

Water Dialogue



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Dear Partners,

The beginning of 2013 provides a time for reflection on the results of GWPSA's activities in 2012 and their significance in terms of achieving our goals in the 2009-2013 strategy. From our perspective, the development of several programmes and engagement in strategic activities with our Partners in 2012 provided the occasion to advance our mission. We have documented a number of these to provide us with lessons that can inform how best we can move forward and work together in 2013 and beyond – into the next strategic period.

GWPSA's commitment to realise development benefits for societies, economies and the environment from integrated approaches has extended to the rest of Africa. In 2012, GWPSA was selected as the host of the AMCOW Water, Climate and Development Programme (WACDEP) and firmly established the WACDEP Coordinating Unit in the GWPSA offices in Pretoria. WACDEP aims to integrate water security and climate resilience in development planning processes, build climate resilience and support countries to adapt to a new climate regime through increased investments in water security. GWPSA's involvement, in all three phases of the Sida funded regional Water Demand Management (WDM) project, and in particular the 3rd phase through the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), which ended in 2012 has strengthened our relationships with key Partners such as development banks, national regulators such as the National Water Supply and Sanitation Council (NWASCO) in Zambia and helped our understanding of the challenges in the water utilities. The Sida-DBSA project experience will also enrich our efforts in pursuing no/low regret investments - such as WDM – in WACDEP.

GWP was honoured to participate in the 4th Africa Water Week in Cairo and launched critical knowledge products – some of the fruits of the Partnership with the Climate and Development Knowledge Network. These include the Strategic Framework for Water Security and Climate Resilient Development, a Technical Background Document for Water Security and Climate Resilient Development and a series of Policy Briefs on Water Security and Climate Resilient Development were well received by our stakeholders, including AMCOW. The products will guide the implementation of WACDEP.

The ANBO-GWP project (funded by the EU) on Strengthening Institutions for Transboundary Water Management (SITWA) in Africa also held its first Project Steering Committee (also) in Cairo and Southern Africa shared with the teams in Central, Eastern and North Africa how the regional priority contexts must inform how Pan-African initiatives are rolled out. Aligning to the REC development frameworks for example, must be catered for. In our case, understanding and



planning in partnership with SADC, in line with implementation of SADC's strategic plan on IWRM, was and is essential. To this end, SADC RBOs will continue to be engaged to inform how SITWA is taken forward in southern Africa so that value is added to existing basin initiatives.

Our work with SADC has, in 2012, reached even greater heights – consolidating our support to SADC transboundary water management. GWPSA and SADC Water Division have nurtured this relationship for over 16 years, developing trust, clarifying our respective roles and establishing a track record of delivery. GWP SA is an implementing partner of the SADC RSAP-IWRM III, through support from the SADC-GIZ Transboundary Water Management (TWM) Programme. GWP SA is currently implementing the “Mainstreaming Climate Change into the Water Sector” programme - a component of the SADC GIZ- TWM programme. Join us in a reflective moment with Dr. Horst Michael Vogel who led the SADC Transboundary Water Programme, (funded by Australia Aid, DFID UK, BMZ (Germany) with delegated authority to GIZ), in Botswana for six years.

A key theme for 2012 was “Water and Food”. GWPSA, working with FANRPAN and WaterNet has not only contributed to the Limpopo Basin Development Challenge initiative in the research for development and research to policy arenas – but has also benefitted us immensely from the engagement across the food and water sectors and from the multi-level approach with the local, national,

basin, regional and international Partners in the Challenge Programme. GWPSA was honoured to be invited by the Australian International Food Security Centre to the high level forum meeting in November in Sydney, Australia. It became very apparent that the rich experience gained through the innovative research for development Challenge Programme and the insightful technical papers on water and food security developed by GWP Technical Committee and others – need to be very actively promoted among the 'food security' role players and stakeholders. Research is still largely narrowly confined to one sector and whilst local action is necessary – the links are not often made to the national and regional level institutions – towards harnessing greater benefits and most importantly – sustaining these. GWPSA has a key role to play at regional, basin and especially country levels.

The recognition of the interdependence of various sectors has still not adequately informed how we plan and implement. In the SADC region, the various sectors cannot reach their full development potential without adopting integrated approaches and without being supported by a vibrant and adequate energy, water, transport and communications infrastructure. A major achievement for the region was made at the Summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government held in Maputo, Mozambique, in August 2012 when the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan Vision 2027 was adopted. This is a 15-year plan that will guide the implementation of cross-border infrastructure projects that will not only boost regional economies and trade but also help the region in achieving water, food and energy security.

Another significant relationship took root in 2012 – with the Water Research Commission (WRC) inviting GWP to be an organising partner in the International Conference of Freshwater Governance. Whilst we maximised on engagement between researchers and policy makers, GWP also partnered with WRC, the Institute for Women and Gender Studies at the University of Pretoria, International Water Management Institute, CapNet and others to host a dynamic gender session at the conference. The session was entitled "Bridging the Gender Gap in Water Governance". The sustained efforts to promote gender equality in the water sector was realised through recognition that women empowerment is central to achieving the MDG Goal 3 (promoting gender equality and empowering women). In line with the GWP support to the development of the AMCOW gender mainstreaming strategy and to take forward gender, water and development on the continent, GWP will further support an Africa-wide study on the status of gender mainstreaming in policy and action in 2013. These results and others

will be shared at the next WRC led international conference, which will focus on gender, water and development. This is planned to take place in 2014 in the Eastern Cape in South Africa. These activities are good examples of partners working together to highlight critical development challenges, which includes embracing sustainable, innovative, collaborative solutions by all stakeholders - for gender-equitable approaches to be enhanced.

Significant progress has been made in the region and as we enter our last year of the current strategic business plan – 2013, there are still challenges we need to overcome in strengthening the operations and management of our network at all levels. Whilst 2012 focused on developing meaningful and ambitious IWRM and development programmes, the way has been paved for dedicated effort in reviving some aspects of the Partnership. Coincidentally, 2013 will also be the International Year for Water Cooperation and this should resonate with us all. Next year will witness dedicated engagement at country level with Partners to implement the regional programme activities. This includes WACDEP in the Limpopo basin and two riparian states (Mozambique and Zimbabwe), SADC-GIZ TWM, which will encompass activities in all member states but narrow the focus for greater impact in 3 basins.

Programme implementation at country level will remind Partners of their tremendous contributions made over the last 14 years and we hope, set alight their fires to make that much needed difference on the ground. GWPSA will also support global-country engagement in the post 2015 development agenda (following Rio+20 outcomes) – in particular the Sustainable Development Goal stakeholder consultations, and unpack the water food energy nexus issues towards realising our collective goals on water, food and energy security for sustained development and growth in our region. GWP will also be harnessing the thinking and knowledge and start consultations within the network, towards developing the next GWP strategy (2014-2020) and for GWPSA this is opportune, since 2013 is a 'Consulting Partners meeting year', where we have that precious opportunity to think, energise, share, learn and pave our future and the impact we strive for – together.

We look forward to engaging with you in a hard-working, productive and prosperous 2013!



Ruth Beukman
Executive Secretary, Global Water Partnership Southern Africa

Towards Water Security and Climate Resilient Development in Africa: WACDEP Strategy and Milestones

Africa is becoming the most exposed region in the world to the impacts of climate change. According to the most recent estimates from the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the African continent has warmed about half a degree over the last century and the average annual temperature is likely to rise an average of 1.5-4°C by 2099.

Extreme weather patterns cause dry areas to become drier and wet areas wetter; agriculture yields suffer from crop failures; and diseases spread to new altitudes. Although mortality rates are generally poised to improve over the coming decades as communicable diseases in Africa continue to be addressed, malaria remains endemic in most African countries and continues to represent a major cause of morbidity and mortality. All these effects are resulting from the link between water and climate change. The water cycle is the lifeblood of the world. According to the UN, it is the primary link between climate, human society, environment, food, and economic development. If water security is not promoted by decision makers, the implications of climate change can have serious economic consequences, which can derail a government's best intentions and set back growth in development by years. The twin threats of the global water and climate crises carry tremendous danger, particularly for the world's poor.

The African Union (AU), with a vision, inter alia, to accelerate the process of integration while addressing multifaceted social, economic and political problems, is aware that one of the key challenges facing policy and decision makers is to understand the current water resources situation and trends in the face of the increased uncertainties brought about by climate change. Aware of this challenge, AU heads of state adopted the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration on Water and Sanitation in July 2008, underscoring their political primacy for water and sanitation. The Declaration commits countries to put in place adaptation measures to improve the resilience of countries to the increasing threat of climate change and variability to water resources.

