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The post-2015 development agenda

# Ghana stakeholder perspectives on a water goal and its implementation



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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction .....</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1	Opening.....	2
<b>2</b>	<b>Workshop Organization and Participation .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Conclusion.....</b>	<b>13</b>
	<b>Annex 1: Workshop Programme .....</b>	<b>14</b>
	<b>Annex 2: List of Participants.....</b>	<b>15</b>

## 1 Introduction

The 2<sup>nd</sup> One-day National Consultation on the Post 2015 Development Agenda on Water took place at the ERATA Hotel in Accra on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2014. It was organized by the Ghana Country Water Partnership (GCWP) of the Global Water Partnership in collaboration with the Ministry of Water Resources, Works and Housing (MWRWH). About 26 participants attended the meeting representing government ministries, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations, water users, scientific and research institutions, etc. (list attached as Annex 1).

### 1.1 Opening

The meeting was chaired by the Ag Executive Secretary of the Water Resources Commission (WRC) who deputized for the Chairman of the GCWP. The keynote address was presented by the Director General of the National Development Planning Commission (NDPC), Dr. Regina O. Aduwum. In his opening remarks, the chairman recalled some of the outcome of the national consultation which was organized in 2013 and said the reports of the individual national consultations were synthesized into a single report by the UN-Water which reflected the aspirations of the participating countries. He noted that the country consultations expressed the urgent need to secure water resources in order to harness its enormous potential for rapid socio-economic development and eventual eradication of poverty. Thus UN-Water found it expedient for a dedicated goal for water in the next development agenda. In this consultation therefore, the UN-Water and its partners had come together to develop suggestions for a dedicated global goal for water. He concluded that the present consultation was to build on the findings of the earlier set of country consultation and further solicit for views in the ongoing discussions, and also provide a platform for examining country relevance and applicability of the options and recommendations presented in the UN-Water paper on a dedicated goal for water.



In her key note address, the Director of the NDPC highlighted the importance of water in the socioeconomic development of the country and the need for its proper management in order to ensure water security for socio-economic development. She said the growth and development of the country depended on availability of water in the right quantity and quality and should be accessible where and when needed. She noted that the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) did not have a dedicated goal for water, intimating that perhaps due to the pervasive nature of water there was no

need to make explicit reference since its use cut across almost all sectors and thus needed to be considered in relation to other goals. The UN having come out with this proposal, and to further seek country views through this national consultation process for fine tuning, she charged participants that as policy makers, practitioners, technocrats, academics, and members of civil society organizations in the water and sanitation sector, they should endeavour to bring to bear their vast experiences in the sector in the country, on the formulation of the targets thereby expressing the country's aspirations.

## 2 Workshop Organization and Participation

The consultation was a full-day activity covering morning and afternoon sessions. The morning session was devoted to a presentation on the relevance of the Sustainable Development (SD) goal targets and the setting up of three break-out session groups according to the following thematic areas:

1. *water resources management;*
2. *water supply sanitation, health and wastewater treatment; and*
3. *managing risks to mitigate impact of extreme events and climate change.*

Each of the groups discussed the recommended goals and targets from the national perspective. The afternoon session continued with the group discussion which was later followed with a plenary session to discuss the implications of the proposed targets.

In setting the tone for the ensuing discussions, the process consultant, Mr. Minta A. Aboagye, highlighted the aim and objective of the national consultation with a power point presentation based on the UN-Water/GWP sample presentation. He informed the participants that the global goal for water had been designed to promote human wellbeing, economic prosperity, and the preservation of environmental capital. Therefore, the discussions should be guided by these principles and that the goal and target setting should be situated within the context of the country's developmental objectives up to the year 2030 without undue compromise of the overall global targets.

The group deliberations proceeded in line with the proposed six (6) targets and its accompanying format. The outcome of the consultation including comments is provided in the table below.

