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Welcome to the first issue of the “Water Bulletin”, a newsletter that communicates efforts of GWPEA in implementing Integrated Water Resources Management in the region

I would like to take this opportunity to cordially welcome the new Chair Person of the Regional Steering Committee, Mr. François Tetero who was elected during the 7th Regional Consulting Partners’ meeting which took place in Kigali, Rwanda in June 2022. We look forward to progressive transformations within the Country Water Partnerships and the region at large, with his direction and leadership as he steers the region in building resilient communities to the water challenge.

This issue scores a number of achievements that the region has made in the period between June 2022 to December 2022. In particular, we recognize the growth of the regional implementation of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) with the ascent of new projects and extension of others. GWPEA is one of the two regions which is undertaking the SDG6 Matchmaking Initiative. In this issue, we expound more on how the project is engineering innovative financing for water security through an IWRM approach.

Furthermore, the 2021 Somalia NDA/GCF Readiness project took

off in Somalia, with the newly established Ministry of Environment and Climate Change as the National Designated Authority to undertake its implementation, while GWP serves as the delivery partner and GWPEA as the technical executor.

We recognize that gender roles and mostly women play a key role in fighting climate change. The [UN Women](#) reiterates that women are 14 times more likely to die from a climate disaster than men. That finding reflects growing acknowledgement that the adverse effects of natural disasters affect marginalized groups, including women and children, more disproportionately. In this issue read more about how GWPEA is working with the Ministry of Water and Environment in Uganda to develop a Gender Action Plan to address these gaps.

I thank all our development partners who have stood with us in our continued endeavors to respond to the water challenge through using the IWRM solution to build water secure and climate resilient communities and economies of the Eastern Africa region. Your valued efforts can never go unnoticed.

I wish you enjoyable reading

George Sanga
Regional Coordinator



GWPEA HOLDS 7th REGIONAL CONSULTING PARTNERS' MEETING



Global Water Partnership- Eastern Africa held its 7th Regional Consulting Partners (RCP) meeting on 17th to 18th June 2022, at M-Hotel, Kigali in Rwanda.

The RCP meeting is the highest decision-making body of GWPEA composed of all Partners of Global Water Partnership (GWP) in the Eastern Africa Region and it convenes once every two years. This year's hybrid gender inclusive meeting brought together delegates from the Eastern African Regional countries including Burundi, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. These were representatives from the leadership of these Country Water Partnerships as well as Government officials from the Ministries in charge of water and environment from the respective countries. GWPO was represented by Mr. Ralph Philip, the Global Coordinator, Network Support.

The overarching objective of the Consulting Partners meeting was to get strategic direction for the GWP Eastern Africa regional and country governance



Mr. Ralph Philip making remarks on behalf of GWPO. The meeting was hybrid



Some of the Consulting Partnership Members attending the meeting

processes. The meeting convened to chart a clear direction for GWPEA hosting arrangements, discuss modalities of strengthening the Country Water Partnerships and their financing as well as review the amendments to the GWPEA constitution.

It was also an opportunity for the transitioning of the RSC Chair from Kenya to Rwanda.

 [Read more about the RSC Meeting](#)

GWPEA APPOINTS NEW CHAIR



Mr. François Tetero was appointed the new Chairman of the Consulting Partners and Regional Steering Committee for GWPEA

A senior water resource expert and formerly working with the Government of Rwanda in the Water Resource Management department, Mr. François Tetero replaced Mr. Peter Macharia who has been serving in the same seat for four years. He continues to serve as the Chairperson of the Rwanda Water Partnership.

[Read more about the new Chair of the RSC and the interview he gave on his new role](#)



My first priority as Chairperson of the consulting partnerships will be to bring together all Country Water Partnerships to work together in contributing towards addressing the challenges that each of our countries are facing and to make that contribution visible and tangible.