In response to the climate change commitments in the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration, the African Ministers Council on Water (AMCOW) in collaboration with Global Water Partnership (GWP) developed the Water, Climate and Development Programme for Africa (WACDEP). In November 2010, during the 3rd Africa Water Week, the extraordinary session of AMCOW adopted a decision recommending that GWP and partners operationalise WACDEP.

WACDEP is therefore based on the premise that increased climate variability threatens the development gains of African countries, and that these effects need to be anticipated so that development efforts can be made more resilient to climate change. The programme therefore supports the implementation of climate change commitments in the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration and contributes to the AMCOW's work programme. Significantly, WACDEP builds on GWP's 2005-2010 support to 13 African countries in facilitating the development of national Integrated Water Resources Management Plans.

The overall aim of WACDEP is to integrate water security and climate resilience in development planning processes, build climate resilience and support countries to adapt to a new climate regime through increased investments in water security. The initiative intentionally aims to strengthen global-regional-national linkages.



Extreme weather patterns cause dry areas to become drier and wet areas wetter



The programme takes the lessons learned at the national level into regional and global discussions on climate change adaptation. Efforts are being made to ensure that planning at the national and regional level is informed by the latest analyses and processes on the global level. It is expected that the programme will lead to the development of National Investment and Financing Strategies for Water Security, Climate Resilience and Development. In addition, infrastructure-related fundable projects will be developed and local pilot projects implemented on the water-food-climate nexus within the context of green growth, land and water management will be demonstrated.

WACDEP's strategy therefore calls for mainstreaming support for climate actions into country development agendas along four pillars:

- Investments in Regional and National Development
- Innovative Green Solutions
- Knowledge and Capacity Development
- Partnerships and Sustainability

These pillars are expected to bring about the following results:

- Water security and climate resilience integrated in development planning and decision-making processes
- Capacities of partnerships, institutions and stakeholders enhanced to integrate water security and climate resilience in development planning and decision-making processes
- "No regret" investment and financing strategies for water security, climate resilience and development formulated and governments begin to implement them.
- Fundable projects (infrastructure-related) for water security, climate resilience and development defined and shared with development banks

The initiative is being implemented at country and transboundary level. These include eight countries, four transboundary river basins and one shared aquifer for in-depth work; Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Ghana, Mozambique, Rwanda, Tunisia and Zimbabwe; Limpopo Basin, Kagera Basin, Lake Chad Basin and Volta Basin and the North-Western Sahara Aquifer System. The transboundary basin approach will enable at least 23 African countries to benefit from the results of the initiative.

So far, the initiative has formulated two working documents: the Water Security and Climate Resilient Development Strategic Framework and the Technical Background document which are both aimed at supporting the implementation of climate change related commitments expressed by African heads of state in the Sharm el-Sheik Declaration on water and sanitation. The Framework provides guidance to countries on how to integrate water security and climate resilience into development planning and investment decision-making processes. It specifically targets ministerial advisors, senior policy makers, senior development planners, sector specialist and sector development corporation advisors and specialists. The framework provides a four-phased approach which enable users to (i) understand the problem (ii) identify & approve options (iii) deliver solutions (iv) monitor and move forward desired targets. The Technical Background Document supports application of the Framework by providing details on concepts, methods and approaches that underpin the actions and steps identified in the Framework.



The Framework presents a milestone to the implementation of water security and climate resilience in Africa. Presenting the Framework to the AMCOW Vice President during the AMCOW General Assembly in Cairo, Egypt, on May 14, 2012, GWP's Executive Secretary Dr. Ania Grobicki referred to it as *'key for supporting on-going efforts to achieve the Africa Water Vision and contributing to climate resilient growth and development in Africa.'* The partnership between AMCOW and GWP (and other key implementing partners such as the Climate and Development Knowledge Network) is a testimony of stakeholders working together for more efficient co-ordination and use of resources committed by development partners for water and climate change adaptation in Africa.

GWP's roles and efforts in the WACDEP are further expected to come into fruition in 2013 when the programme will launch its capacity building programme. The capacity building programme will be a key step in the overall process of implementing WACDEP. A rapid assessment will form the basis for a comprehensive WACDEP capacity building programme, based on the Framework for Water Security and Climate Resilient Development.

The rapid assessment will:

- Identify priority needs for countries to enhance water security and climate resilient development.
- focus on capacity needs for building institutional capacity as well as identify the learning needs of senior staff in the key targeted government ministries/departments and organizations.

GWP, as the key implementing organization, is collaborating with AMCOW, the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN), the United Nations Development Programme-Capacity Building Network (UNDP-Capnet), and NIRAS Natura AB, an international engineering and development consultancy in the implementation of the WACDEP. More partners are expected to come on board in 2013 as the programme is mainstreamed in the participating countries.

Contact the WACDEP Coordinating Unit for further information:

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AMCOW Vice President, Hon. S.S. Nkomo being handed the WACDEP Framework document by the GWP Executive Secretary, Dr. Ania Grobicki

WACDEP Publications



In an effort to address the twin challenges of water security and climate change, the African Ministers Council on Water has produced the following resources on Water Security and Climate Resilient Development in English, French and Portuguese:

- **Policy Brief 1:** Water Security for Development in an Uncertain Climate
- **Policy Brief 2:** Building on the Foundations of Integrated Water Resources Management
- **Policy Brief 3:** Ensuring Adaptation At All Levels
- **Policy Brief 4:** Managing Risks and Making Robust Decisions for Development

- **Policy Brief 5:** Innovative Approaches to Water and Climate Financing
- **Policy Brief Summary:** Strategic Framework for Water Security and Climate Resilient Development

The material has been developed as part of the Water, Climate and Development Programme (WACDEP), an AMCW programme implemented by Global Water Partnership (GWP). It has evolved through a strong collaborative relationship between AMCW and its Technical Advisory Committee, GWP and the Climate Development Knowledge Network (CDKN) who funded the work.

The materials may be downloaded from the WACDEP Website:
<http://www.gwp.org/en/WACDEP/RESOURCES/WACDEP-Publications/>



Mainstreaming Climate Change in the SADC Water Sector

Introduction

In 2012, GWPSA dedicated much time and energy into developing a programme with SADC to support the implementation of the RSAP III through the Climate Change Mainstreaming in the SADC Water Sector Programme. This project builds on GWPSA's support to SADC over the last 16 years, and will be implemented within the GIZ Transboundary Water Management programme in SADC from 2013 - 2015. In delivering these programmes in the RSAP III, GWPSA will aim to contribute to the achievement of the RSAP III strategic objectives through empowering stakeholders, supporting the SADC Secretariat and member states in policy harmonisation and by advocating for more investments in water resources management and development to ensure climate resilience. As water is a pivotal input to a number of sectors, investments made in developing and managing the resource will ensure sustained growth and development. Currently, the level of water investments is still low and climate change brings an added stress to the resource, meaning more has to be put in to ensure resilience against the threat.

GWP in Africa has been tasked with the delivery of the Water, Climate and Development Programme (WACDEP) of the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW). In Southern Africa this programme will be implemented within the context of the SADC Climate Change Adaptation Strategy for the Water Sector (CCASWS), as noted by the SADC Water Resources Technical Committee (WRTC) in Harare at the June 2012 meeting. The delivery of the SADC CCASWS will therefore be central in improving climate resilience and water security in the region.

Goals and Objectives

The goal of the project is to ensure that more investments are made in the management and development of shared water courses. This is to ensure water security and improve climate resilience through strengthening cross-sectorial national engagement to integrate water issues into socio-economic development and climate change adaptation processes.

The project will aim to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. To ensure stakeholders are **organized, capacitated and empowered** to be effectively involved in decision-making processes in the development and management of shared water resources in order to improve climate resilience, tackle poverty and ensure water resources are secure.

2. To enhance the **understanding** of the need to invest in water resources development and management and advocate for the increase of such investments to ensure water security and improve climate resilience.
3. To promote **harmonisation** of national and local strategies and plans with regional basin strategies - as an approach to better water resources management in shared watercourses and building adaptive capacity of relevant institutions.

Expected Outcomes

This project will contribute directly to Outcomes 1 and 6 and indirectly to Outcome 2 of the 'GIZ Transboundary Water Management in SADC Phase III' – as below:

- **Outcome 1: More Equity**
- **Outcome 6: More Investment**
- **Outcome 2: More Water Security**

GWP SA's Strategic Business Plan is aligned to the regional priority frameworks and development challenges. There is clear synchrony with the above mentioned goals, which emphasises the need to ensure IWRM action to address development in a cross-sectoral and multi-level integrated manner – ensuring purposeful stakeholder engagement, knowledge sharing and capacity development.

Scope of Work

The Climate Change programme will mainly focus on the Limpopo and the Orange – Senqu basins, with some implementation in the Zambezi Basin and other countries in the SADC region. Focusing on these basins allows for building on Phase I and II of the SADC GIZ programme allows for lessons to be drawn out for further implementation in the IWRM. Planning processes in both Limpopo and Orange-Senqu basins will provide a good basis for strengthening the linkages between the national - local level with basin and regional initiatives.