TARGET A: Achieve Universal Access to Safe Drinking Water, Sanitation and Hygiene					
Element	Core Indicators	Proposed Indicators	Comments	Priority Areas	Sustainable Development Goal
<b>Element 1:</b> <i>No Open Defecation</i>	% of population practicing open defecation	Reduce by 5% year by year, the number of rural population practicing open defecation  Reduce by 10% year by year, the number of people in urban/peri-urban communities practicing open defecation	Need to highlight behaviour change as an element in order to ensure usage of facilities provided  here should be a strong link between and among institutions in promoting open defecation	Strongly promote low cost technologies in the provision of sanitation services  Build capacity in communities in promoting use of low cost technologies in sanitation services delivery.	Access to basic sanitation provided to all  Standard of sanitation services improved and maintained
		Eliminate/reduce faecal coliform in water sources, to WHO standard	Availability of this parameter in water sources in close proximity to communities will provide linkage to incidence of water-borne diseases	Increase budgetary allocation to, at least, 0.5% of GDP for sanitation services	
		Progressively reduce by 5% sanitation related diseases year-by-year till 2030.			
<b>Element 2:</b> <b>Basic Access:</b> “to achieve universal access to basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene for households, schools and health facilities”	% of population using basic drinking water	Increase by 10% yearly, population with access to basic drinking water  Increase by 10% yearly population using basic drinking water (in tandem with above)	The heading should indicate “Basic Access and Usage”		85% of population with access to basic and safe drinking water, and 100% by 2030
	% of population using basic sanitation	Increase by 5% yearly, population with access to basic sanitation  Increase by 5% annually population using basic sanitation			
	% of population with hand-washing facilities at home	Increase by 10% annually population with hand-washing facilities at home			
	% of health facilities with basic drinking water, basic sanitation and hygiene	Reduce by 20% yearly the number of existing health facilities without basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene facilities  Provide all new health facilities with basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene facilities			

	% of primary and secondary schools that have basic drinking water, basic sanitation and hygiene	Reduce by 20% annually all existing schools (primary to secondary) without access to basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene  Provide all new schools with basic drinking water, sanitation and hygiene facilities			
<b>Element 3: Safely Managed Services:</b> “to halve the proportion of population without access at home to safely managed drinking water and sanitation services”	% of population using safely managed drinking water service at home	Increase by 10% yearly, the population using safely managed drinking water services at home			75% of population with access to safely managed drinking water and sanitation in homes and 90% by 2030
	% of population with basic sanitation whose excreta is managed	Increase by 5% yearly the population with basic sanitation whose excreta is safely managed			
<b>Element 4: Equality:</b> “to progressively eliminate <i>inequalities in access</i> ”	Data will be disaggregated by the four population groups: urban/rural; rich/poor; slums/formal urban settlements; disadvantaged groups/general population	100% of all water management structures have equal representation at national and local levels disaggregated according to four population groups		Empowering both sexes to appreciate their complementary roles in water and sanitation services delivery	
	The difference in rate of change for the disadvantaged group versus the general population				

TARGET B: Improve by (x%) The Sustainable Use and Development of Water Resources in All Countries					
Element	Core Indicators	Proposed Indicators	Comments	Priority Areas	Sustainable Development Goals – 2030
<b>Element 1: Bringing Freshwater withdrawals in line with sustainably available water resources</b>	Change in withdrawal-to-availability ratio (change in withdrawals as % of total actual renewable water resources within sustainable limits)	(Current withdrawal in Ghana is estimated at 2%).  Increase by 4% annually freshwater withdrawals in line with sustainable country water resources	elements to ensure availability:  Watershed Management Rainwater harvesting	Promote awareness creation in water conservation and environmental issues	50% of all water withdrawals from water resources (surface and groundwater) are brought in line with national available water resources
	% of basins with an allocation framework (balancing demands for all sectors, including the environment, from groundwater and surface water)	Delineate basins (if not done) and progressively develop an allocation framework (balancing demands for all sectors)	Need for baseline studies and develop allocation plans		
	Storage capacity per capita/% of available water	Same		Determine storage capacities of all reservoirs to obtain base information	
<b>Element 2: Restore and maintain ecosystems to provide water-related services</b>	% change in freshwater ecosystem area and condition (indicator of change in ecosystem extent and health, includes brackish water).		Limit farming along river banks by establishing buffer zone Controlled use of fertilizer, herbicides,, etc Draining of irrigated fields Classification and protection of inland water bodies including wetlands		
	Threatened Species (Red List) Index and Living Planet Index (for relevant flora and fauna)				
	Environmental water stress (based on deviation from natural flow/availability)		Data not available Develop indicators for water stress Establish monitoring and measurement system Establish early warning system based on indicators		
<b>Element 3: “increase water productivity for all users</b>	Change in agricultural DGP per agricultural withdrawals (agricultural water productivity)	Same	Need for improved technology to adequately and efficiently withdraw water		
	Change in industrial GDP per industrial withdrawals (industrial water productivity)	Same	Baseline needed Improve efficiency in industrial withdrawals		
	Change in electricity production per unit of water (energy	Same	Periodically retro-fit existing HEP to improve efficiency		