Mr. Peter Macharia, the outgoing Chairperson, hands over to Mr. Tetero

DRESSEA APPOINTS NEW CHAIR

In the same spirit, Dr. Chris. K. Kiptoo, the Principal Secretary of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry of Kenya, is the new Chair for the Regional Steering Committee of the Strengthening Drought Resilience for Smallholder Farmers and Pastoralists in the IGAD Region -DRESS-EA project.

Kenya, as a National Executing Entity of the DRESS-EA project took over from Djibouti, which held the position since last year under the leadership of the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Livestock in Djibouti.

The handover ceremony took place during the 3rd Regional Steering Committee for the DRESS-EA project which took place in Nairobi, Kenya.

[Read more about the 3rd DRESSEA RSC Meeting](#)



The outgoing RSC Chair of Djibouti who was represented by Mr. Del Wais, from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water, Fisheries and Livestock in Djibouti hands over to the incoming Chair, the PS of Kenya's ministry of Environment and Forestry who was represented by Mr. Tom Mirasi



Strengthening partnerships in Gender inclusive water investments towards a water secure Eastern Africa Region-Austrian Development Cooperation pays visit to GWPEA



Dr. Roswitha Kremser, the Head of Office of the Austrian Embassy Development Cooperation in Uganda being welcomed by the Regional Coordinator GWPEA, Mr. George Sanga

The Austrian Embassy Development Cooperation in Uganda visited GWPEA secretariat to discuss the negative effects of climate change on access to water and how the region can attract more climate finance. In order to promote regional initiatives striving to make the rural population more resilient to negative effects of climate change, the Austrian Development Agency in Uganda supports various programmes on water supply and climate change in East Africa, among which is the “Water, Climate and Development Programme in Africa- WACDEP-G” implemented by Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa, while paying particular attention to a comprehensive and integrated gender approach. Led by the Head of Office, Dr Roswitha Kremser, the delegation acknowledged the progress that the WACDEP-G project has made in mainstreaming gender equality and women’s rights in the issues of climate change.



Dr. Roswitha Kremser plants a tree, as the E.D, Nile Basin Initiative, Mr. Sylvester Matemu cheers on

[Read more about the visit](#)



Global Water Leadership Program Launched in Uganda



The Regional Coordinator GWPEA, George Sanga, Mr. Sowed Sewagudde, from the Uganda Ministry of Water and Environment and other delegates from the Buganda Government during the launch of the GWL program in Uganda

On 28th June 2022, The Global Water Leadership Program in a Changing Climate Program (GWL) was officially launched in Uganda by the Commissioner Transboundary Affairs in the Ministry of Water and Environment flanked by the Global Water Partnership Uganda (GWP-U), Approach.

The 4-year Program, which is funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Organization from the UK Government is being implemented by Global Water

Partnership, UNICEF, Sanitation and Water for All, in collaboration with the Ministry of Water and Environment and other development partners.

[Read more about the highlights of the GWL Launch](#)



The Somalia GCF Readiness Project- GWPEA meets with Ministry of Environment and Climate Change-Somalia

GWPEA met with H. E. Minister Khadija Mohamed Alмахzoumi, of Somalia's newly established Ministry of Environment & Climate Change (MoECC) to introduce the GCF/NDA Strengthening, Country Programming Support and Project Pipeline Development (NDA/GCF Readiness) in Somalia.

GWP serves as Delivery Partner to the Government of Somalia for the project. The recent transition of Somalia's Directorate of Environment and Climate Change to a fully-fledged Ministry signifies the importance the new government places on addressing impacts of climate change.

Somalia is in the midst of enduring a series of droughts, made more frequent and more severe by climate change. The current drought is the worst one

yet in 40 years, and a famine looms in the horizon.

The GCF is the largest fund in the world dedicated solely to fund interventions that reduce carbon emissions and help people, economies, and the environment adapt to climate change impacts. Somalia's MoECC is the country's focal point or the National Designated Authority (NDA) for the fund in the country. The NDA provides broad strategic oversight of the GCF's activities in Somalia, including facilitating stakeholders in the country to prioritize and prepare investments to be financed by the GCF.