These basins will have in-depth activities around stakeholder engagement for the IWRM Planning process and will cover six countries (riparians) namely: Botswana, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, and Zimbabwe.

The focus in the basins will be to facilitate the establishment of national basin wide forums in all the riparian countries owing to the

work that has been done by ZAMCOM, ORASECOM and LIMCOM.

There will also be other region wide components (promoting regional SADC instruments) that will be delivered to cover all member states. The regional support will cover 8 countries over and above the Limpopo and Orange-Senqu riparian countries. These are Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, Mauritius, Swaziland, Seychelles, and Tanzania.

Project Work Packages

In order to ensure that more investments are made in the management and development of shared water courses, the project will implement activities under three work packages below:

- **Work Package 1 (WP1)** – Increasing and harnessing knowledge for use
- **Work Package 2 (WP2)**: Increasing stakeholder involvement
- **Work Package 3 (WP3)**: Increasing Investments

Conclusion

GWP SA's overall role in the climate change mainstreaming programme will be to facilitate the interaction between the transboundary basin level and the local level. Programme activities will therefore centre on communications, by taking opportunities to raise awareness and tell stories of climate change in the region. Opportunities for stakeholder engagements through policy dialogues

and national events such as National Water weeks will provide mechanisms for interactions and ensure that regional initiatives are integrated into national level responses aimed at promoting more investments at local level, which will support responses that have a regional impact.

It is therefore important for the water sector to engage, build alliances and advocate for the integration of water resources management and development into the climate change and development discourse. Capacity development and providing good practices and lessons learnt will be instrumental in strengthening the national basin wide forums towards playing an active role in this regard.

Finally, monitoring and evaluation (M&E) mechanisms will be a key element of each activity, and the program as a whole. Mainstreaming of gender issues across the programme has been considered and will ensure that strategies for making women's as well as men's concerns and experiences are an integral dimension of the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluations of all economic, political and societal spheres so that women and men benefit equally in water investment programmes.

Further information on the programme may be channelled to: Mr Michael Ramaano (m.ramaano@cgjar.org) and/or Mr Andrew Takawira (a.takawira@cgjar.org)

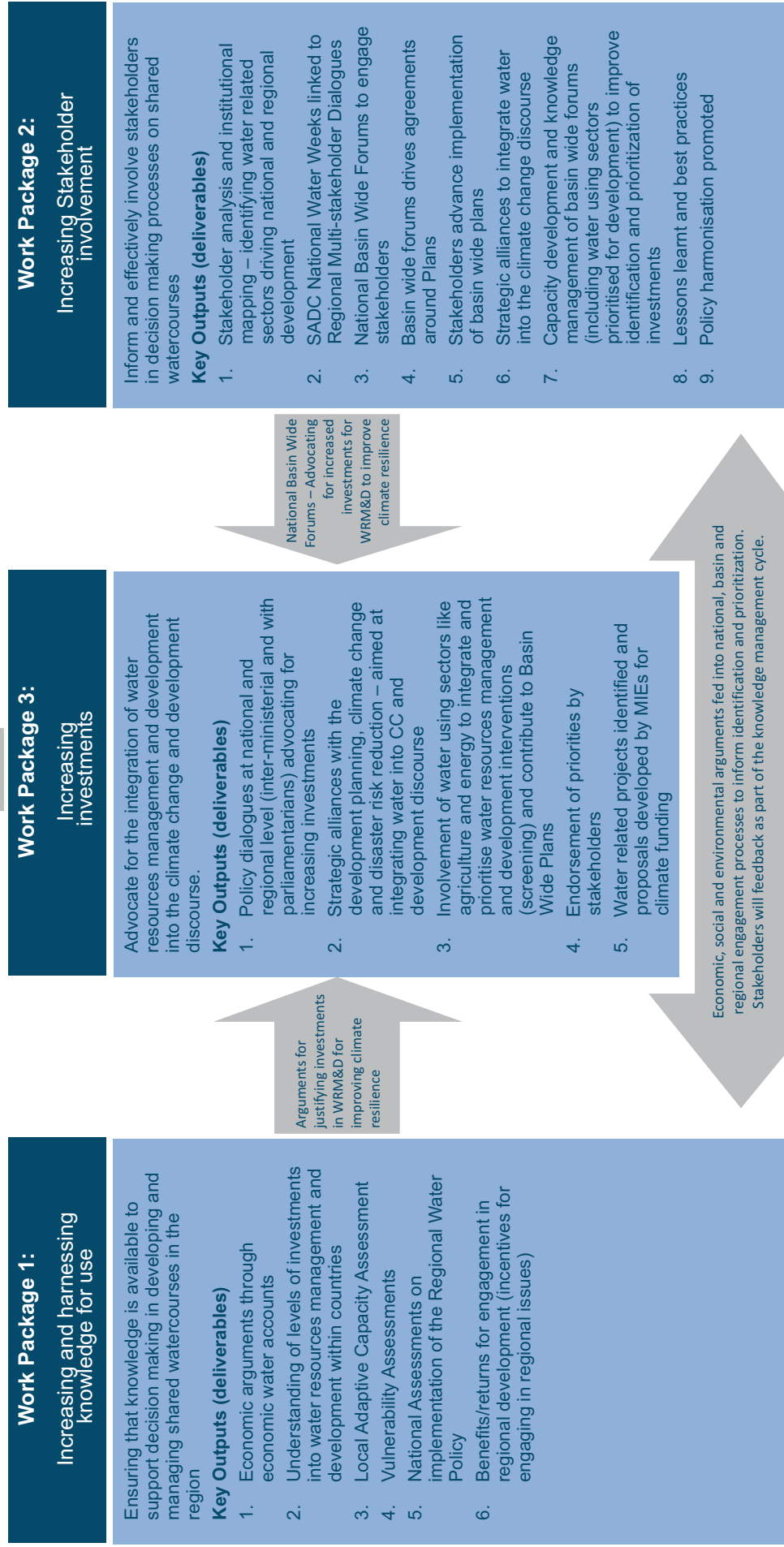
By Michael Ramaano – Regional Programme Officer & Andrew Takawira – Senior Programme Manager, GWPSA Secretariat



Mainstreaming Climate Change in the SADC Water Sector - Framework

Investments for developing and managing shared water resources aimed at ensuring water security and improving climate resilience prioritised through strengthened cross-sectoral national engagement in transboundary issues and integrated into the climate change and development discourse.

- Outcome 1: More Equity
- Outcome 2: More water security
- Outcome 6: More investment



Reflections by Horst Vogel on Transboundary Water Management in SADC

Dr. Horst Michael Vogel worked for the SADC Water Division in Botswana as a focal point person in Transboundary Water Management (TWM) from April 2006 until January 2013. His educational background is in Geo- and Political Sciences as well as in Agricultural Engineering. Dr Vogel is currently heading a GIZ-implemented regional programme on "Aqua-Terrestrial Solutions" in the Caribbean (CARICOM), an appointment he took up in February 2013. Patricia Lumba, GWPSA's Knowledge Management and Communications Officer held an interview with him to reflect on his years in Southern Africa, and bring to the fore valuable lessons from his experience in TWM in the SADC Region.

The Federal Republic of Germany has been supporting the SADC integration agenda since 1985 through technical cooperation and since 1995 also through financial cooperation.

Transboundary Water Management in SADC

Mrs Lumba (GWPSA): The SADC Secretariat has established an enabling environment for transboundary water management (TWM) in the SADC Region. As a result, all of the riparian states of the 15 major river basins in SADC have signed agreements on shared water resources, as stipulated in the SADC Protocol on Shared Watercourses. However, human and institutional capacities at the regional and river basin level have not yet been adequate to achieve sustainable management of transboundary (regional) water resources in accordance with the Regional Strategic Action Plan (RSAP), this is a key challenge.

Kindly tell us about the support GIZ has provided through the Transboundary Water Management in SADC programme. Specifically (see a-c below):

- a. **Mrs Lumba (GWPSA):** What has been the role of GIZ in addressing the strengthening of human and institutional capacities in the SADC Water Sector, in particular regarding strategic programme planning?

Dr Vogel: GIZ focussed on a well-structured and programmatic management approach to human and institutional capacity development. Out of this approach emanated, for example, the development of policy guidelines for River Basin Organisations, an adaptation strategy to climate change in the SADC Water Sector, and



the 3rd Regional Strategic Action Plan on Integrated Water Resources Development and Management (2011 – 2015). In addition, GIZ went out of her way in supporting the SADC Water Division regarding her staff concept and recruitment.