	sector water productivity)				
	Change in withdrawals for domestic use per capita (domestic water supply and use efficiency)	same	Promote use of water saving devices in flush toilets, bathrooms, etc.		

TARGET C: All Countries Strengthen equitable, Participatory and Accountable Water Governance					
Element	Core Indicators	Proposed Indicators	Comments	Priority Areas	Sustainable Development Goal – 2030
<b>Element 1:</b> <i>Implement integrated approaches to water management at local, basin and national levels including participatory decision making</i>	% of countries implementing IWRM plans	50% of countries implementing IWRM plans by 2025 and 100% by 2030	Countries to adopt progressive increment		ALL countries establish and implement integrated approaches to water management at local, basin and national levels including participatory decision making
	% of countries with strategic planning and participatory decision making process			Developing countries assisted in developing strategic plans for efficient river basin development and management	
	% of transboundary basins and aquifers with cooperative management frameworks	Transboundary Basin Authorities such as the Volta Basin Authority (VBA) establish cooperative water resources and common aquifers management frameworks		Promote cooperation in the use of basin resources through establishment or strengthening of operation of transboundary river basin authority in developing countries	
	% of countries with national policies supporting integrated disaster risk management (including drought and flood policies), as part of national development plans	All countries have in place disaster preparedness and integrated contingency management plans by 2025		Emphasize development of flood and drought disaster risk maps, and other risks including for agricultural pests and locust control	
	proportion of communities which have implemented risk management risk strategies	50% of communities have in implemented risk management strategies by 2025, and 100% by 2030			
	Monitoring and evaluation systems that include surveys on governance issues (building on Rio+20 status report)				
<b>Element 2:</b> <i>Deliver all drinking water supply, sanitation and hygiene services in a progressively affordable, accountable, and financially and environmentally sustainable manner</i>	% of population using water and sanitation service providers registered with a regulatory authority (disaggregate rural and urban)	20% of rural population using water and sanitation service registered with a regulatory authority (Community Water and Sanitation Agency, (CWSA)) annually  10% of urban population using water and sanitation service providers registered with the a regulatory authority (Public Utility Regulatory Commission, (PURC)), annually			100% of population using water and sanitation service providers registered in all communities (rural and urban)

	% of population in the poorest quintile whose financial expenditure on water, sanitation and hygiene is below 3% of national poverty line (disaggregate rural and urban)				
	Ratio of annual revenue to annual expenditure on maintenance (including operating expenditures, capital maintenance, debt servicing)				
	Ratio of annual expenditure on maintenance (including operating expenditures, capital maintenance, debt servicing) to annualized value of capital assets				
<b>Element 3:</b> <i>Ensure regulatory frameworks are in place for water resources, infrastructure and services, and enhance the performance of responsible public authorities and their water operators</i>	number of countries with regulatory frameworks and enforcement capacity	50% of countries without regulatory frameworks have one in place by 2025			Water Resources Infrastructure regulatory framework in place and enforcement capacity established
	Proportion of responsible water authorities and water operators for which operational performance is measured and reported				
<b>Element 4:</b> Strengthen knowledge transfer and skills development	Number of institutions using relevant education and training materials in local capacity building programs	All existing primary, secondary and tertiary institutions using relevant education materials in local capacity building  All new educational institutions use relevant education materials		Priority on Basic schools and institutions	All Primary, Secondary and Tertiary institutions using academic and appropriate training materials in local capacity building.
	Number of capacity building networks using multidisciplinary skills of competent members to scale up capacity building and actively support implementation programs	75% of capacity building networks using multidisciplinary skills	Focus should be on in country situation	Priority should be on Civil Society and NGOs	
	Number of countries knowledge management systems in place that ensure access to the best of international and local knowledge and measure the	100% of in-country knowledge management systems in place that ensure	Focus on in-country situation		

	effectiveness of capacity building services through locally developed indicators and monitoring systems				