The major outputs of the project include:

- ◆ The Inter-Ministerial Technical Steering Committee for the

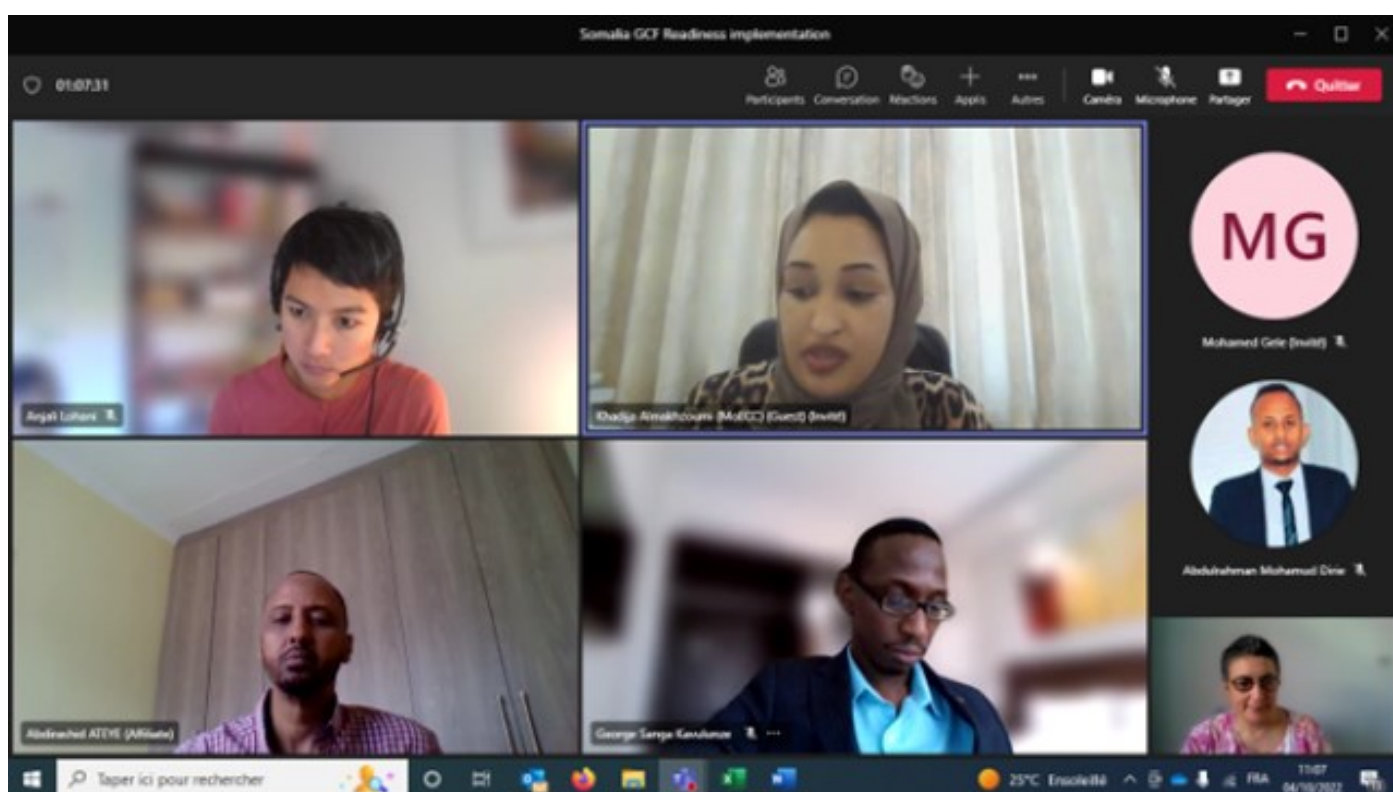
coordination of climate action in the country,