- b. **Mrs Lumba (GWPSA):** Kindly elaborate GIZ's role, support and attention to emerging topics such as adaptation to climate change, food security, and the development of water and sanitation infrastructure for the sustainable management of complex transboundary water resources in accordance with the Regional Strategic Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management and Development (RSAP-IWRM).

Dr Vogel: GIZ has always paid close attention to emerging topics such climate change, food security, and infrastructure development. A case in point is the development of the SADC Climate Change

Adaptation Strategy for the Water Sector. Similarly, GIZ has supported SADC in the development of a "Regional Portfolio of Priority Projects in Water Infrastructure". Last but not least, the 3rd Regional Strategic Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management and Development (RSAP-IWRM) was developed by SADC through the support rendered by GIZ. It is important to note that all these policy and strategy documents were developed in-house by SADC in collaboration with GIZ.

- c. **Mrs Lumba (GWPSA):** In addition, what role has GIZ played in the strengthening of River Basin Organisations (RBOs), the development of basin-wide IWRM plans, training in IWRM, and information and knowledge management including awareness-raising?

Dr Vogel: A key focus of German development cooperation with SADC is on the establishment and strengthening of River Basin Organisations (RBOs). Hitherto, this support has centred on LIMCOM, ORASECOM, ZAMCOM, Kunene PJTC, and the Rovuma JWC. But all other RBOs in the SADC region also benefit, for example through the regular joint organisation of SADC-wide RBO workshops and exchange programmes. In this context, the development of basin-wide IWRM plans, initially with LIMCOM and ORASECOM, has been a major direction of endeavour. The same applies to training in IWRM, and information and knowledge management including awareness-raising. Training is multi-faceted and ranges from institutional issues including financial sustainability to international water law and conflict negotiation and resolution to stakeholder participation and exchange programmes. GIZ has successfully initiated the twinning of RBOs, namely ORASECOM and the ICPDR (International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River), and LIMCOM and the MDBA (Murray-Darling Basin Authority). In the field of information and knowledge management including awareness-raising several initiatives have been established successfully, for example, the SADC Water Information Sharing Hub (<http://www.sadcwaterhub.org/>), the SADC Water Sector ICP Collaboration Portal (<http://www.icp-confluence-sadc.org/>) as well as three River Awareness Kits for the Limpopo (<http://www.limpoporak.org/>), the Orange-Senqu (<http://www.orangesenquak.org/>), and the Kunene River (<http://www.kunenerak.org/>) respectively. Another major emphasis is on the support of The Southern Africa Water Wire (<http://www.ipsnews.net/news/projects/the-southern-africa-water-wire/>) and the production of film documentaries such as the 4-part series titled "Bridging Waters"

(http://www.thewaterchannel.tv/index.php?option=com_hwdvideoshare&task=viewvideo&Itemid=53&video_id=669).

This is being rounded off by school programmes ("Orange-Senqu River Learning Box") and the publication of books ("Orange River - Artery of Life").

Harmonisation of Support by Key Water Players

Mrs Lumba (GWPSA): Transboundary water management is a focal area of German development cooperation with SADC. Germany is currently also the lead International Cooperating Partner (ICP) in the SADC water sector that is in charge of the realisation of the international harmonisation agenda.

- d. **Mrs Lumba (GWPSA):** Which other ICPs has GIZ worked with to strengthen the SADC Water Division and to avoid overlap in support for the Regional Basin Organisations?

Dr Vogel: GIZ's prime partners are the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID) both of whom are cooperating with Germany and GIZ respectively through delegated cooperation agreements. The teaming up between these three international cooperating partners (ICP) has provided for much needed harmonisation and coordination of ICP support to the SADC Water Division and RBOs alike in the SADC Region. It has also raised much needed financial support. This allows for the achievement of far more tangible results on the ground than any of the partners could otherwise achieve on its own.

GIZ is also actively cooperating with all the other ICPs in the SADC Water Sector. This cooperation is primarily based on the German lead role in the SADC Water Sector, which is being executed through GIZ. This has yielded an exemplary good level of ICP harmonisation and coordination in the SADC Water Sector that is based on regular meetings of the Water Strategy Reference Group (WSRG), which in turn is based on mutually agreed upon Terms of Reference (ToR) between SADC and her ICPs.

Water Cooperation in a Sensitive Region

Mrs Lumba (GWPSA): Water is a crucial factor in the social and economic development of the SADC region. Since most of the region's surface and ground waters are fed from 15 major transboundary river basins, the sustainable management of water resources demands the cooperation of all riparian states. SADC has set herself the goal of regional integration through the cooperation of its 15 member countries in the fields of policy, economy and ecology. In the water sector, SADC has defined this goal in the form of the

Protocol on Shared Watercourses (which is legally binding) and the Regional Water Vision, Regional Water Policy, and Regional Water Strategy, all three of which are not legally-binding. Together, however, they lay down the principles that guide the overall cooperation on shared water resources in the SADC Region.

- e. **Mrs Lumba (GWPSA):** The implementation of these framework specifications, however, can be slow. What are some of the reasons you may give to the obstruction of cooperative and sustainable solutions for water management in the region?

Dr Vogel: Prime reasons are vested national interests, which are difficult to forego. After all, the prime responsibility of political decision makers is with their national constituency. Hence, water management in the region has to concentrate on benefit sharing mechanisms and creating trade-offs between SADC Member States.

- f. **Mrs Lumba (GWPSA):** 2013 has been declared as the international year of water cooperation. What areas of success on water cooperation can other regions draw from Southern Africa?

Dr Vogel: Southern Africa to me is one of the world's best cases in collaboration. The level of commitment on water cooperation is

exemplary. This is first and foremost rooted in the realisation across the SADC Region that water is one of two strategic natural resources – the other being mineral resources - that determine peaceful economic development and regional integration. The second reason, to my mind, is rooted in a specific common denominator that cuts across all cultures in Southern Africa, namely the focus on people's allegiances and relations with each other. This cultural concept is commonly known as uBuntu. Though there is no direct translation into English, uBuntu imposes the same principle as Immanuel Kant's categorical imperative, namely to be ethical as a universal duty.

- g. **Mrs Lumba (GWPSA):** Lastly, what in your view should be the key messages at regional and local level in promoting water cooperation particularly with reference to addressing the problem of unequal levels of development among SADC member states?

Dr Vogel: The simple message is to continue the successful path of cooperation based on dialogue and in line with the SADC Protocol principles of "equitable and reasonable utilisation" and the "duty to prevent significant harm".

Mrs Lumba (GWPSA): Thank you for your time, we wish you the very best as Head of Programmes in the "Aqua-Terrestrial Solutions" in the Caribbean (CARICOM)



SADC Accelerates Infrastructure Development Agenda

A Vision is Born

Southern Africa has taken a significant step forward in its search for deeper regional integration following the approval of a long-awaited plan that provides a framework for the region's vision for infrastructure development. This development was realised at the Summit of Southern African Development Community (SADC) Heads of State and Government held in Maputo, Mozambique, in August 2012. Although the Heads of State endorsed a number of measures on the way forward for the region with regards to economic integration and political cooperation, the major highlight of the Summit was the adoption of the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan Vision 2027, a 15-year plan that will guide the implementation of cross-border infrastructure projects and boost regional trade between 2013 and 2027. The master plan will be implemented over three five-year intervals – short term (2012-2017), medium term (2017-2022) and long term (2022-2027).

Due to the poor state of the region's infrastructure, the deficit to upgrading infrastructure has been estimated to be to about \$100 billion. The plan will therefore serve as a key strategy to guide setting up of efficient and cost-effective trans-boundary infrastructure connecting all SADC member states in areas of Energy, Water, Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) and transport. A strategic framework will therefore be in place to guide the implementation of efficient, seamless and cost-effective trans-boundary infrastructure networks in an integrated and coordinated manner in all the six sectors, namely Energy, Transport, Tourism, ICTs, Meteorology and Water.

What the Plan Addresses

In each sector chapter, the plan identifies a number of project interventions that would scale up progress for socio-economic development in the region. In the energy sector, for example, the plan addresses four key areas of energy security; proposes improving access to modern energy services; and plans relating to tapping abundant energy resources and up-scaling financial investment whilst enhancing environmental sustainability.

Regarding the sub-sectors of road, rail, ports, inland waterways and air transport networks, the Transport Sector Plan addresses four critical areas, namely improving access to the seamless transport corridors value chain; reducing the cost of transportation; enhancing competitiveness and providing safe and secure transport services.



The Water Chapter of the Plan identifies some 34 water infrastructure projects that are ready for immediate implementation between 2013 and 2021, given the preparation that has already been undertaken, with an estimated cost of US\$ 16 billion. The water projects are expected to address and facilitate the increase of:

- Annual renewable water resources storage from 14% to 25%;
- The area under irrigation from 3.4 million hectares to 10 million hectares (i.e. by 13% of the potential);
- Hydropower generation from 12 GW to 75 GW (i.e. an increase from 8% to 50% of potential);
- Access to water supply from 61% of the population to 75% of the population; and
- Access to sanitation services from 39% to 75% of the population.

