the issues and challenges of the water sector; this is reflected in the CWP's involvement in the processes of elaboration, implementation and monitoring of water and sanitation sector programmes in Benin.

Of the exchanges that followed these four (04) communications, it should be noted that:

- CWPs must ensure that they find a mechanism to ensure the sustainability and scale-up of their actions;
- The importance of coordination at governmental level and of mainstreaming of activities to accelerate IWRM in relevant agencies and projects, to leverage resources and ensure ownership for some of the activities;
- The need for countries to work towards the effective application of the User/pays and polluter/pays principles to mobilize financial resources for the implementation of IWRM;
- CWPs should take advantage of existing funding opportunities at the country level.



## 2.5. Preparation of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (WWF) of March 2021 in Dakar

The 4<sup>th</sup> session, coordinated by the Chair of GWP-WA, Prof. Amadou Hama MAIGA, allowed participants to learn about the progress of the preparatory work for the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (WWF) in Dakar in March 2021. This communication was developed by Mr. Amadou NDIAYE, Technical Advisor to the Executive Secretary of the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF, which will take place from 22 to 27 March 2021 in Dakar. The Communicator provided much information to the participants on the process as well as the actions underway and those already carried out since the acceptance in 2017 of Senegal's candidature by the World Water Council for the organization of the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF. He emphasized the pan-African nature of the event and the importance for West African actors to contribute to its success. The Technical Advisor reported that four (04) priority themes were identified by stakeholders under the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF: water security, cooperation, water and rural development, tools and means (finance, governance, knowledge management and innovations). The operational framework set up for the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF includes the Steering Committee, the Executive Secretariat and the Senegalese part which manages the four (04) priority themes through the working groups.

Strategic partners include intergovernmental agencies, governments, intergovernmental organizations, non-governmental organizations, etc., whose role is to provide scientific, advisory, financial and in-kind support. Finally, he highlighted labelled projects to provide concrete solutions to the water problems facing Africa, the selection phase of which will start very soon.

The discussions that followed focused on:

- The criteria to be met for submitting labelled projects and the procedure for compiling applications;
- The conditions for becoming a strategic partner of the Forum;
- The support of GWP-WA to provide scientific input and in the facilitation of the forum.

## 2.6. Launch of the new GWP 2020-2025 Strategy and of the Water supplement to the UNFCCC Technical Guidelines in West Africa



**Photo 6 :** Ms Julienne ROUX of the GWPO Global Secretariat giving a brief overview of the new GWP-WA 2020-2025 Strategy

During this last session, participants officially launched in West Africa the implementation of the GWP 2020-2025 Strategy<sup>1</sup> and the Water supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines, Addressing Water in NAPs, 2nd Ed. April 2019<sup>2</sup>. Ms Julienne ROUX of the GWPO Global Secretariat presented the GWP strategy and M. Armand HOUANYE, Executive Secretary of GWP-WA, presented the Water Supplement to the UNFCCC guidelines as well as key modalities for advancing adaptation planning and mobilizing climate finance.



**Photo 7 :** Regional dialogue participants ready for the implementation of the GWP-WA 2020-2025 Strategy in West Africa

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gwp.org/en/About/more/news/2019/gwp-launches-new-strategy-to-the-water-world/>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Supplements/GWP\\_NAP\\_Water\\_Supplement\\_May2019.pdf](https://www4.unfccc.int/sites/NAPC/Documents/Supplements/GWP_NAP_Water_Supplement_May2019.pdf)



**Photo 8** : Participants in the regional dialogue committed to the implementation of the Water supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines, Addressing Water in NAPs, 2nd Ed. April 2019

## 2.7. Recommendations of the regional dialogue

At the end of the regional dialogue, the following recommendations were made.

### ***With regard to ECOWAS, together with UEMOA and CILSS:***

- Provide leadership in the coordination and facilitation of water resources management and development initiatives in accordance with its mandate as the executive body (through the ECOWAS Water Resources Management Centre) of the Permanent Framework for Coordination and Monitoring of IWRM in West Africa (PFCM-IWRM/WA);
- Define a framework for priority action involving all sub-regional integration institutions including the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW), the African Union Development Agency;
- Put in place the human and financial resources commensurate with the mission of CEMR/ECOWAS;
- Take in hand on a continuous and regular basis the mission of monitoring the capitalisation and support for the scaling up of good IWRM practices at different levels, including the operationalization of the West African Water Observatory;
- Capitalize, award sub-regional recognition and promote the sharing of Burkina Faso's experience in the development and implementation of the Law on the Financial Contribution on Water;
- Assist States and RBOs to develop and operationalize sustainable and innovative financing mechanisms for IWRM;
- Support technical and institutional capacity building efforts to advance IWRM implementation and water resources development at different levels;
- Mobilize the necessary funding for the implementation of the IWRM Action Plan in support of countries in the UEMOA region by involving national and subregional partners;
- Develop and implement the strategy for mobilising financial resources for the effective implementation of WRMC/ECOWAS Strategic Plan 2020-2030;
- Support experience-sharing initiatives involving national and sub-regional actors, such as this dialogue;
- Institutionalize the organization every two (02) years of the dialogue on themes related to the sustainable management and development of water resources in West Africa;