- ◆ The climate finance policy that provides a legal and institutional framework to guide coordination of climate finance flows,
- ◆ The country-programme that defines investments priorities to build climate resilience
- ◆ The preparation of 2 high quality concept notes to support Somalia access to GCF funds

[Here is](#) [more](#)



[information about the project](#)



H. E. Minister Khadija Mohamed Alмахzoumi (Upper right) meeting with the NDA and PMU of the GCF Somalia Readiness project and GWPO and GWPEA

Strengthening partnerships in Gender inclusive water investments towards a water secure Eastern Africa Region



A woman fetches water for home use in Lake Victoria (Courtesy pic)

“Women are the heaviest users of water – especially as end users – yet they are not part of the structures that manage this crucial resource. They are glaringly absent when it comes to decision making and management of water resource initiatives and labour-intensive activities ranging from walking long distances to fetch water to cooking and washing and yet they are rarely considered in the planning and management of water resources”, according to Caroline Rukundo Benda, the Gender Advisor at GWPEA.

GWPEA is working with the Ministry of Water and Environment in Uganda, to transform this agenda in the catchment of Victoria/Kagera Basin under the Africa Water Investment Support Programme to Water, Climate, Development and Gender (AIP WACDEP-G)

In September, a stakeholder engagement was conducted with Maziba Catchment (Victoria/Kagera Basin) management committee members on the

Gender Action Plan for Maziba Catchment. The stakeholders included local government technical and political officials, CSOs, Academia, Media, and Private Sector. One of the key recommendations that was adopted was to review Maziba Catchment management plan to integrate gender transformative approaches and mindset change towards gender norms and beliefs that are barriers to the achievement of gender transformation.



Women artisans of the Mukirwa women Group in Kigezi undergoing a training

In the same spirit, late this year in September, GWPEA carried out a mapping exercise of existing business cases to support the role of women including the vulnerable groups in building drought resilience. A key element from the exercise was to support stakeholders at all levels by providing policy and management guidance and by sharing scientific information, knowledge, and best practices for Integrated Drought Management. [Read more about the four existing business case studies](#) which were identified and what resulted from the activity.

In Kigezi a business case on economic and societal benefits using gender transformative approach was conducted and training of women as artisans in different rainwater harvesting technologies by Kigezi Diocese Water and Sanitation Programme (KDWSP) was one of the gender transformative case studies that was mapped and developed. [Read more about that story here](#)

GWP Hosts Pan Africa Water Governance and International Law Training



Building on the success of the previous trainings, and growing demand for knowledge and skills relevant to the preparation and financing of transboundary water projects, GWP hosted, with partners, the Pan-Africa Capacity Building Workshop on International Water Law and Water Governance: for improved practices in transboundary water investments in Africa, in Entebbe, Uganda from 19th to 23rd September 2022. At Entebbe, Uganda, by the shore of Lake Victoria, several partners came together to conduct the Pan Africa Water Governance and International Water Law training which was hosted by Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa and the Water Resources Institute, Uganda. Among these were GWP, Northumbria University, Water Resources Institute Uganda, the African Union Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD), CapNet, IGAD, University of Kinshasa, UNECE, IHE-Delft, GIZ, and the Nile Basin Initiative. The regional training aimed at strengthening

