

# REGIONAL TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR ANGLO-PHONE COUNTRIES, RBOs and RECs

Global Wate

artnershir

'Financing of sustainable water resources management and development: economics, financing opportunities and project preparation'

VENUE

21<sup>st</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2014 Protea Hotel Hatfield - Pretoria– South Africa

#### **1. Introduction**

The African Network of Basin Organization (ANBO) and the Global Water Partnership (GWP) will organize, with their partners, a training workshop on "*Financing of sustainable water resources management and development: economics, financing opportunities and project preparation"* for Anglophone participants in Pretoria – South Africa from 21<sup>st</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> of July, 2014.

The purpose is to improve the capacity of managers working in the water to increase their knowledge and skills, to attract investors and financial development partners for both water governance (such as information gathering, investment planning, environmental monitoring, desiltation of rivers, etc.) and infrastructure development (water supply, irrigation and energy services). Several topics will be addressed, namely the economics in sustainable water management, application of economic instruments for water management and development, water finance and application of financing mechanisms and instruments, financing of Transboundary water resources management and development projects (TWRMP), preparation and packaging of TWRMP projects and existing and future financing opportunities.

#### 2. Background

The importance of transboundary water management in Africa can hardly be exaggerated. International river basins cover more than 60% of Africa and virtually all its major rivers cross several national borders. Transboundary cooperation is unavoidable in the pursuit of water security.

Despite this, many Lakes and River Basins Organization (-/RBOs) have been weakened over time by dwindling political commitment, management and technical difficulties, and declining donor support. New financial sources and renewed political commitment are badly needed. In a nutshell: "The financial situation of most African Basin Organizations is characterized by irregularity, insufficiency and dependency".

L/RBOs provide various kinds of service to their Member States, as well as to the wider international community. Some of these are regional public goods (such as information gathering, investment planning, environmental monitoring, desiltation of rivers, etc) others are private goods such as the sale of bulk water to farmers and cities, and the sale of electricity from jointly owned hydropower projects.

Private and public goods need different financing models. Insofar as transboundary water management (TWM) is a public good (whether national, regional or global) it requires access to finance from a wide array of sources, which in theory can be from bilateral, multilateral, commercial and philanthropic sources, plus dedicated taxes and charges on international transactions. In contrast, the supply of private goods can be financed by the usual forms of project finance (principally, private or state equity, commercial bank loans, longer term loans from the IFIs , and bond issues).

The above described situation about the status of financing L/RBOs needs attention and some actions to increase needed knowledge and skills for the water managers who deal with resources mobilization. One of the challenges of financing water resources projects is lack of innovative and strategic packaging of investments to attract the investors and financial development partners. It is against this background that the training on financing of sustainable water resources management and development: economics, financing opportunities and project preparation is proposed. This training is the first of a series of trainings that will continue for the next two years and beyond organized by the partners listed in this concept note.

# 3. Partners organization

- African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)
- African Network of Basin Organization (ANBO) SITWA Project
- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA)
- GWP
- EUWI Africa Working Group (EUWI AWG)
- UNDP-Cap-Net
- SIWI

Over the past decade, finance has been gaining increasing importance and recognition in water management circles. Part of that development can be attributed to the efforts of the EUWI Finance Working Group and GWP to generate knowledge on the linkages between finance and good water governance. As an example of the current priority put to financing in Africa, one of the seven themes of AMCOW's current work plan (2010-2012) is dedicated to the issue of financing, expressing specific priorities on financial management/tariff setting and the development of "bankable" projects in relation to capacity building and training.

