

**REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE WORKSHOP:
THE GWP TOOLBOX AND OTHER STRATEGIC ASPECTS
GWPSA - WATERNET COLLABORATION**



**12th & 13th August, 2014 Protea Edward Hotel
Durban, KwaZulu-Natal, South**

<http://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-SouthernAfrica/>

Global W Global Water Partnership – Southern Africa, 333 Grosvenor Street, Hatfield Gardens,
Block A, Pretoria, South Africa

www.gwptoolbox.org

Table of Contents

| | |
|--|-----------|
| 1: Introduction..... | 1 |
| Specific Objectives | 1 |
| 2. Workshop Programme | 1 |
| 2.1 A snapshot of GWPSA's programme – highlighting key initiatives & Knowledge Management and Communications | 2 |
| 2.3 GWP Knowledge Management & the GWP IWRM ToolBox (including survey results) (Danka Thalmeinerova) | 3 |
| 2.4 Case Studies on Toolbox Use | 4 |
| 2.4.1 Overview of WaterNet Masters Programme – Practical Use and value of the ToolBox (Dr. Hudson Makurira) | 4 |
| 2.4.3 Overviews of IWRM in University Curricula WaterNet & Member Institutions | 5 |
| 2.5 Relevance & use of ToolBox in Southern African IWRM/'Water' curricula – ToolBox use, value, improvements..... | 7 |
| 3 Day Two – Research for Development (R4D) & Professional Capacity Building | 8 |
| 3.1 Key outcomes & lessons from CPWF - Limpopo | 8 |
| 3.2 An overview of key regionally led R4D projects | 9 |
| 4 Summary of workshop outcomes & closing remarks | 10 |
| List of Participants | 11 |

1: Introduction

Two of the regional 'sister networks', Global Water Partnership Southern Africa (GWP-SA) and WaterNet held a regional knowledge exchange workshop from the 12th to 13th of August 2014 at Protea Edward Hotel in Durban, South Africa. The workshop was aimed at strengthening the partnership between the two networks in knowledge management and professional capacity development.



The workshop addressed three critical issues: providing an overview of GWP's Knowledge Management strategic thrust and the GWP IWRM Toolbox; strengthening the GWP-SA and WaterNet partnership on 'research for development'; and building on professional capacity development.

Specific Objectives

The Workshop objectives comprised the following:

- to provide an overview of GWP Knowledge Management approach and seek input from participants on the GWP ToolBox – specifically, to explore what is the current use and value of ToolBox in education in SAF universities, what are the proposals to improve the uptake of Toolbox in universities and how to contribute case studies from universities in southern Africa
- to strengthen the GWPSA and WaterNet partnership on applied research (Research for Development)
- to strengthen GWP SAF, WaterNet and other knowledge platforms on professional capacity development at all levels, with a special focus on decision makers.

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2. Workshop Programme

The workshop lasted one and a half days and had three main components.

- i. The first day focused on GWP's Knowledge management and ToolBox initiatives and sought input from the participants on aspects of the ToolBox use, uptake and contributions to.
- ii. The second day looked at significant outcomes and lessons on key research for development initiatives with a view to highlighting roles of Partners, charting a way forward on closer GWPSA/WaterNet collaboration (at all levels) as well as with the Water Research Foundation (WARFSA) currently being revived.
- iii. The 3rd session looked at current professional and institutional capacity development initiatives with a view to discussing how such capacity development initiatives may be up-scaled to other member states.

Photo 1: Caption

2.1 A snapshot of GWPSA's programme – highlighting key initiatives & Knowledge Management and Communications

(Michael Ramaano)

Mr. M. Ramaano gave an overview of two main GWPSA programmes currently being implemented. These are:

- É Mainstreaming Climate Change into the Water Sector in the SADC Region - GiZ Transboundary Water Management Programme, which has been running from 2012 and will end in 2015
- É Water, Climate and Development Programme (WACDEP), which has been running from 2012 and will end in 2016.

The various components of the programmes were given, highlighting a component that supports the increasing and harnessing knowledge (under the Mainstreaming Climate Change Programme) and the capacity building and knowledge awareness programmes under work packages 7 and 8 (under the WACDEP).