- Be part of the overall process of preparing the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF according to a roadmap for mobilizing stakeholders at different levels;
- Establish and operationalize a subregional mechanism for regular monitoring of the implementation of the SDGs in West Africa;
- Establish an MoU between ECOWAS and UEMOA, together with the other sub-regional water structures, and the Executive Secretariat for the participation of West African States in the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF from 22 to 27 March 2021 in Dakar.

***To the States:***

- Continue efforts to develop, update and implement IWRM Action Plans and other planning instruments for sustainable resource management and development;
- Integrate financing for IWRM implementation into long-term development processes including climate financing and the operationalization of IWRM economic and financial instruments;
- Ensure gender equity and youth engagement in all development initiatives related to water resources;
- Strengthen the articulation between national development planning processes and water resources management and development;
- Establish and/or strengthen mechanisms to coordinate the interventions of development partners at different levels;
- Strengthen collaboration with CWPs on initiatives to implement/accelerate the implementation of IWRM and efforts to achieve water-related SDGs.

***To the Executive Secretariat of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in Dakar 2021:***

- Work to set up a communication approach/system that will allow active, coherent participation of all West African actors working in the water sector at the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF in Dakar 2021.

## Conclusion

The regional dialogue allowed participants to learn about the current situation of countries and the West African sub-region with regard to the degree of implementation of IWRM within the framework of the United Nations Development Agenda 2030. They also noted the efforts of States, ECOWAS and UEMOA Commissions and Partners to advance the implementation of IWRM and raise the profile of water in development processes at different levels. Also of note was the information of the participants on the progress of the preparation process of the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF as well as the perspectives related to it.

The participants in the regional dialogue expressed their satisfaction on the fruitful exchanges.

The Representative of the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso, SP GIRE, Mr. Moustapha CONGO, thanked the organizing and participating institutions for the support and high level of the discussions. He then closed the work of the regional dialogue.

## Annex 1: Concept note of the dialogue

### 1. Background

Global Water Partnership West Africa (GWP-WA) is convening the General Assembly of its Partners (AP), for the ongoing year, on September 26<sup>th</sup> in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

On September 25<sup>th</sup> in Ouagadougou, GWP in partnership with ECOWAS and WAEMU will hold the dialogue of key actors from countries and sub-regional level on “Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water related SDGs in West Africa: Challenges, Innovative approaches and Roles of Partnerships”. On the same day of September 25<sup>th</sup>, the implementation of the GWP Strategy 2020-2025 in West Africa sub-region and the Water supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines, Addressing Water in National Adaptation Plans, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. April 2019 will be launched.

The regional dialogue is convened under the implementation of the Global SDG6 IWRM Support Programme that aims to assist countries in achieving a focused and coordinated approach to the monitoring and implementation of **SDG Target 6.5: By 2030 implement IWRM at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate**, in order to boost the countries’ efforts towards achieving sustainable and equitable development. The programme is coordinated by Global Water Partnership (GWP), in close collaboration with UN Environment-DHI Centre and Cap-Net UNDP, as well as a blend of partners representing national governments, civil society and the private sector.

Integrated water resources management (IWRM) is a process which “promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital eco-systems”. It is a systematic process for the sustainable development, allocation and monitoring of water resource use in the context of social, economic and environmental objectives.

In West Africa, the implementation of the Global SDG6 IWRM Support Programme has started with Ghana and Mali in 2018. It will be extended to new countries in the sub-region from 2019.

The regional dialogue is holding eighteen (18) month from holding of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in March 2021 in Dakar in West Africa. This event is a great challenge for water stakeholders in Africa and that commits GWP, and more particularly GWP-WA. This will be an opportunity for the actors from countries and subregional level to take stock of the progression of the preparatory works and make proposals in term of contribution of our network to the organization of a quality participation of the sub-region.