**ANBO-GWPO**: An ongoing study carried out by ANBO-GWPO-SITWA project on resources mobilization highlighted that the importance of transboundary water management in Africa can hardly be exaggerated. International river basins cover more than 60% of Africa and virtually all its rivers cross several national borders. Transboundary cooperation is unavoidable in the pursuit of water security. Despite this, many Lakes and River Basin Organizations (L/RBOs) have been weakened over time by dwindling political commitment, management and technical difficulties, and declining donor support. New financial sources and renewed political commitment are badly needed. Therefore, a on financing of sustainable water resources management and development projects, financing opportunities and project preparation training in financing of sustainable water resources management and development projects, financing opportunities and project preparation is in line with ANBO-GWPO-SITWA Project implementation phase which begins in November 2013. Activities planned for SITWA implementation phase are aimed at enabling ANBO play its role as a Technical Arm of AMCOW in charge of Transboundary Water Resources Management in Africa and Financial Resources Mobilization is one of the main priorities among those activities.

The **EUWI Africa Working** Group (AWG) is already contributing to AMCOW's work in the area of financing through collecting and providing information to enhance aid effectiveness in the areas of water and sanitation and transboundary water management. The EUWI AWG is now also exploring how to build upon the momentum created by the EUWI Finance Working Group, which ceased its operation in 2012. In this regard, EUWI AWG is aiming to establish a strong partnership with African institutions with a track record in financing to support the priorities of AMCOW and, in first instance, implement targeted trainings in Africa, building upon a training in economics in sustainable water management and strategic financial planning that was developed by Cap-Net, EUWI FWG and GWP in 2008, but complemented by emerging issues of priority (such as the financing of water resources management) and the expressed needs of beneficiaries in the areas of project preparation and accessing of external funding. Training on Strategic Financial Planning will also be examined linked to the work of ICA and AfDB on developing more bankable projects.

<u>AfDB</u>: As part of the AMCOW Work Programme presented at the 6th World Water Forum in March 2012, AfDB is the lead agency for Target 5: "Develop and implement in all countries innovative financial mechanisms including taxes, tariffs and transfers to meet the MDGs financial requirements by 2015." In this respect, this training is a means for the Bank to reach out and support Regional Member Countries (RMCs) in incorporating appropriate financing mechanisms in strategic sector and national plans. The training will also be beneficial for AfDB operations, as more knowledgeable officials in governments will facilitate the Bank's current efforts to apply more appropriate financing mechanisms on projects it funds.

**ICA**: The role of the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa (ICA)'s Water Platform is to Scale-up finance for sustainable water infrastructure in Africa from public, private and public-private sources in identifying and **promoting** bankable water-related project. Using its convening power the ICA acts as a catalyst to facilitate dialogue on financing between African stakeholders, development partners and the private sector to promote best practices and remove bottlenecks.

According to a recent research of the ICA the lack of well-packaged and bankable projects and the scarcity of available funding are amongst the main bottlenecks for infrastructure development. In that respect, sound project preparation, well managed processes throughout the project's life cycle combined with timely matching of funding are crucial. The ICA has therefore conducted a mapping and evaluation of existing project preparation funds available for each phase of the life cycle infrastructure project. This work forms part of the G20 Infrastructure Action Plan and responds directly to the G20 High Level Panel on Infrastructure. In supporting this series of training the ICA could provide insights and information collected in the current ongoing work on project preparation to facilitate the support of preparation of bankable programs and projects throughout the project life cycle.

## 4. Objectives

The objective of the training is to equip professionals working in water resources management at national and transboundary levels with updated knowledge and information on financing water resources management and development. Specifically, the trainings will equip the participants with practical knowledge in:

- Economics in sustainable water management, where participants will be introduced to application of economic instruments for water management and development; water finance and application of financing mechanisms and instruments;
- Financing of Transboundary water resources management and development (TWRMP): preparation and packaging of TWRMP projects and existing and future financing opportunities.
- Project preparation and the importance of economic and financial instruments in packaging projects and making them more viable

## **5. Expected Outcomes**

- Practitioners equipped with enhanced skills in the various ways of financing sustainable water management, both in terms of the use of economic instruments and through accessing external funding based on:
  - Existing modules in the economics in sustainable water management and EUWI FWG 2012 study on "Pricing water resources to finance their sustainable management" and OECD 2012 study on "a framework for financing water resources management;