<b>TARGET D: Reduce wastewater pollution and improve water quality by reducing untreated domestic and industrial wastewater by (x%); increasing wastewater reused safely by (y%); and reduce nutrient pollution by (z%) to maximize water resource availability and improve water quality</b>					
Element	Core Indicators	Proposed Indicators	Comments	Priority Areas	Sustainable Development Goals – 2030
<b>Element 1: reducing untreated domestic and industrial wastewater (including point source agricultural) by (X%)</b>	Proportion of the population for whom all domestic wastewater is treated to national standards in either collective or individual facilities	Increase by 5% annually population without domestic wastewater treatment facility either collectively or individual facilities	Technologies might improve cost of treatment to make it affordable for low-income countries	Focus on cities and urban communities with population more than 5,000	Sustainably reduce untreated domestic and industrial wastewater by 80% by 2030
	Proportion of industrial (and point source agricultural) wastewater flows not collected in public systems that is treated to national standards	50% of industrial and 25% of point sources, agricultural, waste water flows collected in public systems and treated to national standards	Improved wastewater treatment technologies developed to enhance collection and treatment		
	Proportion of the flows of treated municipal wastewater that are directly and safely reused	10% of municipal waste water annually treated to national standard and safely reused	Improved wastewater treatment technologies developed and affordable to enhance collection, treatment and reuse	Focus on municipal wastewater treatment plants that are managed sustainably.	
	Proportion of the flows discharged by industrial wastewater treatment plants that are safely re-used	15% of industrial wastewater treated and safely reused	Same as above		
	Proportion of receiving water bodies meeting water quality standards (nitrogen and phosphorous as a minimum)				
<b>Element 2: Increasing wastewater reused by (Z%)</b>	% of wastewater reuse in industrial facilities	(None in existence) 2.5% wastewater reused biannually	Non-functional wastewater treatment facilities in the cities of Accra and Tema. Need to establish and managed sustainably	Cities and municipalities especially industrial and commercial areas	50% of all wastewater reused
<b>Element 3:</b>		Reduce by 5% nutrient			

TARGET E: Reduce Mortality by (x%) and Economic Loss by (y%) from Natural and Human-induced Water-related Disasters					
Element	Core Indicators	Proposed Indicators	Comments	Priorities Areas	Sustainable Development Goals – 2030
<b>Element 1:</b> Increased knowledge and understanding of nations with respect to communities at risk to water-related disasters, especially in a changing climate	% of local councils with flood-risk disaster preparedness plans	Effective information dissemination strategies established for and capacity built for 50% of communities within local councils by 2025 and 100% by 2030	Disaster management and contingency plans prepared by 2025		
<b>Element 2:</b> Adoption of integrated disaster risk management, including an appropriate mix of structural and nonstructural approaches, to reduce mortality and economic losses for water related disasters	Drainage and disaster risk maps developed for all drainage basins within country	Drainage master plans progressively developed for all communities			50% of all Drainage Master Plans implemented for communities at risk by 2030
<b>Element 3:</b> Adoption and implementation by nations of monitoring and people centered early warning systems for communities at most risk to water-related disasters	Establish basic but effective hydrometeorological monitoring system for all basins	Progressively establish hydro-meteorological monitoring network for all countries	Basic standard in relation to WMO hydrological monitoring network standards	Focus on low income countries and focus on flood-prone basins within country	
<b>Element 4:</b> Application of an end-to-end preparedness approach to water-related disaster management which sees the needs of user communities being met, to the last mile	National Disaster Management Organisations adequately equipped to undertake activities successfully and efficiently				

### 3 Conclusion

The meeting applauded the panel of UN-Water for coming up with a dedicated goal for water, and proposing targets to be achieved under the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The meeting further acknowledged that securing a country's water resources is a pre-requisite to achieving any of the economic and social targets in the SDGs and therefore the management of water resources should be accorded high priority.

The group sessions deliberated on the various proposed targets and their accompanying sub elements and came up with strategies and comments towards achieving the overall SDG targets by 2030. The general strategy is to incrementally provide the needed services to improve the social and economic well-being of the population while assuring of improved and sustained services. For instance for the provision of WASH services, Ghana has an ambitious target of providing universal access by 2025. However, a 2030 target date was deemed a reasonable period to achieve the objective taking due cognizance of funding constraint.