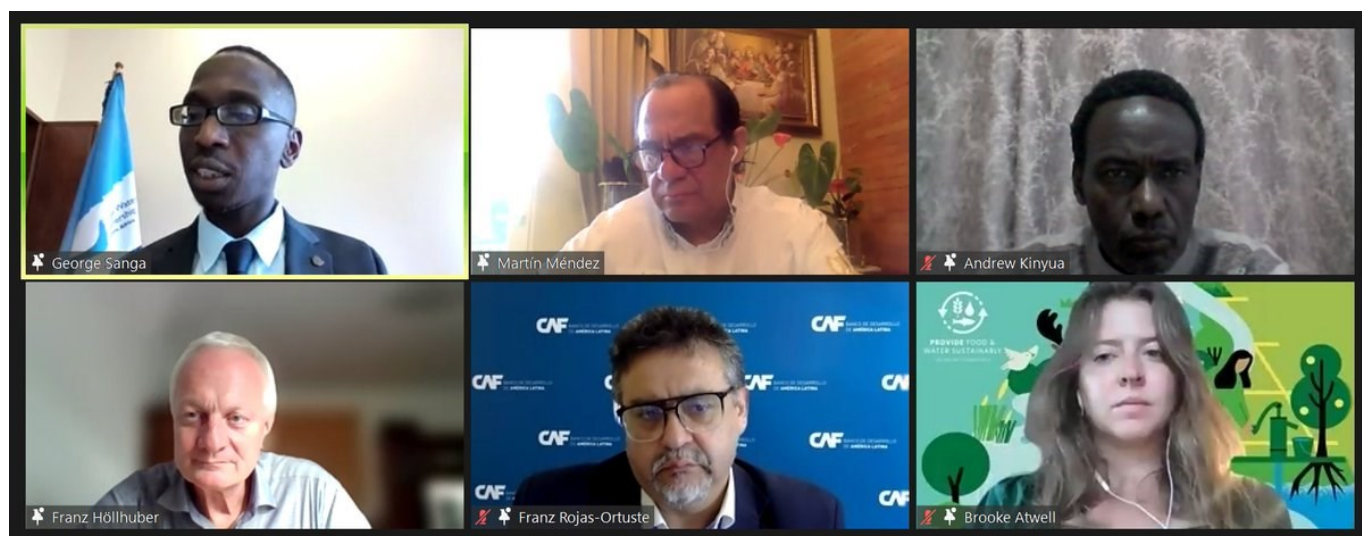
capacities of institutions of countries and basin organisations in Africa in addressing issues related to transboundary water resources management through enhancing knowledge and skills necessary for promoting cooperation among countries. [Read more](#) about the training and what the participants took away from it.

Meanwhile among the activities which were undertaken during the training was a courtesy visit to Nalubaale Hydro-Power dam in Jinja District, which is located in the Eastern part of Uganda. This power station is the distribution company of hydro-electricity for the country. There after the participants toured the source of the River Nile, which is the longest river in Africa. We bring you highlights of what transpired in [pictures here](#).

PICTURES SHOWING SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE IWL TRAINING IN UGANDA



A LEARNING JOURNEY ON INNOVATIVE FINANCING FOR WATER SECURITY



Some of the online participants of the learning journey on matchmaking initiative from across the world. Upper left is Mr. George Sanga, RC GWPEA making submissions.

GWPEA is one of two Regional Water Partnerships which is undertaking the [SDG6 matchmaking initiative](#) together with the private sector to fund water security initiatives. The SDG6 programme team organized a learning exchange on *how two countries are matchmaking funding for water security, a learning journey on Innovative Financing for Water Security through an IWRM approach*. The event was held online on and was attended by both high-level government officials from Guatemala and Kenya and representatives of the African Water Facility (AWF), the Development Bank of Latin America (CAF) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) who discussed how funding for water security can be

increased. The event focused on two countries' experiences in match making funding for water security, with lessons learned from Kenya and Guatemala, the two piloting countries of the Funding Matchmaking Initiative.

The high-level government officials from the two countries shared their experience in successes, learning and challenges on securing finance for IWRM especially from private sector. The event had more than 125 participants from all over the world. [Read more](#) about how the interventions in Kenya have yielded tremendous progress since the Matchmaking kick off meeting on 8th November 2021.