#### 1.1. The UN 2030 development Agenda and the need to advance IWRM implementation to achieve SDG water related goals

The UN development Agenda fully recognizes that: (i) water is embedded in all aspects of development – food security, health, and poverty reduction – and (ii) water is essential for economic growth, and sustains the natural ecosystems on which everything else depends. It recognizes as well, the importance of water to achieving almost all the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG).

The inclusion of the ‘Water Goal’ (SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all) puts responsibility for water management and increasing water security in the hands of the water and water related sectors. It also champions the need for an integrated approach to water resources management, providing the ‘green light’ to countries to implement their IWRM plans, as the means of equitably sharing limited water resources among many often-conflicting demands from people, industry, agriculture, and the environment when demand exceeds supply.

Indeed, the SDG Target 6.5 mandates nations to “implement IWRM at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate”. It recognizes the critical importance of managing water resources for sustainable development, and the need for the water and water related sectors to collaborate and move beyond their traditional fragmented ‘silo’ approach to an integrated approach to water resources management. SDG 17 emphasizes on the need to strengthen the means of implementation of all other 16 SDGs and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

Going forward, IWRM shall equip countries and communities to seek water solutions from outside the conventional water community and to use interdependencies to reinforce and deliver progresses on SDG6 and across multiple SDGs. The Water Goal will only be achieved if other goals are successful, and in turn, other SDGs will only be achieved if the Water Goal is successful.

Other complementary approaches are needed to support IWRM implementation acting as catalysts for achieving IWRM objectives, the SDG Water Goal and interlinked SDGs. These include, for example:

- the Water- Energy- Food- Ecosystem (WEFE) nexus approach– to foster dialogue and synergies across relevant sectors (e.g. Food, Energy, Water, Ecosystems) for interlinking of SDGs, with results for food security, energy security, sustainable infrastructure, ecosystem management and peaceful transboundary cooperation;
- programmes and plans related to sustainable agriculture and food security, sustainable cities and developments, and disaster risk reduction;
- ecosystem-based approaches/ nature-based solutions – for reducing poverty and inequalities, ensuring sustainable, climate resilient communities, and protecting and restoring ecosystems;
- integrated flood and/or drought management activities – integrating sustainable cities and infrastructure, climate;
- the source-to-sea/ridge-to-reef approaches– for food and energy secure development, responsible consumption and production and conservation and sustainable use of coasts and the marine environment. They are useful for considering upstream and downstream implications and land management impacts on the marine environment;
- the implementation of water supply, sanitation, wastewater treatment and reuse services.

Also, there are other governance approaches and measures that complement the IWRM framework, including the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Water Governance Principles, which cover the effectiveness and efficiency of and trust and engagement in water governance.

## **1.2. The status of the Indicator SDG 6.5.1 on IWRM implementation in the West Africa subregion**

West Africa has significant water resources, but suffers from chronic deficits, because of uneven distribution of rainfall and flows in time and space, insufficient knowledge about water resources, lack of investment that explains the low-level development of its potential resources, poor resource management and impacts of climate variability and change.

To ensure the sustainable management and development of water resources in the sub-region, at the West African Conference on the IWRM (WAC/IWRM) held in Ouagadougou from March 3rd to March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1998, Ministers in charge of water and the Heads of delegation of the 15 ECOWAS Member States and Mauritania adopted the "Declaration of Ouagadougou" that urged Governments to amongst others implement IWRM at local, national, transboundary and regional level.

Several IWRM related initiatives led by Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS and WAEMU), River Basin Organizations (RBOs) and countries with support from various partners are ongoing or underway.

Over the course of 2017 and 2018, 14 countries out of the 15 West African countries submitted their assessments on the status of the Indicator 6.5.1 "Degree of IWRM implementation (0-100)" of the SDG 6 to UN Environment. Only Guinea Bissau didn't submit its assessment. The status of the Indicator 6.5.1 was determined from the results of a questionnaire filled by countries across the world on the IWRM implementation. The questionnaire comprises four sections:

- Section 1- Enabling Environment, which includes mostly policy, legal and strategic planning tools;
- Section 2- Institutional development and participation, which covers the range and roles of political, social, economic and administrative institutions and other stakeholders' groups that help to support the IWRM implementation;
- Section 3- Management Instruments, and includes the tools and activities that enable decision-makers and users to make rational and informed choices between alternative actions; and

- Section 4- Financing, in which budgeting and financing made available and used for water resources development and management from various sources.

For full results of the assessment for each country, see <http://iwrmdataportal.unepdhi.org>.

The subregion's overall IWRM implementation score (41,57) which is lower than the global average (49), with country performances ranging from very low (lowest score: 15 - Liberia) to medium-high (highest score: 64 – Cabo Verde).

