

Nigeria Water Partnership

National Consultations on Water, Food Security and Nutrition

Final report of National Consultation on
Water, Food Security and Nutrition
NIGERIA
April 2015



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The national consultation on Food Security and Water in Nigeria was aimed at eliciting and consolidating the insights of key stakeholders on the HLPE report, as an input to Nigeria's contribution to the 42nd session of the CFS. A total of 53 participants attended the meeting, including the Permanent Secretary of the Federal Ministry of Water Resources, representatives of relevant ministries, civil society organizations, academia and research institutions, water users, international donor agencies, and the media.

The participants appreciated the intricate interconnections at the household and country levels between water and food security, with water being a food, a key factor for good nutrition and health, and a necessity for most food production, processing and preparation. Common to the two dimensions of security are the elements of availability, access, and stability. Access for water security is related mainly to allocation, authorization to use water, and infrastructure, all of which are dependent on national and local policies and financing. For food security, access is also dependent on incomes and infrastructure. The element of utilization in food security was considered to have strong parallel to the element of quality for water security with regard to the suitability of water for different uses.

Participants rated Nigeria as a generally low performer on the key elements of water and food security. Many Nigerians still suffer from hunger and malnutrition as well as competition for water between food production and non-agricultural sector services.

The following national priorities were identified for consideration by the Nigerian delegation to the 42nd CFS:

- Develop policies and strategy for prioritizing the trade-off between the uses of water that put Agricultural/Food/Nutrition first, followed by Health/Sanitation and Environment.
- Establish conflict resolution mechanisms for the persistent farmer-pastoralist conflicts and general insecurity in parts of the country to allow for unfettered access to food and water.
- Use water productivity as against land productivity, to drive food production, with emphasis on sustainable agriculture and matching the crops grown in different Ecosystems with water availability and use efficiency.
- For the Sustainable Development Goals period of 2015-2030, Government should review existing policies and legislation to be in line with integrated land and water resources management, develop effective coordination mechanisms for inclusiveness of all stakeholders, enforce relevant national development frameworks such as the CAADP, Land Act and Water Act, and monitor actions for water and food security through established regulatory agencies and with strong community involvement to ensure buy-in and ownership.

There are high expectations that the Federal Government of Nigeria will prioritise this issue.

About the overall initiative

2015 is a milestone with the new UN Sustainable Development Goals and the COP 21 on Climate Change in Paris. Building on the recent report on Water produced by the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition, Global Water Partnership Africa (GWP) partners are joining forces to contribute to sustainable development in the face of climate change. This initiative, planned for five years, will, in an inclusive manner, identify challenges and implement relevant concrete activities at all levels.



Country Water Partnerships (CWPs) in Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Mali, Nigeria, Sudan, Uganda, and Zimbabwe decided to seize the opportunity created by the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) to engage further with Food Security and Nutrition (FSN) to make a tangible contribution at country level.

As a first step, these CWPs took the May 2015 HLPE report, explained it to country water and FSN stakeholders and facilitated a national dialog on HLPE recommendations against country priorities. The second step was to convene national workshops with interested stakeholders for more than 200 concerned ministers, farmers organizations, CSOs, and development partners on urgent needs and priority actions to be taken to impact the functioning of the Water Energy Food Ecosystems nexus for better livelihoods.

Next steps: elaboration and implementation of the program

With its “SDGs preparedness facility”, its Water and Climate Development Program, and with partners, GWP will coordinate the elaboration in 2016 and then the implementation of a 3 years program addressing technical and institutional country-identified priorities in the context of CFS resolutions and the COP 21 agenda for solutions.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