PRESENTATION OF THE INVESTMENT PACKAGE BY THE PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM IN KENYA

Meanwhile a meeting was held on 4th October in Nairobi, Kenya to present the Kenya SDG 6 IWRM Support Programme Investment Packages (IP) for review and build consensus on the proposed IWRM investment packages and to dialogue on IWRM shared value benefits and provide stakeholders an opportunity to select their level of participation.

The IWRM-IP harmonized and brought together the various catchment conservation activities targeted at Athi catchment as a pilot site. The IP will be used to prepare pitches to identify partnership opportunities with other players including private sector partners, national or departmental governmental budgets, development partners or donors. The catchment conservation priorities have been structured and consolidated into four bankable Investment Packages (IP) consisting of 16 projects costing U.S. dollars (USD) **15.45 million** over three years. Some of the recommendations agreed upon from the meeting was a communication strategy developed to ensure adequate dissemination of information, as well as a thought out mechanism on financial management, drawing lessons from other models that have been in place locally or nationally (e.g., Upper Tana Fund).

THE DRESS-EA MISSIONS IN KENYA

GWPEA is collaborating with the [Sahara and Sahel Observatory \(OSS\)](#) and the governments of Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda to implement the [“Strengthening Drought Resilience for Smallholder Farmers and Pastoralists in the IGAD Region”](#) (DRESS-EA) project. The four year project that started in 2020, is funded by the Adaptation Fund and regionally implemented by OSS, while execution is undertaken by GWPEAf at regional level and the four riparian countries at national level.

The national project management units from the four executing entities: Djibouti, Kenya, Sudan and Uganda and regional project management unit, convened in Nairobi Kenya from 5-11th October 2022 to conduct different trainings such as practical training on HUSIKA mobile application; training on the DRESS-EA Online M&E System; and training on various modules for the DRESS-EA thematic areas. Earlier, monitoring visits were carried out by GWPEA in Kenya and Djibouti. We give you a snap shot of the trainings and missions below.

The Husika MIMS Prototype

The [HUSIKA MIMS prototype](#) is a mobile application that was developed by [ICPAC](#) and partners in collaboration with Adaptation Fund to disseminate the drought early warning information in form of messages. It allows the users to capture information which helps them to plan for the agricultural seasons. [Watch this Interview](#) as the developer of the prototype elucidates more on how it functions.

Online M&E System

The DRESS-EA online M&E system was developed to ensure robust, comprehensive and effective project M&E. During the training on the online system, a

number of topics were handled including the Data collection process, Data processing, Monitoring and Evaluation reporting and entry of data in the DRESSEA M&E system among others.

Meeting with the Ministry of Environment and Forestry-Kenya

The Regional Coordinator and Programmes Manager met the DRESSEA Kenya National Project Management Unit in the Ministry of Environment and Forestry. The objective of the meeting was to bring Kenya up to speed and on board on the DRESSEA project as one of the implementing entities for the project. It was an avenue to close the gap and ensure that Kenya would catch up and as well align the project interventions in a chronological way.

Monitoring mission to Samburu

Samburu County is one of DRESSEA project sites for implementation. The delegation met with the Director Agriculture/Chief for agricultural activities in Samburu County (Mr. Tyson Nemako). He noted that the project site is located in Samburu East which is majorly an Arid and Semi Arid Land (ASAL) and constituting of about 90% livestock.

Monitoring mission to Djibouti-Dhikir

The GWPEA executing unit also had a monitoring visit to Dhikil Prefecture in Djibouti. to support the Project Management Unit to examine the main achievements, constraints encountered and corrective measures to fast track the execution of activities of DRESSEA in - Djibouti. We share with you a photo journal illustrating the way the pastoralist community of Dhikil in Djibouti has been devastated by the pangs of drought and how the DRESSEA project is increasing resilience of the smallholder farmers and pastoralists in this area.