How the Infrastructure Projects will be Funded

The Summit also noted progress towards the operationalization of the SADC Regional Development Fund, whose main priorities will be the financing of infrastructure in the region, which is to be a financial mechanism for mobilising resources from Member States, the private sector and development partners. The SADC Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan Summit Investor Conference is scheduled for 27-29 June 2013 to lure potential investors for the identified regional infrastructure projects while road shows are also planned in Asia, Europe and the United States for the same purpose.

The Fund, which will have a subscribed capital of US \$ 1.2 billion to be raised as seed capital, was approved by the Council of Ministers that preceded Summit, will be used to finance SADC programmes and projects. The proposed fund will be used for regional integration. The first priority will be infrastructure development and the second priority will be linking infrastructure to overall development.

On the other hand, the identified priority infrastructure projects will require about US\$500 billion for implementation, with transport, energy and water taking up the major share of the funding requirements.

Why Infrastructure Plan only in 2012?

SADC's focus for regional cooperation has over the past 32 years shifted to investment promotion and production. Infrastructure development remains a key driver of regional integration in the SADC region and was prioritised in the Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) in 2003 as a facilitator of intra-regional trade and economic growth. The RISDP is SADC's 15-year development blueprint. The master plan is also in line with the African Union's Programme for Infrastructure Development of Africa (PIDA) and will constitute a key input into the proposed Infrastructure Master Plan for the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)-East African Community (EAC)-SADC tripartite.

The main sectors of focus for the SADC infrastructure programme are Energy, Transport, Telecommunications, Water and Tourism. SADC recognises the interdependence of various sectors such as tourism,

agriculture, mining or commerce. Based on that belief, it follows the corridor development concept, otherwise known as the Spatial Development Initiative (SDI). The concept therefore recognises that the various sectors cannot reach their full development potential without being supported by a vibrant and adequate energy, water, transport and communications infrastructure. Based on that background, the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan Vision 2027 was conceived at the 2007 Lusaka Summit in Lusaka, Zambia.

Five years on after a broad-based consultative process in which SADC Member States (supported by all key stakeholders and the private sector) were central in elaborating the infrastructure projects, SADC member states can start implementing infrastructure in a systematic and holistic manner, guided by the agreed priorities within the Plan. The SADC region is therefore on its way to creating an enabling environment by delivering infrastructure requirements by 2027 in order to facilitate the realisation of sustainable regional socio-economic development and integration within the framework of the SADC Infrastructure Vision 2027.

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Harnessing cooperation in the water supply and sanitation sector through capital financing

Introduction

Water supply and sanitation service delivery in Zambia is a prerogative of the commercial utility companies which were formed by the Government which has 100% shareholding through the Local Authorities. There are 11 commercial utility companies providing water supply and sanitation services to the urban and peri-urban areas of Zambia, regulated by the National Water Supply and Sanitation Council (NWASCO). The water supply and sanitation sector has undergone reforms which have seen it achieve some milestones, key among them, commercialisation. Among the tangible benefits of the commercialisation process has been increased sector financing through cooperation among various stakeholders.

The Infrastructural gap

The need to commercialise the water supply and sanitation sector was realised after considering the continued deterioration of the infrastructure and lack of investments leading to poor service delivery. Prior to the reform process, water supply and sanitation service delivery was a prerogative of the municipalities. During this period, the sector was characterised by run down and inadequate infrastructure for the growing population. The situation was exacerbated by the lack of maintenance exhibited by those charged with the responsibility. Revenues realised from water and sanitation services was diverted to deal with other municipality activities other than being ploughed back to improve water service delivery.



Commercialising the Water supply and sanitation sector was realised after considering the continued deterioration of the infrastructure and lack of investments



The Regulator as a vehicle to harness sector financing

One of the major achievements of the Regulator-NWASCO was to see through the process of commercialisation. The process of reforming the water supply and sanitation sector began in 1993 and was heightened in 2008 when the entire country was covered by 11 commercial utility companies serving urban areas. The motive for commercialisation was to incorporate the private sector principles in the management of these public institutions. Commercialisation

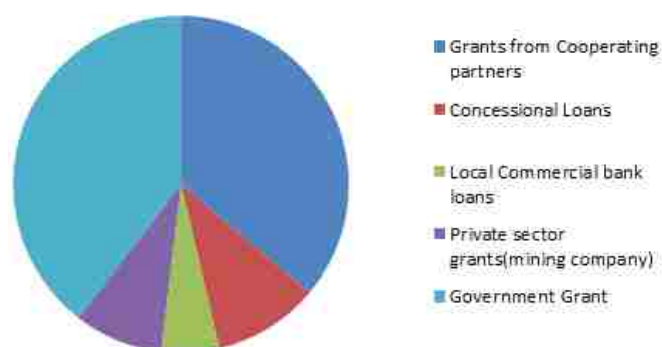
encouraged private sector participation in the sector, particularly in capital investments, which over the years had dwindled to very low levels against the growing population. Commercialisation was therefore, generally anchored on concerted efforts and increased confidence and cooperation among various stakeholders, that is, Government, cooperating and /or development partners and the private sector.

Financing Water Supply and Sanitation Infrastructure

Over the years, cooperation in recapitalisation of the Zambian water supply and sanitation sector in has since gained momentum. To ascertain the investment gap, the government in 2011 developed a National Urban and Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programmes covering the period 2011-2030 that tabulate the investment requirements for the sector.

The sector has seen an increase in investment financing from the Government, cooperating partners and the private sector. Even more encouraging, the sector is for the first time now, able to assess mixed financing (loans and grants) from development banks and loans from local commercial banks. Between the periods 1st April 2011 to 31st March 2012, a total of US\$50.28m was invested in the sector distributed as follows:

Sector funding 2011/12(mil US\$)



Impact of this financing

These investments have gone towards recapitalising the sector. Among the areas attended to are construction of water supply and sewerage treatment plants, replacement of trunk mains and distribution networks and installation of meters. These investments have led to improvement in water supply and sanitation service delivery as evidenced by the increase in hours of supply, pressure, improved water quality and reduction of Non-Revenue Water (NRW) service.

Challenges

Although the sector received increased investments compared to previous years, these were far from being sufficient. Out of a requirement of US\$193.8m less than half was financed (US\$50.28m). Clearly, there is still a great need and potential for the cooperation particularly with private sector financing the sector. There is, however, promise from other upcoming partnerships mostly in the form of mixed financing, that is, grants and Loans.

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A journey towards an integrated National Water Policy for Zimbabwe

After attaining independence in 1980, Zimbabwe inherited a situation of inequitable land and water access which was exacerbated by a lack of finance to expand water resources development. This meant that the Government of Zimbabwe had to embark on strategies to improve equity in access to land and water for all Zimbabweans. A number of policies and strategies put into place enabled Zimbabwe to attain a very high level of service delivery with respect to both rural and urban water supply, sanitation and hygiene.

Aware of the link between water and the economy of the country, the Government of Zimbabwe developed one of the most comprehensive approaches to water resources development and the provision of water supply and sanitation services in Africa. It promoted water resources development and expanded its reservoirs to over 8 000 small, medium and large dams. Markedly, plans are in place to address the raw water shortages in the country's biggest cities of Harare and Bulawayo through the construction of Kunzvi and Gwayi-Shangani dams respectively. The country similarly expanded



irrigation development reaching an irrigated area of 160 000 to 180 000 ha in the commercial and smallholder sectors by the year 2000 and over 20 000 ha of informal irrigation during the same period. Coverage of rural sanitation and hygiene improvements moved from 5% in 1980 to 43% in 2009.

Pre and post-independence water sector reforms

The strides made in the water sector can be attributed to a number of policy reforms that were put in place over the years to protect the water resource base. Prior to 1927, primary water rights for all people were safeguarded in the British South Africa Charter (BSAC). Other water uses were regulated by the riparian doctrine enshrined in British Common Law which applied in the colonies, which meant that only those with access to land riparian to a stream had the right to abstract water from it. The 1927 Water Act vested authority to grant water rights in the Water Court and enshrined private ownership of water linked to land ownership, benefiting commercial farmers who had title

to land. Although the 1976 Water Act abolished the earlier established preferential treatment to mines and railways, it consolidated the appropriation doctrine. This scenario set the stage for post-independence water sector reforms that gave birth to the Water Act [Chapter 20:24] of 1998 and the Zimbabwe National Water Authority (ZINWA) Act [Chapter 20:25] of 1998.