Key issues raised in the discussion after the presentation pertained to:

- The need to roll out GWP SA programmes (namely WACDEP) beyond the two pilot countries - Mozambique and Zimbabwe to ensure more partner involvement.
- The need to ensure that GWPSA programmes are sustainable beyond the project phase by ensuring that countries own programmes and country water partnerships are active.

2.2 A snapshot of WaterNet's strategy & programme – highlighting key initiatives

(Dr Jean-Marie Kileshye-Onema)

The presentation by WaterNet Programme Director, Jean-Marie highlighted WaterNet's work programme based on its Phase 3 strategy "Achieving Sustainability by Increasing Impact – 2012 - 2016)." The presentation showed various aspects of WaterNet's programmes showing how it is upscaling regional human and institutional capacity for water sector development since 2000 was presented to the meeting to include its involvement in collaborative research, including its work in the Challenge Programme for Water and Food; IWRM masters and PHD education programmes; Links with SADC and GWP SA in the implementation of the Regional Strategic Action Plan, The WaterNet/WARFSA/GWPSA Symposium and, and short professional courses, and the DEWFORA Programme.

After the presentation, participants brought out issues of Monitoring and Evaluation in research. It was felt that despite WaterNet displaying good numbers from graduates of IWRM programmes and courses there was need to continue monitoring the impact of the research and student contributions after graduation, as



that was what would translate to achieving its strategy “Sustainability by Increasing Impact”.

Suggestions were made that research should always link to Research for Development, and that effective graduates could be determined by those that undertook research needs of region. It was further felt that a closer partnership should be developed with WARFSA to develop sustainable research impact in the region.

2.3 GWP Knowledge Management & the GWP IWRM ToolBox (including survey results)

(Danka Thalmeinerova)

GWPO’s Senior Knowledge Management Officer, Dr. Danka Thalmeinerova gave a presentation on the IWRM toolbox and it’s use as a knowledge management tool in GWP.

Highlights of the toolbox’s evolution from 2000 to date was given, enabling participants to picture past and current features of the toolbox, such as the ‘critical challenges’ section, which elaborate the nexus between water and other sectors, and the case studies which have been there since inception.

The presentation also informed participants of how knowledge is produced in GWP, with some examples of some of the new types of GWP knowledge sharing products, namely Perspective papers and technical papers.

The meeting was informed that the toolbox was found by students to be a good repository source on IWRM. An example are the IWRM plans and strategies which are broadly termed and were previously not in one place.

However, despite the toolbox being a central repository of IWRM information, there was still “Not sufficient sharing of knowledge on IWRM” and participants were encouraged to contribute to the toolbox through submissions of case studies, perspective papers, and technical focus papers which had been reduced in terms of submissions.

The results of the toolbox survey were shared with participants. The results highlighted that most users of the toolbox were Americans. The survey also revealed the tool box is currently largely used as an education and training application, a shift to its main purpose of serving practitioners when it was launched in 2000. The survey further revealed that there were generally different uses for the toolbox, such as the non-existence of IWRM courses in Central Europe pointed to different uses in that region. Thus there was a need to conduct a quality proof in finding a balance in the use of the toolbox.

On audience users and distribution, the meeting felt that there is a need to package content in the way that users could access it, and the need to know clients very well. Examples were given of less degree of use of the tool box in Africa, and the need to venture into other information media that are more popular and accessible, such as CDs, mobile phones and social media. It was noted that GWP had in the past maintained flash disks/ CDs of the toolbox, but also advised participants that



maintaining a CD version of the toolbox would be costly as there would be need for constant updating.

Participants also felt that there was no need in having the case studies peer reviewed as that had a budget implication.

2.4 Case Studies on Toolbox Use

The second part of the programme on day one was devoted to sharing and presenting experiences from institution on and how the toolbox was used in promoting IWRM in their curricula. Below are the highlights from the presentations.

2.4.1 Overview of WaterNet Masters Programme – Practical Use and value of the ToolBox

(Dr. Hudson Makurira)

An overview of WaterNet Masters Programme offered in the Region was given by Dr. Hudson Makurira. The presentation began with a background on the evolution of the Regional in IWRM Programme, with a special note that although the programme takes in an average of 30 students annually from around the region, the University of Dar es Salaam and the University of Zimbabwe are the two host institutions. It was noted that WaterNet's Masters programme began in 1982 with a focus on offering a Masters of Science Programme in WRE. This was followed by a Masters of Science Programme in WREM which was offered from 1998 - 2003. The current IWRM Masters of Science Programme was started in 2003, and has had over 300 graduates to date.