PICTURES SHOWING SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE DRESSEA MISSION TO KENYA



NEWS FROM THE COUNTRY WATER PARTNERSHIPS

BURUNDI

GWPEA and Burundi Water Partnership meet to discuss Burundi GCF Readiness Project Proposal

EAF and CWP-Burundi had a meeting in Kigali, Rwanda to discuss the way forward on fast tracking the GCF readiness project. The project concept titled “Enhancing Institutional Capacity, Partnership and Project Preparation to Access Climate Funds for Burundi” was developed a couple of years ago to strengthen the capacity of the NDA. The meeting was attended by the chairperson of Burundi CWP, Mr. Anicet Nkuriye and Vice chairperson Mr. Mburento Nestor. BuWP committed to take forward the GCF readiness process, first by arranging to have a meeting with the Burundi NDA focal point Mr. Jean Claude Mbarushimana to explain the need for fast tracking the process. Also, arrangements are being made for the GWP EAF team to travel to Bujumbura, Burundi to meet Mr. Claude and the Permanent Secretary of the



GWP EAF team meeting BuWP during the Consultative Partners' meeting in Kigali, Rwanda

Ministry of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock to further emphasize the need to have the project proposal submitted.

KENYA

Kenya Water Partnership in efforts to Protect and Conserve the Ewaso Ng'iro North River Basin

The Kenya Water Partnership (KWP) in conjunction with WaterCap concluded formulation and adoption of a catchment Action Plan in Kenya. The action planning is part of the pilot project launched by UNEP, GWP and Cap-Net focussing on three target countries (Kenya, Kazakhstan and Argentina). It was required that each of these three target countries identify and prioritize key

ecosystems or watersheds and endorse related action plans for protection and restoration. In Kenya, the Ewaso Ng'iro North River Basin was identified as a high priority ecosystem to be restored and protected. [Read more about this story](#)

RWANDA

GWL Rwanda develops Thematic Working Groups

Rwanda is the other country which is implementing the Global Water in Leadership Programme, in East Africa. GWPEA and RWP under the GWL programme held a stakeholders' consultation workshop in Kigali, Rwanda, with the main objective of identifying the key bottlenecks impeding IWRM in Rwanda. In Rwanda, under the overall coordination of the Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning, each sector has a specific Thematic Working Group which is chaired by the mandated government ministry or agency and co-chaired by one of the development partners intervening within that particular sector. This TWG brings together public institutions, development partners, civil society organizations, private sector and academic institutions. The meetings of the Thematic Working Groups (TWGs) are held normally twice a year as well as any other time when it is deemed necessary.

Four working groups were established to continue engaging in further project steps in this regard. This was based primarily on the identified bottlenecks and how relevant these are to the expertise of present participants. Since the next step after the identification of



Participants of one of the Thematic Working Group developed under GWL

bottlenecks will be to conduct a root cause analysis of each bottleneck, the working groups were named after prioritizing the barriers.



NEWS FROM THE COUNTRY WATER PARTNERSHIPS

SOMALIA

The Somalia GCF Readiness Project

Somalia is undertaking the GCF Readiness: NDA strengthening, country programming support and project pipeline development Project. The 15 months project which is funded by GCF-Green Climate Fund commenced its implementation on 16th June 2022. The readiness project will constitute Somalia's first readiness project outside of NAP strengthening through UNDP. Activities under this request will fill the urgent need for NDA strengthening, development of a country programme and establishment of a GCF pipeline for Somalia.

The main challenge that this project will overcome are those of insufficient NDA technical and institutional capacity to effectively oversee climate finance in the country.

This project will primarily target the NDA (Ministry for Environment & Climate Change) for capacity building and institutional strengthening, to ensure that this office has the necessary capacity to provide strategic oversight of GCF activities in Somalia. For more information on the Somalia GCF Readiness project [click here](#)

SUDAN

Sudan carries out assessment visit to the DRESSEA project sites

Under the DRESS-EA, Sudan, one of the National Executing Entities, conducted a baseline study and a workshop to validate the baseline. One of the key recommendations was for the PMU to visit the locations that were chosen by the consultant where the project will be implemented. The location is in the white Nile state in Al Salam locality in the village of Al Gela, Al Sabba, Ausoda, Um Al Gura, Al Atshan, Mahboba and Danab Al Egil. Most of the communities in these village are returnees from South Sudan and have a huge problem of scarcity of drinking water. Currently their source of drinking water is the Haffier, which is a form of water collection expanse, where rain water collects and is sifted for drinking.