- Material produced by ICA knowledge pieces on financing sources project preparation funds, with possible input from GWP WACDEP in relation to climate financing. The ICA will provide relevant studies, reports and existing presentations to the trainers/facilitators to facilitate their task so produce training material;
- Areas of support clearly defined to ensure financing water resources management and development:
  - Participants define areas where support is needed for key institutions to take forward

### 6. Participants and methodology

The Training Workshops will be attended by approx. 30 participants from professionals working with the financing of water management at national and/or transboundary level. This includes personnel within the ministries responsible for water planning and development; those responsible for finances such as ministries of finance and economic planning; professionals from Regional Economic Commissions (RECS) as well as relevant water divisions in regional institutions responsible for the preparation of programs and resource mobilization. Particular attention will be given to the professionals from Transboundary River Basin Organizations (RBOs) in Africa.

The participants of these training workshops are the followings:

- mid-to senior level government officials from RBOs riparian member states involved in water resources financing;
- representatives from AMCOW;
- representatives from Regional Economic Communities (REC);
- representatives from Lake/ River Basin Organizations (L/ RBOs);
- representatives from ANBO/SITWA
- representatives from GWP-WACDEP

The workshops will be interactive and include thematic lectures, presentations, breakout groups and discussion sessions.

Draft Agenda – Training on Financing of sustainable water resources management and development: economics, financing opportunities and project preparation', 21 July – 24 July 2014, Protea Hotel, Hatfield

| Time        | Session  | Trainer             | Session objectives   |
|-------------|--|---------------------|--|
|             | Day 1: Principles and Concepts of IWRM, Eco  |                     |  |
| 08:30-09:00 | Registration   | GWP SA              |  |
| 09:00-09:05 | Welcome remarks  | Armand Houanye      | Opening remarks and welcome remarks.   |
| 09:05-09:15 | Opening remarks on behalf of the organisers  | Ruth Beukman-GWP SA | Participants will be requested to introduce  |
| 09:15-09:45 | Overview of training objectives and expectations   | Babatunde Abidoye   | themselves and also share their expecta-<br>tions from the training  |
| 09:45-10:30 | <ul> <li>Basic principles of IWRM: Introduction to IWRM</li> <li>Presentation</li> <li>Plenary discussion reflecting on country experiences</li> </ul>   | Brian Hollingworth  | Recap of IWRM the principles and how it<br>has been implemented at regional, trans-<br>boundary and national levels  |
| 10:30-11:00 | TEA BEAK   |                     |  |
| 11:00-11:30 | Presentation on the discussions for a Water SDG  | Ruth Beukman        | Currently the water sector is advocating<br>for a SD Goal on water – consultation have<br>been held and this presentation will give<br>an overview of what is coming out and the<br>implications for the water sector. |
| 11:30-12:30 | <ul> <li>Introducing Economic and Finance Instruments</li> <li>Presentation on the concepts and the difference between economic and financial instruments</li> <li>Plenary discussion reflecting on country experiences</li> </ul>   | Brian Hollingworth  | Basic introduction to the concepts of eco-<br>nomic and financial instruments. Also<br>showing the difference. Plenary discussion<br>on how different countries are applying<br>these both policy and practice.        |
| 12:30-13:30 | LUNCH BREAK  |                     |  |
| 13:30-14:15 | <ul> <li>Water management issues: efficiency, equity and sustainability</li> <li>Economic and financial instruments. The issues: from achieving the MDGs/ SDG to involving private initiative.</li> <li>Social and economic good: a more rational use of resources.</li> <li>Efficiency, equity and sustainability.</li> </ul> | Brian Hollingworth  | Understanding water management and<br>how issues around the resource brings<br>complexity and challenges to water re-<br>sources managers when it comes to the<br>economics and financing of the resource.             |
| 14:15-15:30 | <ul> <li>Group discussions</li> <li>Unpacking the application of efficiency, equity and sustainability in the different countries</li> <li>Examples of application – successes and challenges</li> </ul>   | ALL                 | Group work to discuss how different<br>countries are dealing with issues of effi-<br>ciency, equity and sustainability what are<br>the successes and challenges?   |
| 15:30-15:45 | TE   | A BREAK             |  |
| 15:45-16:20 | Presentation of Group Work   | Brian Hollingworth  | 3 Group presentations  |
| 16:20-16:30 | Recap on Day 1 – what did we learn   | Brian Hollingworth  | Closing of day and an overview of what<br>was learnt and what it means for water<br>practitioners.   |