Across the four IWRM dimensions, implementation scores for West Africa subregion range from 34.29 for financing to 39.00 for management instruments, 44.71 for the enabling environment and 48.07 and for institutions and participatory processes. West Africa subregion, just as the whole Africa continent, is lagging behind particularly for financing IWRM and the management instruments.

The great challenges for the subregion include amongst others the needs: (i) to increase innovative and sustainable finance for water resources management, including water control infrastructure; (ii) to strengthen capacity to support IWRM implementation at all levels; (iii) to further develop transboundary cooperation in managing transboundary river basins and the governance of aquifers.

## **2. Overall and specific objective**

The overall objective of the regional dialogue of key actors from countries and sub-regional level on “Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water related SDGs in West Africa: Challenges, Innovative approaches and Roles of Partnerships” is to contribute to advance implementation of the UN development Agenda through improving water governance and ensuring water security to achieve SDG6 and other water related SDGs at national, transboundary and regional levels in West Africa.

The specific objectives of the regional dialogue are:

- to reflect on the status of the Indicator 6.5.1 of the SDG6 as well as challenges which are limiting progress;
- to discuss implementation approaches and expected outcomes from ongoing and upcoming initiatives aiming at accelerating progress related to the Indicator 6.5.1, and led by countries, RBOs, WAEMU and ECOWAS;
- make proposals in term of contributions from GWP-WA and its partners to the organization and for a quality participation of the subregion to the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum in March 2021 in Dakar;
- to recommend measures to develop and enhance innovative approaches as well as partnerships to foster the progress related to the Indicator 6.5.1 (monitoring and implementation) and contribute to achieve water related SDGs.

The expected outcomes from the regional workshop are:

- the status of the Indicator 6.5.1 of the SDG6 and challenges limiting progress are discussed;
- implementation approaches and expected outcomes from ongoing and upcoming initiatives aiming at accelerating progress related to the Indicator 6.5.1, led by countries, RBOs, ECOWAS and WAEMU are shared and discussed;
- measures to develop and enhance innovative approaches as well as partnerships to foster the progress related to the Indicator 6.5.1 and contribute to achieve water related SDGs, through consolidating and upscaling relevant initiatives are proposed.

## **3. Participants and methodology**

The regional dialogue will be facilitated by GWP-WA Executive Secretariat with support from its Technical Committee of Experts, external resource-persons and the Global Secretariat of the Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO). The methodology of the regional workshop includes three main steps, the preparation, the implementation and the reporting:

- The preparation step focuses on the development of the workshop concept note and agenda, identification and mobilization of participants as well as the logistical arrangements. It includes also, for the key persons assigned the role of moderator of the session to develop the presentations and introductory notes;



- The implementation of the workshop including presentations followed by debates as well as group works with results presented in plenary;
- The reporting step consists of synthesizing and analyzing all the workshop outputs on one hand and drafting the report on the other hand.

Around sixty (60) participants are expected to attend the regional dialogue. They are representatives of governments, regional organizations and partners including:

- ministries in charge of water resources management (Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal);
- regional Economic Communities (WAEMU and ECOWAS);
- River Basin Organizations (NBA, VBA, OMVS, OMVG);
- regional organizations and partners (CILSS, FAO, IFAD, GIZ, EU, Embassies, NGOs);
- GWPO, GWP-WA, Country Water Partnerships (Benin, Burkina Faso, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal).

#### 4. Draft Agenda

Timing	Activities	Facilitator/ Presenter
08:00-08:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Registration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GWP-WA</li> </ul>
08:30-09:15	<b>Opening Session</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Remarks from CWP Burkina Faso</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairperson CWP Burkina Faso</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Remarks from the Chairperson of GWP-WA</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Chairperson of GWP-WA</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remarks from the Representative of GWPO Global Secretariat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Representative of GWPO Global Secretariat</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remarks from the Executive Secretary of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Amadou NDIAYE, Technical Adviser of the Executive Secretary of the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remarks from the Representative of ECOWAS</li> <li>• The Official Opening Remarks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Representative of ECOWAS</li> <li>• The Ministry in charge of Water and Sanitation in Burkina Faso</li> </ul>
09:15-10:15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The Regional dialogue objectives and the agenda</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Executive Secretary of GWP-WA</li> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Key note speech:</b> The implementation status of the Indicator SDG6.5.1 and challenges for achieving the SDG6 and water related SDGs in West Africa</li> <li>• Questions on the challenges &amp; Answers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Armand K. HOUANYE</li> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>
<b>10:15-10:40</b>	<b>Tea Break and photo</b>	
10:40-11:40	<b>Actions to accelerate IWRM implementation progress in West Africa: presentations and discussions</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The West African Water Policy Implementation Plan: Status and prospects to enable the achievement of SDGs on water</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ECOWAS</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The WAEMU IWRM Action Plan 2019-2030: Strategic directions, priority activities and expected results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WAEMU</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SDG6 IWRM Support Programme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GWPO</li> <li>• Ghana CWP</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Questions &amp; Answers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presenters from ECOWAS, WAEMU, GWPO</li> <li>• Participants</li> </ul>