Implementation of the Masters programme has been faced by a number of challenges, some of which include:

- É While the programme was once funded by the Belgians, Swedes and Dutch, the Dutch are currently the only visible donors left, thus making sustainability of the programme questionable, and a need to look for other funding avenues.
- É The institutions have been challenged with dwindling intake levels, thus affecting viability. The presentation highlighted the need to Continue with links with other partners for staff exchange, common research, etc.
- É The need for improved links with stakeholders to produce products needed by the market. There was mention of the programme reintroducing the Master of Science in WRM
 - The need to promote relevant research for Dissertation and encourage more widespread sharing of research

2.4.2 Use and value of the ToolBox – WaterNet Masters students

(Dr Jean-Marc Kahinda Mwenge)

The presentation gave an overview of the June 2014 training on the IWRM toolbox held in Kariba that was sponsored by GWPSA and conducted for students. The presentation highlighted that

- The two-day training focused on theory in the morning and in the afternoons unpacked the theory by taking students through the toolbox. Although two full days were dedicated to the training, the two days were not enough a lot of time was also dedicated to explaining IWRM rather than what the toolbox is.
- It was felt that there is a need to add more value if the training is to be linked to the various master's programmes.
- There is a need to link existing Toolbox tools with students areas of expertise and interests
- There is a need to make a follow-up on participant's use of the toolbox after the training.

2.4.3 Overviews of IWRM in University Curricula WaterNet & Member Institutions

This session involved awareness sharing of experiences from Cooperating Partners and WaterNet host institutions on existing IWRM educational programme in their institutions. Individual presentations were made by the following institutions:

- University of Kwa Zulu Natal – South Africa (by Prof Graham Jewitt)
- Okavango Research Institute – Botswana (by Dr Lapo Magole)
- University of Malawi – Malawi (by Prof Wapu Mulwafu & Dr Theresa Mkandawire)
- University of Dar es Salaam – Tanzania (Dr Richard Kimwaga)
- University of Zambia – Zambia (Prof Daniel Nkhuwa)
- Polytechnic of Namibia – Namibia (Prof Damas Mashauri & Dr A Matros-Goreses)

The following issues were raised from the presentations:

The University of Dar es Salaam

The University of Dar es Salaam taught a modularised programme, and use materials from the IWRM Toolbox. Module one on the principles of IWRM is particularly obtained from the toolbox.

Students are encouraged to have a dissertation in a Multidisciplinary approach

The university has registered achievement in getting high number of students, however, few are students are taken in water resources engineering, as this module was introduced according to specific needs.

The programme is facing competition with other new Masters programmes such as climate change, which offer full funding. There is a need to review the programme with changing times and establish new partnerships with new actors.

Namibia – Polytechnic of Namibia

The presentation on the Polytechnic of Namibia revisited issues of universities in the region having shortage of research money, except in the cases of Namibia and South Africa which had good research funds in place. There was however a need to prioritize research needs and ensure that strategic partnerships are put in place.

University of Malawi

The University of Malawi offers water and stand-alone courses to a minimum of 10 students per intake. It was further noted that most of the students come from industry rather than academia, as there is a constant need to upgrade skills.

Okavango Research Institute

The institute offers a specialisation on water and land.

University of Kwa Zulu Natal

The University of Kwa Zulu Natal offers a Hydrology programme at undergraduate level, starting in the second year. It was the only university offering an IWRM course at undergraduate level.

University of Zambia

The University of Zambia department has been offering modules in However, funding came to end last year. The discussion revisited the need to look into aspects of sustainability and how lecturers should be included in issues of policy reforms. Discussions also bordered around issues of creating impact through undertaken research.