1. AU/NEPAD	African Union’s New Partnership for Africa's Development
CAADP	Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme
CFS	Committee on World Food Security
COP	Conference of Parties (on Climate Change)
FSN	Food Security and Nutrition
GDP	Gross Domestic Product
GWP	Global Water Partnership
GWP-Nigeria	Global Water Partnership - Nigeria
HDI	Human Development Index
HLPE	High Level Panel of Experts
IWRM	Integrated Water Resources Management
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UNFCCC	United NationsFramework Convention on Climate Change
VGGT	Voluntary Guidelines on Responsible Governance of Tenure of land, fisheries and forests in the context of national food security
VGRtF	Voluntary Guidelines to support the progressive realization of the Right to adequate Food in the context of national food security
VGSSF	Voluntary Guidelines for securing sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries in the context of food security and poverty eradication
W/FSN	Water and Food Security and Nutrition

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

It is widely acknowledged that food security is one of the most important issues that the world is facing. For this reason the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development made a proposal for a dedicated goal on food security (Goal 2) – *“end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.”* A key element of achieving food security and sustainable agriculture is water, which is also proposed as a dedicated goal (Goal 6) – *“ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.”*

In recognition of this strong interconnection, the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) requested, in October 2013, the High Level Panel of Experts on Food Security and Nutrition (HLPE) to prepare a report on Water and Food Security. It is expected that the final findings of this report will be available in May 2015, and will feed into the bilateral and multilateral negotiations that will precede the 42nd session of the CFS in October 2015.

As part of the process of the elaboration of the HLPE report, a series of issues that will have significant consequences for the implementation of resolutions emanating from the CFS 42nd session have been identified. Given the importance of food security and water, as it undergirds most of the other Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and any future goals, it becomes necessary to have an insightful and informative consultation on the proposals from the HLPE that provide inputs and options to support bilateral and multilateral negotiations, and recommendations that will enhance resolutions from the 42nd CFS.

2.2 The Nigeria National Consultation

The one day national consultation took place at the Reiz Continental Hotel, Central Business District Area, Abuja on 15th June, 2015. The meeting was organized by the Global Water Partnership-Nigeria (GWP-N) with the support of the European Union through the Water Supply and Sanitation Sector Reform Programme Phase II (WSSSRP II). The consultations captured a broad range of priority issues related to food and water security from the Nigerian perspective, based on the HLPE report.

A total of 53 participants attended the meeting, including government representatives, ministries, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia and research institutions, water users, international donor agencies, and the media (Participants list in Annex 2). The Chairman of the GWP-N delivered a welcome address.

The National Consultation Process Consultant, Dr Samuel Eremie, presented the background and overview of the global discussion on the HLPE report and process, including the history and formulation process of the CFS, and the global recommendations. He then tasked the participants, divided into two break-out groups, to provide feedback on the HLPE report as well as recommend water and food security priorities in the Nigerian context that would support the negotiations and recommendations at the 42nd CFS meeting. The groups presented their reports in two plenary sessions for further discussion and analysis.

1.3 Objective of the Consultation

The National Consultations is aimed at obtaining views from multi-sectoral stakeholders in the concerned countries on the proposals from the HLPE on the interconnections between water and food security. These National Consultations will build awareness and examine the country and regional relevance of global perspectives, and provide inputs and options to support bilateral and multilateral negotiations, and recommendations that will enhance resolutions from the 42nd CFS.

Although water is central to development, its value is often overlooked. Moreover, the intricate linkages between water and food security are hardly appreciated. The national consultations are to help to ensure that water and the complexity of its governance is properly reflected in the food security agenda of the countries.

2. IMPORTANCE OF WATER AND FOOD SECURITY TO NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2.1 An intricate link between water and food security

Water security and food security are intricately interconnected at the individual, household, country and even global levels, as shown in Figure 1. First, drinking water is a food. It is also important for other domestic uses and hygiene which are key factors for good nutrition and health. Second, water is a necessity for most agricultural production (crops, livestock and fisheries), food processing at the household and industrial levels, and food preparation at the household level and by vendors. Lastly, streams and other water bodies serve as transport ways for food and agricultural inputs and thus contribute to access to food.