Timing	Activities	Facilitator/ Presenter
11:40-13:00	<b>Sharing and discussing based on</b> ongoing/ upcoming and innovative approaches for accelerating IWRM implementation progress to achieve SDG6 and water related SDGs	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burkina Faso – IWRM Programme 2016 – 2030 and national law on IWRM innovative finance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Representative from the Ministry in charge water</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Niger Basin authority with the Nexus Water Food Energy Project</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>GIZ/ NBA</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Volta Basin Authority – Project on Integrating Flood and Drought Management and Early Warning for Climate Change Adaptation in the Volta Basin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WMO an VBA</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partenariat Régional sur l'Eau et l'Environnement : mise à l'échelle et extension des interventions en matière de gouvernance environnementale aux bassins transfrontaliers de l'Afrique centrale et occidentale (les bassins du Niger, de la Volta, du Lac Tchad et le Massif du Fouta Djallon)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UICN/ PACO</li> </ul>
<b>13:00-14:00</b>	<b>Lunch Break</b>	
14:00-16:00	<b>Break-out groups - Drafting measures</b> to develop and enhance innovative approaches as well as partnerships to foster the progress related to the Indicator 6.5.1, through consolidating and upscaling relevant initiatives (4 break out groups with 1 case study presented in each). Measures will be drafted around: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Section 1- Enabling Environment;</li> <li>Section 2- Institutions and participation</li> <li>Section 3- Management Instruments</li> <li>Section 4- Innovative and sustainable Financing:</li> </ul>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ghana – SDG6 IWRM Support Programme in the country and the roadmap to support IWRM Implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Representative from the Ministry in charge water- Ghana</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mali – IWRM National Programme 2019-2030: Strategic directions, priority activities and expected results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Representative from the Ministry in charge water- Mali</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Niger – National IWRM Action Plan: Strategic directions, priority activities and expected results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Representative from the Ministry in charge water- Niger</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senegal - National IWRM Action Plan: Strategic directions, priority activities and expected results</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Representative from the Ministry in charge water- Senegal</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feedback from Working Groups, discussions and key recommendations targeting key levels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participants</li> </ul>
15:30-16:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Progress state of the preparatory works of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum (WWF) of March 2021 in Dakar, assorted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Amadou NDIAYE, Technical Adviser of the Executive Secretary of the 9<sup>th</sup> WWF</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussions on the network contributions for the organisation of a quality participation of the subregion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECOWAS</li> <li>GWP-WA</li> <li>Partners</li> </ul>
16:15-17:30	Launching in West Africa sub-region of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The implementation in of the GWP's Strategy 2020-2025</li> <li>The Water supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines, Addressing Water in NAPs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. April 2019</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Chairperson of GWP-WA</li> <li>The Representative of WAEMU</li> <li>The Representative of ECOWAS</li> <li>The Representative of the Ministry in charge of Water in Burkina Faso</li> </ul>
	Official closing of the regional dialogue	

## Annex 2: Opening Ceremony Speeches

### Speech of WAEMU Commission

- **Honorable Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso;**
- **Dear Mr. Director of the Water Resources Management Center of ECOWAS;**
- **Dear Mr. Deputy Executive Director of Volta Basin Authority;**
- **Dear Mr. Chairperson of Global Water Partnership West Africa;**
- **Dear Representative of the Global Secretariat of Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO);**
- **Dear Mr. the Representative of the World Meteorological Organization;**
- **Dear Representatives of International Organizations and Sub-regional Cooperation Institutions;**
- **Dear Chairs of the Country Water Partnerships;**
- **Dear General Directors;**
- **Dear Ladies and Gentlemen Directors and Heads of Office;**
- **Dear Representatives of the Media;**
- **Honorable guests.**
- **Dear participants.**

The event that brings us this morning is of a crucial importance not only for the Commission but also to the eight Member States of the West African Monetary and Economic Union (WAEMU). The regional dialogue on the theme: « **Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water related SDGs in West Africa: Challenges, Innovative approaches and Roles of Partnerships** » is in line with the current concerns of our States.