From the learnings of the field visit, it was recommended that the DRESSEA project comes up with modalities to take into consideration the rain fall season which causes difficulty in the access to the area of the project. Also, the priorities of the project

activities will have to be revised to suit and solve challenges most affecting the communities.



An example of a Haffier in Sudan

UGANDA

Breakfast meeting with Private Sector on innovative financing instruments

Uganda Water Partnership partnered with Ministry of Water and Environment and GWPEA to convene a breakfast meeting with the aim of making innovative finance work for sustainable development. The purpose of the meeting was to engage and attract the private sector players to develop appropriate and effective packages that cater for increased investment and financing in water and climate resilience that are inclusive and promote gender transformation. The meeting also discussed innovative financing instruments for gender transformation in water including use of Private and Public Partnerships, blended finance instruments as well as developing strategies to foster inclusion of private sector stakeholders in these processes.



Members of UWP with the Parment Secretary of the Ministry of Water during the breakfast meeting and private sector actors

GWPEA IN THE NEWS

Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa has appeared in a number of regional and national media. Below are the links to some of the news articles and news bites where we have had reports about our undertakings in the region.

1. Government of Uganda receives \$3million to fight drought in Karamoja Region

This was an article written in the Newvision, one of the leading newspapers in Uganda, on the DRESSEA project and its work in Karamoja. This was during a capacity building meeting to train the DRESS-EA PMUs project execution approach and philosophy and discuss the interconnection/linkages of regional and national activities.

[Click here](#) for more details on the article and a television broadcast on [Bukedde TV here](#)

2. Francois Tetero appointed GWP Eastern Africa Chairperson

Read about the RSC Chair's appointment in Rwanda's [Tropical Africa News](#)

3. Launch of the Global Water Leadership Program in Uganda

The Global Water Leadership Program in Uganda was launched on 29th June 2022 and was broadcast on the local TV and in the Newsvision. [Here is the full article](#)

4. DRESSEA Monitoring Mission in Kenya and RSC meeting

A press conference was held in Kenya during the RSC meeting for the DRESSEA project. Here are the news clips from what transpired

<https://youtu.be/gTdz-FtcLk>

<https://youtu.be/4Mialuqd7Mw>

<https://youtu.be/WUMGgHJtAxx>

4. The Gender Action Plan for Maziba Catchment.

Recently GWPEA supported the Ministry of Water and Environment in Uganda to disseminate the Gender Action Plan for Maziba Catchment

[Here is the detailed news broadcast](#) with an interview from the Program Manager of WACDEP-G

NEW APPOINTMENTS



George Sanga's appointment on the EUWater41-S advisory board

The GWPEA Regional Coordinator George Sanga was recently appointed as an Advisory Board member of the European Water-smart initiative for fostering International Sustainable

Development ([euWater4i-SD](#))project for 2022-2024. Read more about his appointment and the [advisory's first meeting here](#)



GWPEA recently appointed Ms. Jacqueline Zawedde as the new Regional Development Communications Officer. Jacqueline assumed office in May 2022. Read about [Jacqueline's profile here](#).



Gerald Kairu's Appointment on the IWG-UNCCD

Mr. Gerald Kairu has been appointed as a member of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IWG) of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification ([UNCCD](#)). Read more about this milestone [HERE](#)



Abdulrahman Mohamud Dirie is the new National Project Coordinator for the Somalia GCF Readiness Program. He assumed office in June 2022. Read about [Abdulrahman's profile here](#)