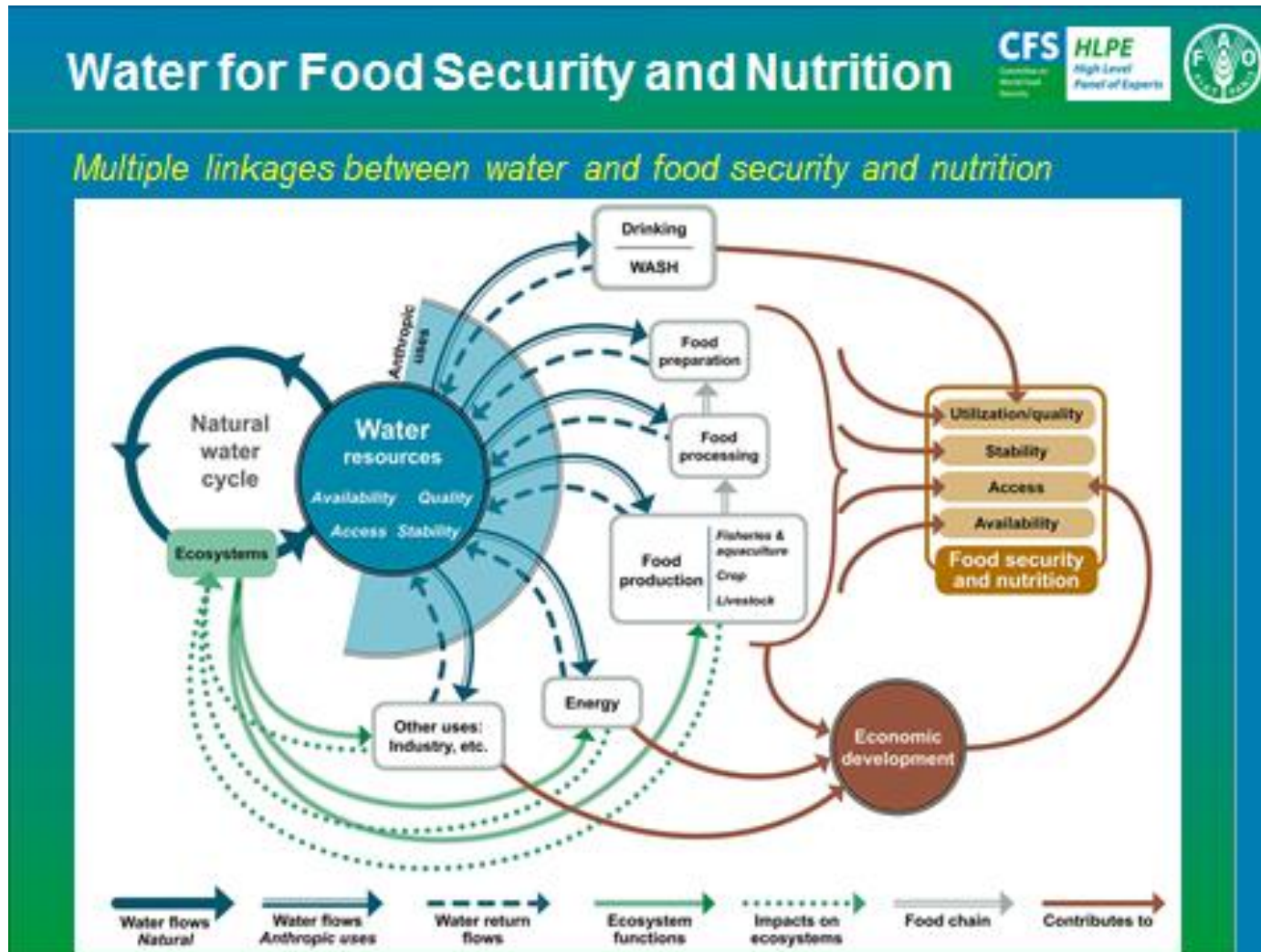
Common to water security and food security are the elements of availability, access, and stability. Access for water security is related to allocation and authorization to use water, as well as infrastructure, all of which are dependent on national and local policies and financing. For food security, access is also dependent on incomes which are a function of economic development (productivity of the agricultural and other economic sectors), as well as infrastructure. The element of utilization for food security, implying safe and nutritious food that meets dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life, holds a strong parallel to the element of quality for water security which is concerned about the suitability of water for different uses as well as the impact of such uses on natural resources, human beings and economic development.