Against this background, the Government of Zimbabwe has so far undertaken two major Water Sector Reform Programmes with the hope of improving the planning and management of water resources through appropriate, representative institutional arrangements and bringing policy and the legal framework for water in line with contemporary society.

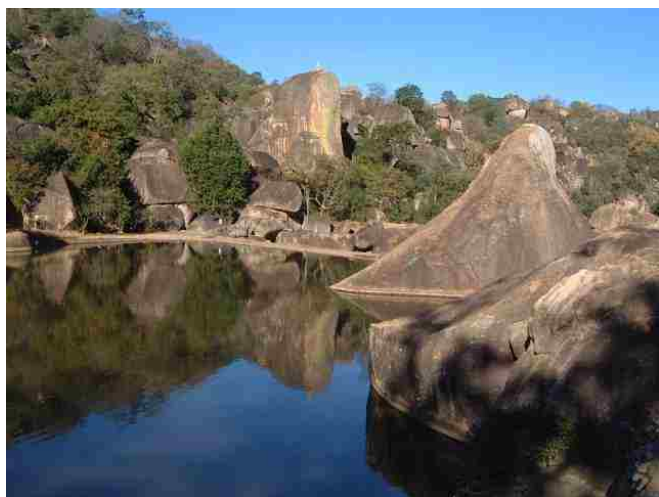
The first Phase, which was carried out from 1994 to 2002, with financial and technical support from the Governments of Germany, Norway, Netherlands and the United Kingdom, resulted in a number of outcomes:

- The repeal of the Water Act of 1976 and the establishment of the Water Act of 1998 (Chapter 20:24); which in turn



established Catchment Councils and Sub-Catchment Councils;

- The establishment of the ZINWA Act (Chapter 20:25), 1998; and
- The reformulation of the Water Resources Management Strategy which included an annexed National Water Policy that was never formally passed by the Cabinet.



As a way of breaking out of the challenging economic situation and re-defining its development pathway, Zimbabwe embarked on the second phase of the water sector reforms. The second phase focuses on the formulation of a detailed National Water Policy (NWP) which includes a 'Recovery Period' intended to reverse the deterioration in the state of the water and sanitation sector and set the basis for normal development in the future. This phase has received financial and technical support from the World Bank and UNICEF.

Both phases have involved wide consultations with the public through stakeholder representation by Ministries, Government Departments, Catchment Councils and Sub-Catchment Councils, Parastatals, farmers unions, local authorities and the Private Sector led by Inter-Ministerial Committees.

The various policies and strategies have over the years been implemented by a number of government departments and ministries chiefly: The Ministry of Water Resources Development and Management (MWRDM) which is responsible for overall planning, development and management of water resources in Zimbabwe. The MWRDM is supported by ZINWA as a self-financing institution whose key mandate is to plan, develop and manage Zimbabwe's water resources on a sustainable and environmentally friendly basis. Other key players include the National Action Committee on Water Supply and Sanitation (NAC) which is comprised of three subcommittees, the Water Resources Management, Urban and Rural.

The MWRDM also works closely with other key ministries such as the Ministry of Health and Child Welfare (MHCW), the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Infrastructure Development (MTCID) which is responsible for appraising and managing infrastructure development and advising District Water and Sanitation Committees on borehole drilling and pump maintenance, the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources Management (MENRM), the Ministry of Women's Affairs, Gender and Community Development (MOWAGCD), to ensure the equal access to water by all (women and men) that are directly or indirectly impacted.

Why a Policy Instrument at this stage?

Despite the existence of reform programmes, including the governments buy-in to various national, regional and international agreements and treaties (such as the SADC Regional Water Policy, the Revised Protocol on Shared water courses, and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) General Comment No. 15 (2002) on the human right to water which Zimbabwe is party to), the water and sanitation sector faced a number of challenges. These challenges range from poor maintenance of major dams, unsustainable water pricing policy, sharp decline of urban and rural water supply and sanitation services, high unaccounted for water losses through dilapidated infrastructure, pollution of water from both point and diffuse sources, and the reduction of commercial irrigation exacerbated by power outages that have also impacted negatively on clean water and waste water treatment plants. These social and economic circumstances that prevailed in Zimbabwe had profound and direct impact on water supply, sanitation, food security and the economy in general.

There are also other compelling factors which necessitated the formulation of a Water Policy for Zimbabwe at this point in the country's history. The outcomes of the 1st Phase of the Water Sector Reform Programme which began in 1994 were never formally adopted and implemented as a result of the economic challenges being faced by the country.

Most of the water sector infrastructure that was functional during the 1st Phase has deteriorated to such an extent that urgent and major rehabilitation is required to return the levels of service to normal. In addition there is a need to improve access to water in remote areas of the country where such access has not been available before. The major changes that occurred in the farming communities across the country following the Land Reform Programme has changed the usage of agricultural water, the major water using sector in the country. Additionally, climate related disasters such as drought,

floods, cyclones, deforestation and environmental degradation necessitated a comprehensive water related policy to be in place if these disasters are to be mitigated.

The government is therefore determined that the recovery should be built on a sound foundation including a well-considered policy environment that will meet the needs of both the recovery phase and a normalised growth phase which is the ultimate objective. To this end the Government of Zimbabwe, through the MWRDM, has developed the National Water Policy.

What will the Policy address?

Despite significant efforts in the investment of Water Supply services since independence, the existing policies and strategies

had a shortfall. The main shortfall in the existing reform strategies can be identified in the implementation strategies, which emphasized the non-cohesiveness of implementing government departments and ministries both in rural and urban areas.

Coordination has been a major missing link in the water supply and sanitation sector despite a number of institutions available to carry out the work. The revised policy thus provides guidelines for a more integrated approach to implementation of strategies and highlights roles of various actors.

The National Water Policy was crafted with the intention of developing a comprehensive framework for sustainable development and management of Zimbabwe's water resources, in which an effective legal and institutional framework for its implementation will be put in place. The policy aims at ensuring that beneficiaries participate fully in planning, construction, operation, maintenance and management of community based domestic water supply schemes. The policy further seeks to address cross-sectoral interests in water, watershed management and integrated and participatory approaches for water resources planning, development and management. The policy also lays a foundation for sustainable development and management of water resources in the changing roles of Government from service provider to that of coordination, policy and guidelines formulation, and regulation.

Specifically, the policy is founded on international best practice and addresses sub-sector issues relating to; Water Resources Development and Management, Urban Water Supply and Sanitation, Agriculture, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation, Environment and Dams. The policy provides a comprehensive framework for promoting optimal, sustainable and equitable development and use of water resources for the benefit of the present and future generations, taking into consideration the concerns of all water users. The Rural Water Supply section in particular aims at improving health and alleviating poverty of the rural population through improved access to adequate and safe water while the Urban Water section sets a framework for achieving an efficient development and management of the Urban Water Supply and Sewerage services.

Phased Policy Implementation

It is anticipated that a plan for action detailing the implementation of policy strategies will be prepared and presented separately. However, the policy has divided the various tasks that lie ahead into two phases; the Recovery Phase and the Normalised Phase.

The recovery activities will involve undertaking a number of activities



that will arrest the continued deterioration of the water and sanitation sector assets before they reach the point where they are beyond recovery. Some strategies will include:

- developing practical fast-track strategies to achieve recovery of services and break the cycle of decline;
- re-establishing the confidence of consumers and water users through the restoration of affordable services and targeted communication campaigns;
- putting into practice the institutional and legal framework that permits clear institutional functions, responsibilities and accountability;
- restoring and building human resources and institutional capacity to undertake key functions;
- addressing the needs of the changed agricultural and the rural sectors as these represent the majority of the population and use the bulk of the water resources;
- re-establishing the financial viability of institutions which depend upon user revenues which in turn requires the restoration of the financial viability of water users;
- developing a framework for realizing sustainable development through reduction of the burden of disasters on the environment, the poor and the vulnerable; and
- Engaging with other key stakeholders in government and the economy as a whole to jointly plan and implement recovery.

It is, however, important to note that continuous coordination is crucial.

The normalised phase on the other-hand will represent the long-term scenario of economic growth of any country. The activities to be undertaken in the restoration phase will reinforce good practice to normalized economic growth.

Priority policy instructions

The National Water Policy addresses priority areas of development within the water sector that are built on a set of policy principles which are based on core values of sound practice in the water sector. It is envisaged that the laid out guidelines that stipulate their implementation will address the main challenges to be overcome in the immediate future. The policy also calls for the establishment of a National Water Supply Services Utility (NWSSU), which will allow ZINWA (responsible for Water Resources and Management) to concentrate on water resources development and raw supplies envisaged in the Water Act of 1998. To strengthen the work of ZINWA, the policy calls for the Establishment of a Water and Wastewater Services Regulatory Unit (WWSRU) that will be set up under ZINWA to monitor all Water Supply and Sanitation Services; Receive and assess tariff applications in collaboration with relevant ministries such as MLGRUD and MAMID; and Oversee the licensing of Water Service

Providers by Water Services Authorities. WWSRU will ensure that consultations among Water Service Authorities, Water Service Providers and Consumers are undertaken prior to adjustment of tariffs.