On funding sanitation, the meeting noted the meager financial resources allocated to the sector in Ghana, for example, impacting on the quality of service and access. It maintained that if the 0.5% of GDP allocation to the sector as endorsed by African Ministers responsible for sanitation at the Africa-San Conference in Durban, South Africa, in 2008, with that level of funding supplemented with external funding the targets could be achieved.

On management of flood risk, the meeting proposed the development and implementation of drainage master plans for all communities at risk, backed by implementable disaster management plans. At least 50% of such communities should have drainage master plans implemented by 2030.

The meeting acknowledged the huge funding requirement needed to achieve the proposed targets during plenary session. Although no specific figures were proposed it was the general consensus that what is needed most is the political will at all levels of governance to achieve the targets through a sustained effort of providing the necessary budgetary allocation.

## Annex 1: Workshop Programme

2<sup>ND</sup> NATIONAL CONSULTATION WORKSHOP ON THE POST – 2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

DATE: 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 2014

VENUE: ERATA HOTEL, EAST LEGON

TIME	ACTIVITY	FACILITATOR
08:30 – 09:00	Arrival and Registration	Secretariat
09:00 – 09:45	<b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opening Prayer</li> <li>• Introduction of Participants</li> <li>• Introduction of Chairperson</li> <li>• Chairperson’s Remarks</li> <li>• Welcome Statement</li> </ul>	Facilitator  Dir. General, NDPC Nii Boi Ayibotele, Chairman CWP – Ghana Hon. Minister, MWRWH
09:45 – 10:15	Presentation of W/S Objectives / Working Documents (UN-Water Recommended Goal and Targets)	Consultant
10:15 – 10:30	Formation of Working Groups (WGs)	Consultant
10:30 – 11:00	Cocoa Break	
11:00 – 13:00	Working Group Discussions and Target Setting	Groups
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch	
14:00 – 15:30	Plenary Presentation of WG Reports	Consultant
15:30 – 16:30	Discussions on Implications of Proposed Targets	Consultant
16:30 – 17:00	Summary	Consultant
	Closing Remarks	Chairman



## Annex 2: List of Participants

Full Name	Organisation	Position
Rashid Hafis	Nima WASH	President
Ben Ampomah	Water Resources Commission	Ag. Executive Secretary
Isaac Barnes	Consultant Rapporteur	Rapporteur
Francis D. Ohemeng	GIDA	Deputy Director
Yahuza M. Gomda	MEST	Director STI
Selari Amekudzie	Waste Care Association	Environment Scientist
Jewel Kudjawu	EPA	Chief Programme officer
Ibrahim Musah	WaterAid	Head of Policy
Kwame B. Awuah	NDPC	Deputy Director
Farouk Anderson	NDPC	Planning Analyst
Adwoa Paintsil	WRC	WQS
Dr. Dan Nukpetah	IESS, Legon	Research Fellow
Oduro Donkor	Pronet	Executive Director
Daniel Ninson	DCS-MOFA	AAO
Isaac Apemyo	GWCL	Asst. Engineer
Stephen Owusu	AGI	Membership Dev. Manger
Jones Obeng	MOF	S.B.O
Justice Adoboe	GWJN	National Organizer
Benjamin Arthur	CONIWAS	Executive Secretary
Kweku Quansah	MLGRD	Programme Officer
Clarke Noyoru	MOGCSP	Programme Office
Theodora Adomako-Adjei	CWSA	ESC
Maxwell Boateng-Gyimah	GCWP	Project Manager
Irene Ofosu-Ennin	GCWP	Communication Officer
Mary Lamptey	GCWP	Admin. Assistant
Kwaw Agoui	Alive Ghana News	C.E.O
Mawuli Koku Kpodovia	Hot FM/	Reporter
Osei Owusu Amankwaah	Radio XYZ	Reporter
Bright O. Acheampong/Bernice	Multi TV	Cameraman

Full Name	Organisation	Position
Sowah/Charles P. Opoku		
Kodjo Adams	Ghana News Agency	Reporter
Joana Nyanney	Choice FM	Reporter
Patrick Baidoo	WASH Times	Editor
Elizabeth P. Opoku	Live FM	Reporter