2.2 Correlation between water and food security and development

National development is strongly correlated to the status of water and food security as demonstrated by the UN Human Development Index (HDI) of countries. Many African countries, including Nigeria, that suffer from hunger and malnutrition also posted low HDI scores. Water is an essential requirement for industries and economic growth. Inevitably, the competition for water between the agricultural and non-agricultural sectors impacts negatively on access to water and food production. It is estimated that 53.4% of annual freshwater withdrawals in Nigeria is used for agriculture, a sector that contributes significantly to national GDP. This strong correlation is further underscored by the fact that eight of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be adopted by world leaders in September 2015 under the Post-2015 Development Agenda, are directly related to water and food security, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. These are highlighted below:

- End poverty in all its forms everywhere
- End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture

Figure 1: Multiple linkages between water and food security and development



- Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
- Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all
- Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment, and decent work for all
- Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts (taking note of agreements made by the UNFCCC forum)
- Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development
- Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification and halt and reverse land degradation, and halt biodiversity loss.

3. FEEDBACK ON THE HIGH LEVEL PANEL OF EXPERTS REPORT ON WATER FOR FOOD SECURITY AND NUTRITION

A major objective of the National Consultation was to discuss the HLPE recommendations versus the situation of Nigeria for helping to meet the food and water security priorities, the most useful approaches or aspects of the report from the national perspective, as well as to highlight local concerns and benefits.

Using a set of guide questions, stakeholders at the National Consultation gave the following feedback on the report as summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Stakeholders' views on the HLPE Report

Guide questions	Stakeholders' views	Remarks
1. Are the linkages between water and food security and nutrition (W/FSN) adequately addressed? Is there important evidence or aspects that are not addressed?	1. Report adequately addressed most of the W/FSN issues but livestock water and livelihood water requirements, and the link between W/FSN and Climate Change adaptation and mitigation were not sufficiently highlighted.	1. In practice, there may be little linkage between safe water and nutrition.
2. Are the diversity of approaches and methodological issues, in particular concerning metrics and data for water and food security adequately covered? Which metrics are particularly useful and which not?	2. All the metric tools are useful but water quality and sanitation were not adequately treated.	
3. Food security involves trade of agricultural produce, and a virtual trade of water. Agricultural trade interacts with water and food security in various ways, and differently for food importing countries, food exporting countries, water scarce versus water rich countries. Do you think these issues are adequately addressed?	3. Virtual water is not adequately linked to national security and job creation and the metrics on virtual water in major food export crops of Nigeria is not available.	3. Mitigation for virtual water loss should include: (a) increased water productivity in agriculture; (b) regulation of food product imports to ascertain the virtual water level; (c) revenue for government on food importation and exportation; (d) improved local production of food to aid food security.
4. Land and water are two critical conditions to agriculture. Is the link between water management and land management and the potential	4. Right of access to trans-boundary water is not sufficiently covered.	4. In Nigeria, the Land Management Act needs to be enforced and the Water

need for more integrated management adequately addressed in the report regarding the situation of Nigeria?		Management legal framework finalized.
5. What kind of practical and policy challenges would an expansion of the right to water to also encompass productive uses bring?	5. Finance, infrastructural development, youth and gender mainstreaming, changing the existing scenario on access to water, and Government and institutional framework are likely challenges.	5. Right to water should be reflected in the Constitution as well as the Water, Environment and Agricultural policies.
6. Which systemic actions/solutions/approaches would be the most effective to enhance water governance, management and use for food security? How could the fact that water is an inter-sectoral question be tackled so that food security is not underrated in the overall context?	6. There should be advocacy to take the Water Policy to legislation: resolve conflicting issues involving water, land and environment; sustained advocacy and partnership for adequate enforcement monitoring and compliance; use IWRM principles.	6. In the particular case of Nigeria, there is a need to improve the accountability framework and review of existing legislation and institutional arrangements.
7. A general question was raised on possible future conflicts if Nigeria strives to attain water and food security for the entire country.	7. Providing enough water at all times to boost food production will definitely result in conflict. Initial users will raise dust if water meant for recreation, domestic, or other purposes is all transferred to enhance agricultural activities for food production.	