In December 2018, WAEMU validated the report of the study on the implementation status of the integrated water resources management (IWRM) in its Member States during a workshop held here in Ouagadougou. The study updated on the implementation status of the IWRM in the eight UEMOA Member States and developed a Regional IWRM Action Plan with a complete and motivated proposal of logical framework and implementation modalities.

**Honorable Minister;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Dear participants.**

For the WAEMU's Commission, this dialogue is a way to begin the operationalization of some of the recommendations of this study. The WAEMU's Commission is aware that water plays a central role in the achievement of many of the 17 Goals of the SDGs. This is reflected in the United Nations Development Agenda, which fully recognizes that: (i) water is an integral part of all aspects of development - food security, health and poverty reduction - and (ii) water is essential for economic growth and supports the natural ecosystems on which everything else depends.

It is by combining our efforts and skills that we will succeed in the efficient implementation of the SDGs for the benefit of our Member States and the well-being of their populations.

**Honorable Minister;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Dear participants.**

The collaboration with the ECOWAS Water Resources Management Centre and the Global Water Partnership West Africa (GWP-WA) will allow to extend our work from the WAEMU Member States to all West African States. It is therefore important for us that you engage in debates and exchanges for fruitful results that we look forward to.

**Long live to the regional cooperation;**

**Thank you very much!**

## **Speech of GWP-WA Chairperson**

- **Dear Representative of the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso;**
- **Dear Mr. Director of the Water Resources Management Center of ECOWAS;**
- **Dear Representative of the WAEMU's Commission;**
- **Dear Mr. Deputy Executive Director of Volta Basin Authority;**
- **Dear Representative of the Global Secretariat of Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO);**
- **Dear Mr. the Representative of the World Meteorological Organization;**
- **Dear Representatives of International Organisations and Sub-regional Cooperation Institutions;**
- **Chairs of the Country Water Partnerships;**
- **Dear General Directors;**
- **Dear Ladies and Gentlemen Directors and Heads of Office;**
- **Dear Representatives of the Media;**
- **Honorable guests.**
- **Dear participants.**

On behalf of the GWP family and particularly on behalf of GWP-WA and the CWP of Burkina Faso, I would like to welcome you to the Burkinabe capital to attend the meetings within the framework of the 9<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Assembly of Global Water Partnership West Africa.

GWP welcomes the collaboration that the network has established in countries through Country Water Partnerships (CWP) and at the regional level with the various major institutions working for the sustainable development.

This fruitful collaboration, with the ECOWAS Water Resources Management Centre and the West African Economic and Monetary Union, allows us today to bring together the main regional stakeholders in the water sector and to offer this platform for a regional dialogue which is an opportunity for exchanges on the key issue of "**Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water related SDGs in West Africa: Challenges, Innovative approaches and Roles of Partnerships**".

**Dear representative of the Minister of Water and Sanitation;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Dear guests.**

The regional dialogue is being held eighteen (18) months before the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, which will take place in March 2021 in Dakar, Senegal, in our sub-region. This event is a great challenge for water stakeholders in Africa and this involves as well GWP, and more particularly GWP-WA. That is why, from the outset, we are doing our best to work together with the Senegalese authorities in charge of its organization. Therefore, we have invited and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly and sincerely thank the Executive Secretariat in charge of coordinating the organization of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum for accepting to come and exchange with all regional stakeholders here on the main concerns related to the organization and participation in this global event.

Thus, actors at the country and sub-regional levels will have the opportunity to learn about the progress of the preparatory work and make proposals for the contribution of our network to design a quality attendance of our sub-region.

**Dear representative of the Minister of Water and Sanitation;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Dear guests.**

It is well known that our West African sub-region has significant water resources, but the region suffers from chronic deficits due to the unequal distribution of rainfall and flows over time and space. The countries of the sub-region have insufficient knowledge of their water resources. The lack of investment explains the low level of development of its potential resources, poor resource management and difficulties in coping with the impacts of climate variability and change.

Several initiatives related to the implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) developed by the Regional Economic Communities (ECOWAS and UEMOA), Transboundary Basin Organizations (TBOs) and countries with the support of various partners have been carried out and some are ongoing or planned.

Our States must take ownership of various results in order to implement them for the benefit of the well-being of the populations of each country.

**Dear representative of the Minister of Water and Sanitation;**

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Dear guests.**

The establishment of partnerships is essential for the achievement of SDGs which are interconnected, where water plays a central role in sustainable development. For Global Water Partnership, our new Strategy for the period 2020-2025 is built around three pillars that include Mobilization based on partnerships and multi-stakeholder platforms, Action and Learning.