Deliberations after Presentations

The presentations were followed by a discussion. The following issues were noted from the presentations:

- Most universities in Southern Africa are well positioned in providing IWRM courses including short term trainings.
- Almost all curricula programs follow the ToolBox structure (enabling environment, institutional setting, management instruments) and ToolBox tools are used in the education
- ToolBox reference documents are highly appreciated by both lecturers and students; however, there is limited use of case studies due to limited number of case studies from SAF region. Besides ToolBox, there are several other knowledge platforms (usually funded by external donors) which are also a good source of study materials.
- IWRM courses rely on external funds (WaterNet was funded by SIDA, lately BMZ, DANINA, UNESCO, DGIS, UNDP, CPWF, ECFP7, ACCFP); the many issues is regarding sustainability and continuity.
- GWPSA is a well-respected partner in capacity building programs including a high recognition at universities and SADC. GWP SAF closely cooperates with universities that provide IWRM training
- Some universities reported that there is a competition with new programs being established (again by external doors) – these include climate change adaptation oriented courses.
- WaterNet organizes annual symposiums and it was agreed that every year a presentation of ToolBox at the symposium would provide an opportunity to increase the visibility of the ToolBox and GWP. In the past, GWPO secretariat provided some support funds to organize the symposium. In the recent years, GWPSA took over to fund 15 participants (registration fee only). It was discussed that there would be a need to revive this activity by a targeted support in the next 2-3 years (ToolBox budget) – in the form of presentation and attendance of GWP partners.

2.5 Relevance & use of ToolBox in Southern African IWRM/'Water' curricula – ToolBox use, value, improvements

(Kenge Gunya)

Kenge Gunya led participants in a moderated discussion on potential proposals of case studies and a possibility to capture knowledge and experiences from the SADC region in the form of a technical focus paper. Selected number of professors will be leading the Technical Focus Paper and GWPO to obtain further details and discuss further Patricia Lumba, Mike Ramaano, Andrew Takawira.



The participants were divided into groups to discuss issues around toolbox use, value and improvements.

The following questions and feedback was given by the various groups:

1. How do you think Southern Africa can contribute to case studies to toolbox?
 - Need to identify at different levels. Three levels, regional, country and programme (challenge)
 - Case studies from different post graduate programmes
 - Need case studies as outputs while projects are being ran
 - Examples – Okavango Development management plan; iwrn water efficiency plans; UZ and EDSM, Msc programme & others

2. What areas need more improvement on toolbox ?

- Need interactive features, e.g. story telling interviews
- Need some quantitative data also, not just qualitative to support the evidence captured in the case studies
- Creation of Interactive moderated blogs enabling students to consult directly on various topics and issues
- Need a filter – to segregate information for youth, academia
- Too much text....needs to be synthesized
- Creation of Glossary of definitions and terms
- Guidelines for facilitating change in IWRM
- Provide slots for uploading videos, powerpoint presentations, and interviews with various stakeholders
- Provision of offline version of Toolbox due to issues of connectivity and student interference during lectures.
- Creation of a special section that would be entered on a base “who are you: decision/policy maker, academia/research, practitioners (RBO, NGOs). This section would meet the special needs of particular stakeholder groups.

- Creation of a special section that would be entered on a base Develop a text (under Water is IWRM) that would analyze necessary changes in management to move from traditional (sectoral) approach to integrated approaches.

3 Day Two – Research for Development (R4D) & Professional Capacity Building

3.1 Key outcomes & lessons from CPWF - Limpopo

(Ruth Beukman)

GWPSA's Executive Secretary, Ms. Ruth Beukman, gave a presentation on the Limpopo Basin Development Challenge (CPWF) project outcomes. The presentation emphasized the approach, lessons and how regional partners built on experiences in taking Research for Development forward in responding to water and development challenges in the SADC region.

The presentation highlighted a number of issues drawing on lessons and relevance of R4D in the region, as experienced by the CPWF:

- Research must make a difference and have development impact/ don't reinvent the wheel
- Research results must be shared before final products or outputs have been finalised.
- For research to make an impact, the process calls for greater collaborative works among stakeholders.

After the presentation, participants discussed what they understood by the concept of 'development' in the term 'Research for Development'. Development was defined as the ability to address key development challenges at local and regional level.

From the experience of the challenge programme, it was noted that the programme was successful during implementation terms of the group having resources that could be used into development processes. Useful relationships were also built with decision makers.

The meeting suggested that a case study on CPWF could be developed for the toolbox as a way of sharing past lessons and experiences. The meeting was informed on current ongoing work on developing knowledge products and re-packaging of CPWF outputs to share the work further.