4. KEY NATIONAL PRIORITIES FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF WATER AND FOOD SECURITY IN NIGERIA

A second objective of the National Consultation was to identify priorities and challenges for sustainable development of water and food security in Nigeria drawing on widely shared views across the sector domains and building on existing frameworks such the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and the National Adaptation Plan for Climate Change. These emerging draft priorities would be submitted for consideration by the Nigerian delegations to the 42nd Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in October 2015 and the Conference of Parties (COP) on Climate Change Summit in December 2015.

The stakeholders at the National Consultation identified the following priorities, summarized in Table 2, based on deliberation in groups using some guide questions.

Table 2: Priorities for sustainable water and food security

Guide questions	Priorities of the stakeholders
1. What trade-off is acceptable for Nigeria in the conflicts between water for agriculture/food/nutrition, health/sanitation, trade, industry, energy, and environment?	1.1 Trade-off prioritization: (a) Agricultural/food/nutrition; (b) Health/sanitation; (c) Environment; (d) Industry; (e) Energy; (f) Trade.
2. What conflicts are foreseen in pursuit of the water security and food security objectives? How do we resolve them?	2(a). Conflicts foreseen: (i) insecurity – e.g. farmers versus pastoralists brawls in Benue and Plateau states; (ii) Government wanting to meet human needs first with increasing population; (iii) competition with industrialization for income generation; (iv) access to water for all – e.g. Kano State preventing Yobe, Jigawa and Borno States. 2(b). Resolve conflicts by: (i) in water demand management, focusing on increased water productivity as against land productivity; (ii) adopting principle of comparative advantage to match crops with water availability; (iii) effective and efficient waste water management and re-use; (iv) efficient rain-water harvesting especially in water scarce areas; (v) enforcing polluter pays principle; (vi) re-strategizing agriculture and water allocation; (vii) applying IWRM principles; (viii) Environmental Impact Assessment; (ix) feasibility studies
3. What role do we see for sustainable agriculture as a solution to the above conflict? What approaches to SA are best suited to different Nigerian environments?	3(a). Sustainable agriculture can help solve the conflict through: (i) effective water resources assessment, application of water use efficiency; (ii) emphasis on water productivity (i.e. yield per volume of water used and charging for water per volume; (iii) knowledge and experience and improved farming practices; (iv) maintaining yield. 3(b). For different Nigerian environments: (i) conjunctive use of surface and groundwater resources; (ii) community involvement in water harvesting; (iii) climate smart agriculture.
4. What other strategies/recommendations do we have for harmonization of WFS objectives?	4(a). Promote the use of effective central sewage system for efficient waste water re-use and production of organic manures. 4(b). Promote the harmonious design of home roofing for efficient rain water harvesting and utilization of solar energy. 4(c). Promote responsible consumption pattern among citizens to reduce wastage. 4(d). Apply IWRM principles. 4(e). Coordinate sectoral planning and participation.
5. What governance/policy and institutional parameters are required, especially in the context of the federal/state/LG/legislative realities?	5(a). Review existing policies and legislation to be in line with integrated land and water resources management. 5(b) Expedite of passages of relevant sector bills. 5(c). Develop effective coordination mechanism vertically and horizontally for inclusiveness of all stakeholders. 5(d). Institutionalize bottom-up approach for transparency and accountability. 5(e). Enforce various development and national framework - CAADP Framework, Land Act, Water Act.
6. For the period 2015-30, what will be the cost of implementation of the recommendations? Who pays? How will it be financed? How do we to monitor?	6(a). Cost of recommendations difficult to estimate until proper study is done. 6(a). How financed? (i) PPP arrangement; (ii) Government budget/subventions; (iii) cost sharing/counterpart funding by beneficiaries/communities; (iv) pay as you use (IGR); (v) Government interventions; (vi) development assistance. 6(c). Monitor through: (i) established regulatory agencies; (ii) National Assembly committees; (iii) effective monitoring and evaluation policy strategies and execution; (ii) cooperative involvement of communities in project tracking to ensure buy-in and ownership.
7. If you are to give 3 messages to the Nigerian delegation to the 42 nd CFS related to water and food security in Nigeria, what are they?	7.1 Involve communities for sustainability and security 7.2 Emphasize data management/ capacity building 7.3 Developed countries to extend financial/technical support/ technology transfer to Nigeria 7.4 Promote trans-boundary water management, including basin transfer to reduce water dependency.
8. Any other priorities on water and food security?	Nil