| Time        | Session  | Trainer                        | Session objectives  |
|-------------|--|--------------------------------|---|
| Day 2: Eco  | nomic Instruments and their application in the wa  | ter sector                     |   |
| 09:00-09:45 | <ul> <li>Introduction to economic concepts and tools</li> <li>Defining opportunity cost</li> <li>Demand and supply</li> <li>Equilibrium</li> <li>Positive and Negative Externalities</li> </ul>  | Reyno Seymore                  | An overview of basic economic con-<br>cepts and tools that can be applied in<br>the water sector.   |
| 09:45-10:30 | <ul> <li>Introduction to economic instruments and their application in the water sector</li> <li>Public-good nature of water resources</li> <li>Main approach: full cost recovery</li> <li>Definition of economic instruments</li> </ul>                 | Reyno Seymore                  | An overview of the basic economic<br>principles and instruments with a fo-<br>cus on the water resources and what<br>these concepts mean for water re-<br>sources management and develop-<br>ment.  |
| 10:30-10:45 | TEA BREAK  |                                |   |
| 10:45-12:30 | <ul> <li>Water valuation methods</li> <li>A cost benefit-analysis framework</li> <li>Description of main water valuation methods</li> <li>Importance of the water valuation methods and their use</li> </ul>   | Reyno Seymore                  | This session will allow participants to<br>know about main water valuation meth-<br>ods for supporting the use of economic<br>instruments and give an evaluation the<br>pros and cons of using specific water valu-<br>ation methods in different water situa-<br>tions |
|             | <ul> <li>Application of economic instruments</li> <li>The various criteria for efficiency: technical, allocative, equity, environmental, administrative, political.</li> <li>Water tariffs and subsidies.</li> <li>Other economic instruments</li> </ul> | Reyno Seymore                  | This session will enable participants to<br>have an understanding of the use of<br>economic instruments in water re-<br>sources management and develop-<br>ment.  |
| 12:30-13:30 | Introduction to game theory: The prisoners' dilemma A case study on social welfare maximization  | Reyno Seymore<br>Reyno Seymore | The game theory and the case study<br>will show how negotiation and inter-<br>national collaboration is essential to<br>maximize welfare of society as applied<br>in the water sector.  |
| 13:30-14:30 | LUNCH BREAK  |                                |   |

| Time   | Session   | Trainer                               | Session objectives   |
|--|---|---------------------------------------|--|
| Day 2: Eco                                       | nomic Instruments and their application in the wat  | er sector                             |  |
| 14:30-15:30                                      | Group Work  | All                                   | Group work to discuss how different<br>countries are dealing with the economic<br>instruments and their application in the<br>water sector   |
| 15:30-15:45                                      | TEA   | BREAK                                 | ·  |
| 15:45-16:30                                      | Report back and discussions   | All                                   |  |
| 16:30-16:45                                      | Recap of Day 2: What did we learn   | Babatunde Abidoye                     | Reflections of the day and way forward   |
| Day 3: Fina                                      | incing water resources management and developr  | nent                                  |  |
| 09:00-10:00<br><b>10:00-10:15</b><br>10:15-11:30 | Finance instruments & institutional arrangements  | Taz Chaponda<br>BREAK<br>Taz Chaponda | To introduce different finance instruments<br>that are applied in the water sector and<br>also the different cost categories in water<br>resources management and development<br>Continuing on giving an overview of fi-   |
|  | <ul> <li>Funding sources (trends) &amp; Finance strategies for IWRM</li> <li>Enabling environments for accessing finance locally &amp; internationally &amp; Availability of finance/support &amp; trends in infrastructure financing (Challenges)</li> <li>Finance for transboundary projects specifically</li> </ul>  |                                       | nancing for water resources management<br>and development.<br>Looking into the funding sources and<br>challenges for water financing. Also an<br>overview of risk mitigation and innovation<br>in financing water projects.  |
| 11:30-13:00                                      | <ul> <li>Case Study : CRIDF – Financing transboundary water projects</li> <li>Outline of CRIDF &amp; project characteristics</li> <li>Where financing fits into the CRIDF project preparation process &amp; the process undertaken to develop a funding strategy for each project</li> <li>Kazungula (WASH provision in a strategic border town)</li> <li>Illovo (private sector - donor partnerships)</li> <li>Bindangombe (small irrigation project in a challenging financial sector environment)</li> </ul> | Taz Chaponda                          | The Climate Resilience Infrastructure De-<br>velopment Facility is a regional pro-<br>gramme that is facilitating development<br>and financing of transboundary water<br>projects. This session will give an oversight<br>of the work they are doing and what is<br>being learnt from these experiences. |
| 13:00-14:00                                      | LUNCH BREAK   |                                       |  |