It was noted that there were others projects in the region that had established linkages, a number building from CPWF research. Examples mentioned were works being done on the Munzigani catchment and the development of the atlas on the Limpopo.

3.2 An overview of key regionally led R4D projects

Several institutions, provided overviews of existing R4D research projects implemented in the SADC region. The presentations were given in order to pave the way forward for the development of new ‘responsive’ research for development projects. Presentations made were from DEWFORA/CPWF-innovation, ACCFP, and TWM-Zambezi.

A number of country level R4D initiatives were also given by UDSM, UKZN, UNIMA, All the presentations documented on-going activities of research for development activities in their institutions. The meeting agreed that most of the activities were good learning points and thus could developed into case studies that would be published in GWP IWRM Toolbox. Danka informed the meeting that she would follow up with the following presenters to provide written information that could be transformed into case studies: Prof. Henry Mahoo (Sokoine University Tanzania), Dr. Wapu Mulwafu (University of Malawi), Dr. Richard Kimwaga (University Dar-Es-Sallam, Tanzania).

3.3 Reviving the Water Research Fund for Southern Africa

Mr Nico Elema, Chief Operating Officer of NEPAD SANWATCE gave two presentations. The first presentation gave an overview on the NEPAD Centres of Excellence and their role to develop a Human Capacity Development Programme aimed at addressing junior professional and technician level capacity challenges in the water sector. The second presentation focused on the Water Research Fund for Southern Africa (WARFSA). The second presentation was based on the Water Research Fund for Southern Africa (WARFSA) 2.0 proposal, and how this second phase of the proposed WARFSA project could be used to promote research projects addressing sustainable utilisation of water resources in the region.

This discussion will seek participants’ views on R4D in the region – emphasising how country partnerships might be strengthened with improved GWP-WaterNet collaboration at country, basin and regional levels.

3.4 Capacity Building in the region

A session on capacity building in the region were given through presentations made by Andrew Takawire (Global Water Partnership Southern Africa/WACDEP), and Mike Tumbare (SADC). Individually, they shared experiences of the on-going Pan African Water Climate & Development Programmes’s Capacity development programme and how the SADC Strategic Capacity Building Plan can be implemented in a sustainable way.

3.5 Facilitated discussion on R4D in the Region, and up-scaling capacity development initiatives

The facilitated discussion included participants views on the ‘new’ WARFSA and identify how key regional R4D partners work together to respond to the urgent research needs - in line with SADC priority development frameworks. Outcomes for this session should feed into a revised concept note for the “new” WARFSA for further discussion with SADC and partners. Discussions following the presentation examined how the ‘New WARFSA’ could be implemented and taking following issues in the new proposal:

- The need to avoid duplication in various programmes being offered in the region that contain research and capacity development components,

- The need for continued and more strengthened collaboration between GWP and WaterNet at country, Basin and regional level in order to strengthen Country Water Partnerships and Research for Development in the region.
- How WARFSA would go about convincing SADC on priority research themes to be funded by the Research Fund,
- How countries in the region could be motivated to contribute towards a national funding of research via Research Fund,
- There was also a discussion how Country Water Partnerships might be strengthened to be able to apply for funds from Research Fund.

4 Summary of workshop outcomes & closing remarks

GWPSA's Executive Secretary gave a breakdown of the key follow-up actions from the workshop as follows:

- Danka Thalmeinerova would communicate with Eva Blasser (GWPO) regarding the publications to be shipped to the participants
- Danka Thalmeinerova and Kenge Gunya to follow up on suggestions made in incorporating suggested new features into ToolBox
- WaterNet and GWPSA to prepare a proposal to request funds to support a Toolbox awareness session during the Annual Waternet/ GWPSA Symposium
- Danka Thalmeinerova to engage further with WaterNet and GWPSA on exploring the possibilities of repeating the ToolBox workshop with MSc students in 2015.
- Danka Thalmeinerova to follow up with the various participants that presented results of their research to develop case studies for the Toolbox.
- Kenge Gunya to follow up on a lasting collaboration of holding a session at the WaterNet/GWPSA Symposium.
- Danka Thalmeinerova to hold further discussions with Patricia Lumba, Mike Ramaano, Andrew Takawira on Technical Focus Paper, and follow-up with professors that volunteered for drafting of the Technical Focus Paper



List of Participants