Policy Implementation and way forward

The policy is only the beginning of Zimbabwe's progress in the water sector. Onward, Zimbabwe will need to urgently prepare implementation strategies for the recovery of the water sector and the reinstatement of water supply and sanitation services. A number of activities have already been identified as requiring immediate attention. These are:

- 1) Harmonisation of the Acts underpinning the water sector i.e. Water Act [Chapter 20:24], 1998, ZINWA Act [Chapter 20:25], 1998, EMA Act [Chapter 20: 27], 2002, Urban Councils Act [Chapter 29:15], 1996 Edition, Rural District Councils Act [Chapter 29:13], 1996 Edition, Mines and Minerals Act [Chapter 21:05] 1996 Edition and the Public Health Act [Chapter 15:09], as the various Acts that deal with water in Zimbabwe are not synchronised.
- 2) Preparing accurate estimates of costs for the recovery process.
- 3) Reviewing the available literature on alternative technologies of sanitary disposal
- 4) Developing the national plan and implementation strategy
- 5) The testing of policy during the recovery period in order to give strong foundation for the normalised phase, and
- 6) Coordinating the activities of the recovery and long-term development under the NAC and its subsidiary committees.

This National Water policy is designed to drive the restoration of the water sector in the immediate future and to stand the country in good stead for many years to come.

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Editor's Note:

Zimbabwe launched the National Water Policy in Victoria Falls on the 22nd of March 2013. The National Water Policy was launched by the Deputy Prime Minister, Madam Thokozani Khupe. The launch was graced by the presence the Ministers of Local Government Urban and Rural Development, Honourable Dr. Ignatious Chombo, the Deputy Minister of Regional Integration and International Cooperation, Honourable Reuben Marumahoko, the World Bank and UNICEF Country Representatives and other Cooperating Partners in the Water sector and the host, the Minister of Water Resources Development and Management, Honourable Dr. Samuel. S. Nkomo. Also present were local Chiefs, representatives from various government ministries and departments, catchment and sub-catchment council representatives.

Gender, Water & Development - The Untapped Connection

Securing water is critical in improved livelihoods, in all parts of the world, but particularly in arid and semi-arid areas. Although women have huge responsibilities in managing water resources not only for productive uses, and domestic purposes, there are realities on the ground that prove that women's experiences in water management issues have had negative socio-economic impact. In Sub-Saharan Africa, 71 per cent of the burden of collecting water for households falls on women and girls, says the U.N.'s 2012 report on Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Currently, women in sub-Saharan Africa spend an average of about 200 million hours per day collecting water, and a whopping 40 billion hours per year, according to the U.N. Development Programme.

Although fetching water fosters social cohesion and often provides women with an opportunity to communicate with other women and people outside their homes, it also exposes them to threats of violence and health hazards. It also takes time away from them that might have been used for more productive activities.

The reasons for these and many more challenging experiences range from lack of empathy of gender issues by policy makers to lack of will and commitment at the project design and implementation phases of programmes to the unavailability of gender-disaggregated data, lack of coordinated and concerted action to move gender approaches down through the decentralised institutional chain.

In fact, women generally have limited influence, do not exert political pressure or are simply not heard or seen. Women representatives, even when their numbers are guaranteed through well-meaning quota requirements, may be subdued by cultural norms that prevent them from expressing opinions in public meetings that include men. Low self-esteem and preoccupation with other critical responsibilities can also restrict women's full participation in committees, council meetings and decision-making forums, unless the right support structures are in place to enable and empower their involvement.

The participatory gap by women in decision-making positions, including participation in governance and decision making about water resources at the highest levels means that women have no choice in the kind or location of services they receive. The lack of recognition of the role women play as decision makers is one of the major reasons for women's poor access to productive resources such as water. As a result, most of the water-related initiatives that aim to provide access to productive resources fail to take account of women's concerns about multiple water issues.

The 2003 report on *Gender Perspectives on Policies in the Water Sector* by the Gender and Water Alliance (GWA) provides two opinions for the arguments that:

- Involving men and women in influential roles at all levels can hasten the attainment of sustainability in the management of scarce water resources.
- Managing water in an integrated and sustainable way can contribute significantly to better gender equity, by improving the access of women and men to water and water-related services.

Therefore, positive integrated water resources management (IWRM) need a 'gender-equitable' approach and gender-equitable access to water services is best achieved through IWRM-based water policies.

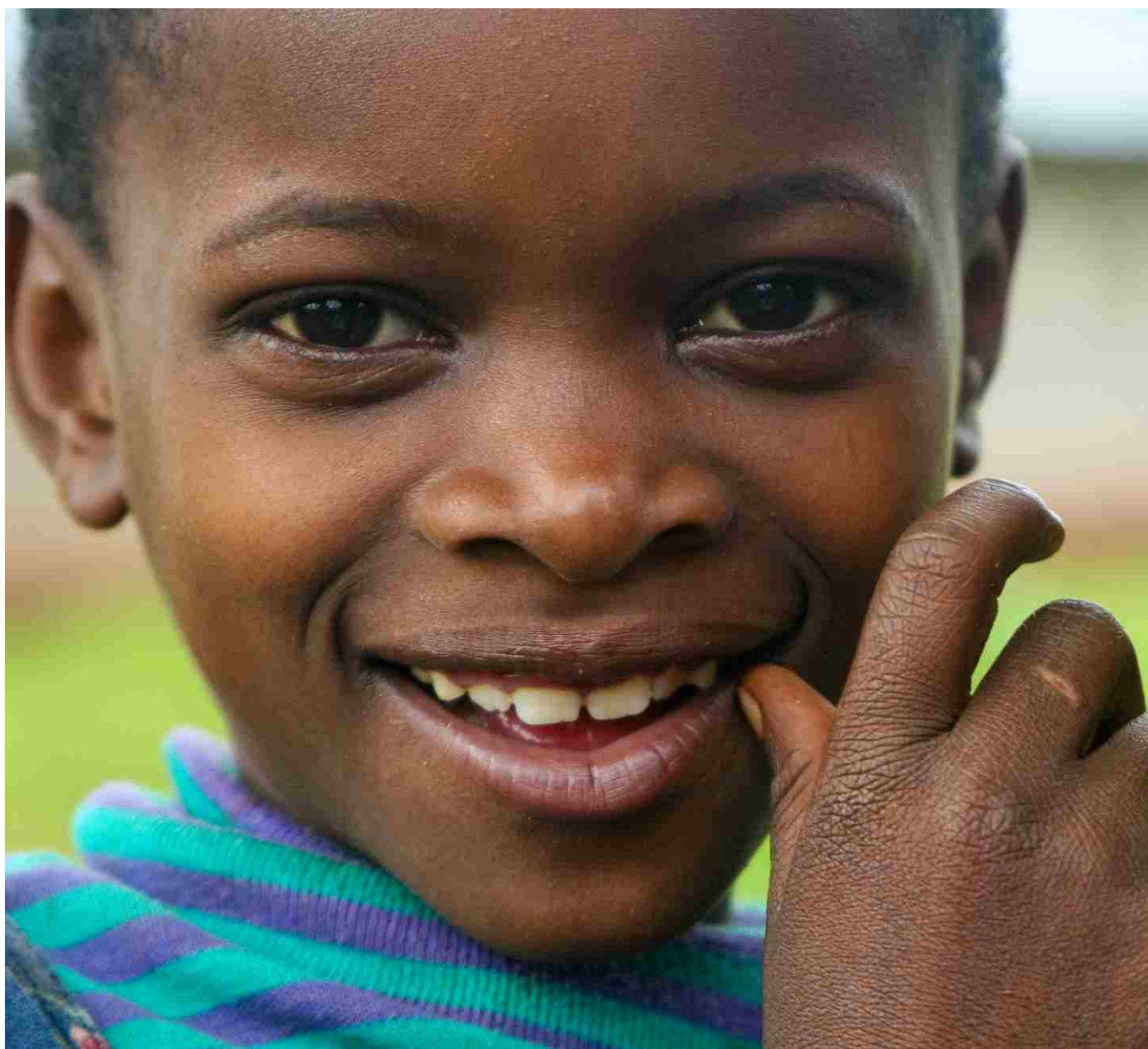


While the importance of women's participation in water access and use for domestic and farming purposes has been noted by the various stakeholders in development, including policy makers, many women's roles still remain unequal to that of men. Unfortunately, an analysis of these policies, legislation and institutional arrangements around the world have revealed that it takes more than lip service or signatures at conference declarations to put the internationally recognised IWRM gender equitable concepts into widespread practice.