| Time        | Session  | Trainer  | Session objectives   |
|-------------|--|--|--|
| Day 3: Fina | incing water resources management and develop  | ment   |  |
| 14:00-15:00 | <ul> <li>Group exercise- application of finance instruments</li> <li>Unpacking the application of finance instruments in the water resources management</li> <li>Examples of application – successes and challenges</li> </ul>   | Babatunde Abidoye  | Participants will be given an opportunity to share their<br>experiences on how projects are being financed and<br>also the challenges and successes.   |
| 15:00-15:15 | Т  | EA BREAK   |  |
| 15:30-16:30 | <ul> <li>Presentation of Group Work</li> </ul>   |  | 3 Group presentations  |
| 16:30-16:45 | Recap of Day 3 – What did we learn   | Babatunde Abidoye  | Reflections on financing of water projects   |
| Day 4: Pro  | ject preparation for water resources managemen   | t and developme  | ent  |
| 09:00-10:15 | <ul> <li>Project preparation for transboundary water resources management</li> <li>Financing trends and disbursements (development partners, G8 and G20, domestic financing):</li> <li>Major water infrastructure initiatives with various guidelines for development of infrastructure</li> <li>Project Cycle and Processes for developing bankable transboundary water resources management and development projects</li> <li>Mechanisms and process to access existing/ future financing sources including limited funds for African countries;</li> <li>Availability of support (technical and financial)</li> </ul> | Mtchera Chriwa -<br>AfDB South African<br>Office Chief PPP<br>Infrastructure Spe-<br>cialist | Project preparation, project cycles and financing and<br>also an understanding of the project preparation facili-<br>ties role in enabling better project preparation.                       |
| 10:15-10:30 | Tea break  |  |  |
| 10:30-11:30 | Application of economic and financial instruments in transboundary water projects development – A case study from TCTA   | ТСТА   | To bring all the concepts together a project will be<br>presented showing how the importance of packaging<br>and using economic and financial instruments to have<br>a viable water project. |
| 11:30-12:30 | <b>Plenary discussion</b><br>Strategic actions-on the areas that countries, RBOs and RECs would want more support in order to deepen the understanding and application of economic and financial instruments.  | Armand Houanye   | As a way forward the participants will share areas<br>where they think the organisers should focus support<br>in order to ensure sustainable water financing.                                |
| 12:30-13:00 | <ul> <li>Course evaluations and feedback from participants</li> <li>Expectations from Day 1 to 4</li> </ul>  | ALL  | Review of the expected outcomes captured during Day<br>1 to see if these have been met and filling of course<br>evaluation forms.  |
|             | Workshop closure   |  | Closing remarks and closing of training workshop   |
| 13:00-14:00 | Lunch  |  |  |

## **Profile of trainers**

**Brian Hollingworth:** is an independent consultant working at the intersection of water resources and the law. He has tertiary education qualifications in engineering, business and the law, is registered in South Africa as a Professional Engineer and is a Fellow of the Association of Arbitrators (Southern Africa). Until 2004 he had worked in the Development Bank of Southern Africa for 18 years in a number of functions including financing of infrastructure projects and most recently as a water specialist. In this position his task was to guide the DBSA's project programme towards best international practice. He gained wide experience of development financing institutions and approaches to key issues such as project and contract administration, environmental sustainability, institutional analysis, economic justification of projects and public private partnerships.