We take the opportunity of this ceremony to officially launch in West Africa the implementation of the GWP 2020-2025 Strategy and the Water supplement to the UNFCCC NAP Technical Guidelines, Addressing Water in NAPs, 2nd Ed. April 2019.

The symbolic launch of both documents is an event of great importance for the consolidation of the Regional Partnership.

**Long live to the regional cooperation ;**

**Long live to the Partnership between actors ;**

**Thank you very much!**

## Message of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum

- Honorable Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso;
- Dear Mr. Commissioner in charge of Department of Agriculture, Water Resources and Environment (DAREN) of WAEMU;
- Dear Mr. Director of the Water Resources Management Centre (CGRE) of ECOWAS;
- Dear Chairperson of the Global Water Partnership West Africa (GWP-WA);
- Dear Representative of the Global Secretariat of Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO);
- Dear Mr. the Representative of the World Meteorological Organization;
- Dear Mr. Chairperson of the Country Water Partnership of Burkina Faso;
- Dear attendees;
- Dear guests;
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

I would like to take this opportunity, as the Representative of the Executive Secretary of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, to speak at this opening ceremony of the Regional Dialogue of Water stakeholders of the West African sub-region and the Assembly of Partners of Global Water Partnership - West Africa (GWP-WA).

In this regard, allow me to express, on behalf of the entire Executive Secretariat of the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum and in particular the Executive Secretary, Mr. Abdoulaye SENE, absent from these GWP-WA meetings, due to a busy schedule, our warm thanks to the members of GWP-WA, for the opportunity they offered us, particularly to inform their members and partners about the 9<sup>th</sup> Forum and the preparatory process that should lead us there in March 2021.

### **Ladies, Gentlemen,**

I would like to remind some, if there was still a need, and bring to the attention of others, pending further discussion at the sessions following this opening ceremony, that Senegal will organize in 2021, jointly with the World Water Council, the 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, under the theme "**Water Security for Peace and Development**".

Particularly, I would like to tell them that this 9<sup>th</sup> World Water Forum, the second of its kind to be organized on African soil, after Marrakech in 1997, is not in reality the Forum of Senegal, but rather that of all Africa, if we refer to the mobilization behind its candidacy which led to its choice to host this Forum.

Indeed, the choice of Senegal is the result of a wide range of African actors and institutions from civil society, the African Water Association, the Council of Ministers in charge of Water (AMCOW), the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO), the Senegal River Basin Development Organisation (OMVS), the Gambia River Basin Development Organisation (OMVG), universities, for naming but a few.

The main wish of Senegal, its Government, the Ministry of Water and Sanitation and the Executive Secretariat, is to see the entire Africa mobilized again in the preparatory process and the organization of the Forum in order to make it the largest World Water Forum, a Forum with tangible results for the populations from different regions of the world.

I hope that together we will give ourselves all opportunities and means to succeed in addressing this challenge for humanity and to ensure that water, the source of life, will no longer be a factor blocking development nor a factor of conflicts, and be available for all and keep its essential virtues of always quenching thirst, feeding, caring, enlightening and purifying.

**Thank you very much!**

## **Opening speech from the Representative of the Ministry of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso**

- **Dear Mr. the Director of the Water Resources Management Centre of ECOWAS;**
- **Dear Mr. the Commissioner in charge of the Department of Agriculture, Water Resources and Environment of the WAEMU;**
- **Dear Mr. the Deputy Executive Director of the Volta Basin Authority;**
- **Dear Mr Chair of the West African Regional Water Partnership;**
- **Dear Representative of the Global Secretariat of Global Water Partnership Organization (GWPO);**
- **Dear Mr. the Representative of the World Meteorological Organization;**
- **Dear Representatives of International Organizations and Sub-Regional Cooperation Institutions,**
- **Dear Chairs of Country Water Partnerships;**
- **Dear General Managers;**
- **Dear Directors and Heads of Department;**
- **Dear Representatives of the Press;**
- **Dear guests ;**
- **Dear participants.**
- **Honorables invités, à vos rangs et grades respectifs.**

I would like to welcome you all to Ouagadougou, the beautiful capital of Burkina Faso at this time of the rainy season ending, on the occasion of:

- **Th regional dialogue on the theme "Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water-related SDGs in West Africa: Challenges, innovative approaches and roles of partnerships" and ;**
- **The statutory meeting, namely the 9th Ordinary General Assembly of the Partners of the Global Water Partnership West Africa (GWP-WA), focusing on the same theme as the regional dialogue.**

I welcome the foresight of the GWP-WA, the Water Resources Management Centre of ECOWAS and the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) in organizing this regional dialogue on a highly important and strategic theme as part of the reflection efforts in the West African region to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals in general but particularly the goal 6 on water and sanitation.