Annex 1.

List of Participants

GWP-NIGERIA NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON FOOD SECURITY AND WATER IN SUB SAHARAN AFRICA,2015

Held at the Reiz Continental Hotel, Central Business District Area, Abuja- 15th June, 2015

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Annex 2.

Programme of Consultation

DATE: 15th June, 2015

Venue: Reiz Continental Hotel, CBD, Abuja.

Item	Time	Activity	Leader
1	8:30 – 9:30	Arrival and Registration	GWP Admin Secretary
2	9:30 – 10:30	Opening ceremony	MC
		Prayer	
		Welcome Address	Chairman GWP
		Keynote and Opening Address	Permanent Secretary
3	10:30 – 11:00	Tea/ coffee Break	GWP Admin Secretary
4	11:00 - 11:30	Presentation of working documents and Workshop objective	Consultant
5	11:30 – 12.00	Discussion of Presentation	Consultant
6	12.00 – 13:30	Formation of working groups (WGs) and WG Discussions	Consultant
7	13:30 – 14:30	Plenary – Presentation of Group Reports and Discussions	Consultant
8	14:30 – 15:30	Lunch Break	GWP Admin Secretary
9	15:30 – 16:30	Presentation of Draft Report	Committee of Rapporteurs
10	16:30 – 16:45	Closing Remarks and Prayers	Chairman, GWP/N

Annex 3.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS BY THE PERMANENT SECRETARY, FEDERAL MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES, MR. ISTIFANUS F. MUSA, AT THE NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON FOOD SECURITY AND WATER IN THE SUB SAHARAN AFRICA AT REIZ CONTINENTAL HOTEL ABUJA, 15TH JUNE, 2015.

PROTOCOLS

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the National Consultation on Food Security and Water in Sub Saharan Africa. The National Stakeholders Consultation for Nigeria to prepare a position paper to the Global Water Partnership – West Africa, which is the main requirement of the document of food security and water in Sub Saharan Africa.

The report of International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on Hunger 2014 revealed that the Sub Saharan Africa is one of the most affected areas in the world regarding food security. This situation is being aggravated by the challenges posed by climate change resulting to low yield in agricultural produce. Our situation is further compounded by the current security challenges of the sub-region, namely the Lake Chad Basin and South Sudan crises.

The International Community encouraged African countries to develop National Policies that could guarantee food and water security in the continent. This is to ensure elaborate Agricultural Development Plan with a view to effectively mobilize domestic resources towards food security and poverty reduction.

The final draft version of the report on food security and water by High Level Panel of Experts has provided opportunity for concerned countries and government to discuss pertinent issues bordering on water and food security. The objective is to create a cross sectoral dynamics for innovative implementation capable of optimizing linkages between food security and water.

In view of the afore-mentioned, Nigeria has begun its internal broad stakeholders engagement process to stimulate an integrated stakeholder's input into the Global Water Partnership – West Africa.

Judging from the high calibre of participants invited to this Workshop, I am convinced that your valuable contributions will tremendously enrich the final output of this workshop.

At this juncture, I wish to extend my appreciation to the organisers of this workshop, particularly GWP-Stockholm, GWP-West Africa and GWP-Nigeria.

I formally declare open the National Consultation Workshop on Food Security and Water.

Thank you and God bless.