GWP supports the notion that women empowerment is central to achieving the MDG Goal 3 (promoting gender equality and empowering women). This is also reflected in GWP's 2009-2013

Strategy, which elaborates how gender concerns are central to enabling water security at all levels. Notable among the activities that GWPSA was engaged in together with other stakeholders in 2012 was the participation in a gender session titled "Bridging the gender gap in water governance". The session was hosted by GWP, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and the Water Research Commission (WRC) and its partner the Institute for Women and Gender Studies at the University of Pretoria and CapNet.

The session was held under the "International Conference on Fresh Water Governance for Sustainable Development" that took place in Central Drakensburg (KwaZulu-Natal), South Africa on 5-7 November 2012. The aim of the session was to explore the changes desired in



policies to lead to more gender sensitive approaches in developmental water management. Participants at the session also shared lessons and framed future gender related research questions. The findings from the planned session fed into the GWP Gender Strategy and also identified priority areas for the implementation of the AMCOW gender strategies and prioritising research areas for advancing gender in water resources management in Africa.

The session took a programmatic approach by highlighting the importance of gender studies in Africa and helped to design an Africa wide gender study in support of the AMCOW strategy. Building on from the recommendations of the side session on 'Bridging the gender gap in water governance', WRC, Department of Water Affairs, The University of Pretoria, SADC, GWPSA and other key stakeholders are currently working together on two water-gender related activities.

Firstly, the institutions are overseeing and coordinating an Africa wide desk top study with the aim of reviewing gender mainstreaming policies and practices in state water management systems in Africa. The study is held under the premise that although approximately 300 water agencies and associations exist across the African continent, no systematic review has been done to assess whether and how women's participation in water management is ensured in state legislation, policies, or practices and whether or how women's participation in water management ensures gender equitable access to water for ordinary citizens. The review once completed will have a special focus on impact and implementation of the AMCOW Gender Strategy.

Secondly, the research results cumulating from the studies will be fed into a water and gender Conference that will be held in early 2014. A review of the research findings during the Conference will fill strategic





gaps emerging from the stock-taking on local-level gender and water issues across Africa. The research findings will further unravel solutions to innovative approaches needed to overcome handicaps that women face from long-established inequalities and reduced equity on water rights which often favour men.

The Conference will therefore provide a dialogue platform between policymakers, researchers, civil society advocates and practitioners who work in the arena of gender and water. Thus it will enable a considered review of the gains and challenges in this field, identifying the gaps in policymaking, and identifying future strategies for supporting gender mainstreaming in the water sector. The deliberations will show how the rhetoric can be converted into action, and will provide solutions for linking Gender, Water & Development.

It is of the view that these deliberations will inform and strengthen the operationalization of policies for gender equality in water management through comparative assessment of best policy and management practices as well as innovative research methodologies in gender and water research. Such considered comparative work will support the implementation of the AMCOW gender strategy.

The Conference, which will be attended by over 350 delegates across Africa, hopes to create a vibrant Community of Practice (CoP) by enabling gender and water resource collaboration across the African continent and internationally to facilitate the mutual exchange of information. WRC and GWP look forward to this engagement that is will lead to successful integrated water resources management (IWRM) solutions with a bias on 'gender-equitable' approaches, and gender-equitable access to water services achieved through Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) based water policies.

These activities are good examples of partners working together to highlight critical development challenges. A solution to these

challenges includes embracing sustainable innovative collaborative solutions by all stakeholders if gender-equitable approaches are to be enhanced. This was well spelt out in a remark made by *Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women at the Closing Plenary Session of the 2012 World Water Week in Stockholm, Sweden, 31 August 2012:*

“As we move towards the 2013 international year for water cooperation, we need to catalyse alliance, knowledge sharing, commitment, innovations, actions and financing to address issues related to affordability, accessibility and availability of safe and sufficient water for all at all levels.”

By Patricia Lumba, Knowledge management and Communications Officer, GWPSA Secretariat (p.lumba@cgjar.org)





Conference Announcement

International Conference Centre, East London, South Africa

19-21 February 2014

A Gender Conference will be hosted by the Water Research Commission (WRC) together with the Department of Water Affairs, the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW) and the Women for Water Partnership (WfWP) from 19 - 21 February 2014 in East London, South Africa.

Aim

The aim of the conference is to influence policy making and implementation strategies which promote gender mainstreaming in the water sector by enabling the roll-out of the AMCOW Policy and Strategy for Mainstreaming Gender in the Water Sector in Africa. It will be conveyed through informing vibrant, inter-sectorial debates on gender and water.

Theme & Sub-themes

The conference is themed "Gender, Water & Development: the Untapped Connection", and will comprise 7 sub-themes, namely:

1. Formulating and implementing gender in water policy
2. Mobilising strategic human and financial resources
3. Implementing project interventions through economic empowerment and other gendered approaches
4. Undertaking, sharing and implementing strategic research and operational knowledge
5. Mainstreaming gender through human and institutional capacity development
6. Mechanisms to promote cooperation and coordination for mainstreaming gender in the water sector.
7. Monitoring and evaluation systems to support gender equality in the water sector

Conference format and programme

This conference aims to encourage participation and interaction between diverse stakeholders and community representatives. The expected outcomes of formulating useable implementation strategies will best be served by a component of both formal paper presentations and an interactive, workshop-style engagement process. The conference will therefore include scheduled plenary sessions, formal papers and thereafter workshop-style discussions in topical workshops, termed Open Space Technology. This is intended to maximise participation and knowledge sharing and to facilitate the building of networks and bridges to enhance future collaboration.

The three-day conference will include an expected 400 participants from grassroots groups, civil society, development agencies, academia, water governance and management institutions from each of the five sub-regions of Africa - including government institutions at local, national and regional levels.

Call for submissions and papers

We call for proposals for both paper presentations and other submissions and formats of engagement from researchers, policymakers, activists and practitioners who work in the arena of gender and water infrastructure, access, use, governance and management. With this spread we want to reflect the diverse roles that are played by community members and leaders, civil society, policy makers and practitioners in the intersect between gender, class, race and water. Participants should submit proposals in English. The best papers, conference proceedings and key messages will be published internationally as a book.

Further information on the conference may be obtained from:

Barbara Schreiner, Conference Chair: barbara@pegasys.co.za

Eiman Karar, WRC: eimank@wrc.org.za

Marius Marais, Conference Secretary: aardlink@gmail.com

Glaudin Kruger, Professional Conference Organiser: kruger@kruger-associates.com

Visit the conference website on: www.global-water-conference.com



water affairs
Department:
Water Affairs
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Host Organisations:

WRC, DWA, AMCOW, WfWP

Partner & Sponsor Organisations:

SADC, GWP, IWMI, IWGS(UP)



Watering Development in SADC: Exploring the water, energy and food nexus for regional Cooperation and Development

1 – 2 October 2013, Lusaka, Zambia

The SADC Multi-stakeholder Water Dialogue is an annual activity which originated through the IWRM Awareness Creation Component of the SADC–DANIDA Regional Water Sector Programme in the SADC Water Division's Regional Strategic Action Plan.

Since 2007 SADC has conducted the Multi-stakeholder Water Dialogue on a yearly basis (except from 2011 onwards when the dialogue will be held every two years). This platform has engaged water stakeholders to discuss and share experiences on different aspects of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM). The Water Dialogues are held under the overall theme of Watering Development in SADC and highlight how IWRM approaches can

address key aspects of socio-economic development and poverty reduction in Southern Africa.

The theme of the 2013 SADC Multi-stakeholder Water Dialogue is “Watering Development in SADC: Exploring the water, energy and food nexus for regional Cooperation and Development.”

The dialogue will be held in Lusaka, Zambia from 1 - 2 October 2013.

Enquiries may be channelled to:

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The WaterNet/WARFSA/GWPSA Symposium

**Whitesands Hotel
Dar-es-Salaam
Tanzania**

30 October - 1 November 2013

14th WaterNet/WARFSA/GWP-SA

Building Partnerships and Strengthening Cooperation for Integrated Water Resources Management in Eastern and Southern Africa

In association with the International Commission on Water Resources Systems of the IAHS

Background

Join us in the 14th WaterNet/Water Research Fund for Southern Africa (WARFSA)/GWP-SA Symposium to be held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 30 October – 1 November 2013. The University of Dar es Salaam, Department of Water Resources Engineering is the lead host of the 2013 Symposium.

This year's Symposium will provide a platform for water professionals to share advances in research and education related to IWRM, discuss new opportunities across national borders and developments towards the integrated management of scarce fresh water resources.

For further details, access the WaterNet website
(<http://www.waternetonline.org/>)

Or contact: Rennie Chioreso Munyayi, Programme Officer, WaterNet:
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