As the Minister of Water and Sanitation of Burkina Faso, I am delighted to thank you not only for choosing this theme but also for holding those regional events in Ouagadougou.

The implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) is an essential step in ensuring water security, which is essential for any sustainable human development. This is why Burkina Faso, along with the other ECOWAS countries, is firmly committed to the practical implementation of IWRM at the national level through the development and implementation of robust programmes that are well monitored. Thus, at the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase of IWRM planning in the country, the Permanent Secretariat in charge of IWRM was set up to replace the Permanent Secretariat of the IWRM plan. This reflects the commitment of the authorities and people of Burkina Faso to ensure the sustainable development of water resources, particularly in the context of climate change.



**Ladies and Gentlemen ;**

**Dear guests**

This regional dialogue should contribute to advancing the implementation of the United Nations Development Agenda by stimulating momentum to ensure the improved water governance and water security for the effective achievement of SDG 6 and other water-related SDGs at the national, transboundary and regional levels in West Africa.

The holding of the regional dialogue will enable stakeholders from countries and the sub-regional level in West Africa to:

- Assess the level of implementation of IWRM in relation to the Indicator 6.5.1 of SDG6 as well as the challenges that limit related progress;
- Discuss approaches to the implementation of ongoing or planned initiatives aiming to advancing IWRM implementation at national, transboundary and sub-regional levels in West Africa;
- Recommend measures to consolidate and promote the scaling up of innovative approaches and partnerships to support progress in IWRM implementation and the achievement of water-related SDGs in West Africa.

Those meetings are therefore providing a good opportunity for you to cross your respective ideas and experiences, in order to identify the appropriate ways and means to support States, to better address challenges related to the achievement of the SDGs in our sub-region.

Thus, **ladies and gentlemen**, this regional dialogue should lead to recommendations to advance the implementation of the United Nations Development Agenda on water and sanitation by 2030.

That is why, in view of your rich experience, I would like to encourage and urge you to participate assiduously in the various discussions, because the results of these reflections are of great interest to our States.

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Dear guests.**

Your reflections on “**Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve water- related SDGs in West Africa: Challenges, innovative approaches and roles of partnerships**” will help to better inform our States' approach to the sound achievement of the SDGs. Those reflections are important and necessary.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank and congratulate the Global Water Partnership through GWP-WA and the Country Water Partnership of Burkina Faso for all their efforts to promote true citizenship in sustainable water management.

Over the past two years, following the September 2017 General Assembly of Partners, our collaboration at the national level with GWP has enabled us to:

- Develop in support to the VBA, together with the World Meteorological Organization (WMO), the Project for Integrating Flood and Drought Management and Early Warning for Climate Change Adaptation in the Volta Basin, including Burkina Faso, costing an amount of US\$ 7.92 billion founded by the Adaptation Fund with an implementation period of June 2019 - June 2023;
- Continue building the capacity of young people to develop and implement sustainable models projects for climate resilience, particularly in the agricultural sector, as part of the TonFuturTonClimat 2017-2020 project funded by the Government of Quebec;
- Support the organization of the first two editions of the Night of the Water and Sanitation Trophies, aimed at magnifying, encouraging and giving visibility to men and women who have distinguished themselves in the field of water and sanitation.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank GWP-WA for its support during the National Water and Sanitation Forum held on the theme “**Shared and inclusive management for achieving the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Water and Sanitation in Burkina Faso**” from 1<sup>st</sup> to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2018.

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

**Dear guests.**

I would like to seize this opportunity to express our deep gratitude and sincere thanks to the Water Resources Management Centre of ECOWAS, the West African Economic and Monetary Union and Global Water Partnership West Africa for their sustained support and guidance to our various States.

Therefore, I would like to congratulate GWP-WA for the arrangements made to proceed during these regional meetings in Ouagadougou to launch of the implementation in West Africa of:

- The new 2020-2025 strategy of the Global Water Partnership (GWP) network;
- The Water supplement to the Technical Guidelines of the UNFCCC on the National Adaptation Planning Process (NAP), Addressing Water in NAPs, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ed. April 2019.

Finally, I would like to urge all technical and financial partners to continue providing their support to our States in order to consolidate their efforts in achieving SDGs in our sub-region.

It is with these words of hope that I declare open the works of both the GWP-WA Regional Dialogue and the Assembly of Partners on the theme "**Accelerating progress in IWRM implementation to achieve the water-related MDGs in West Africa: Challenges, innovative approaches and the roles of partnerships**".

**Long live to the regional cooperation**

**Thank you very much.**

### Annex 3: List of participants

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