He was for five years a member of the Southern African Development Community Water Strategy Reference Group that advised SADC on the implementation of the Regional Strategic Action Plan. He is currently serving as one of the experts on the Regional Technical Committee of the Global Water Partnership: Southern Africa. Recent activities that demonstrate his skills in analysis, facilitation, dispute resolution, technical writing, and interpretation of complex issues are his role as past chairperson of the South African Multi-stakeholder initiative on the World Commission on Dams Report, past deputy chairperson of the SA Water Tribunal, arbitration assignments, the SA National Water Report prepared for UNECA as a contribution to the African Water Development Report, editing a book on experiences and best practice for the Southern African Development Community's Water Division and training for officials in international RBOs in the topics of international water law, environmental management and finance.

**Taz Chaponda:** is a Partner at Genesis Analytics, responsible for infrastructure and public-private partnership ("PPP") advisory unit with an emphasis on the Transport and Energy sectors. He is an infrastructure expert with extensive experience in the design and implementation of PPP policies, funding frameworks, and projects, across Africa. He has worked in the largest economic centres in Africa, as an economic and business adviser to Governments and Corporates in numerous countries, with a primary focus on public finance, infrastructure finance and investment management. Taz has held a number of roles delivering economic and investment advice to the highest levels of government and private sector CEOs. In South Africa, Taz was appointed by the Finance Minister as Head of the South African Budget Office. In this role, he had overall responsibility for the Medium Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and for the Public-Private Partnerships Unit. He also served as Head of Infrastructure Finance within the PPP Unit where he advised and led negotiations on a number of flagship projects in the transport and power sectors.

In Nigeria, Taz worked with the Nigeria Infrastructure Advisory Facility (NIAF) providing critical support to the Lagos State Governor on PPPs. As Head of the NIAF PPP team, Taz assisted the State Government in establishing its PPP policy and regulatory framework. He was instrumental in negotiations with international bidders and helped to structure PPP deals, notably in the urban light rail project. In previous work, he held posts as the World Bank's Country Office Economist for Malawi where he focused on private sector development and privatisation issues. Prior to that, he was a consultant with Bain & Company in South Africa where he advised across numerous industries including banking, telecommunications, and the airline industry.

Taz holds a B.A. in economics from Harvard University and an MSc in Development Economics from the University of Oxford. He has an MBA from INSEAD Business School. He also completed an Executive Programme on Investment Appraisal and Risk Analysis from Queens University.

**Reyno Seymore**: has obtained his BCom in Economics (Cum Laude) in 2000 at the University of Pretoria and an honours degree in Economics in 2002, before he acquired the MCom in Economics (Cum Laude) in 2004, specialising in International Trade and Investment. Dr Seymore received a Carnagie scholarship from the World Bank in 2003 and was awarded the ABSA prize for best Masters Student in 2004. He completed his DCom in Economics in 2011 and received the SARB prize for his DCom thesis titled \*The competitiveness effects of electricity generation taxes: A computable general equilibrium analysis\*. He is currently employed by the University of Pretoria as a senior lecturer in Economics and he received lecturer awards in 2006, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. Reyno has been employed by the Department: Water Affairs and Forestry,

Directorate: Water Services Regulation as Chief Development Expert: Tariff Specialist between 2004 and 2006. Since then Reyno has been involved in various research projects, with clients including the City of Tshwane, UNEP, SAPOA, ESKOM, Delta BEC, Pan African Resources, Enerweb, National Energy Regulator of South Africa, Gauteng Treasury, Gauteng Provincial Government and the Department of Social Development.

He co-authored \*Zumanomics\* and \*Understanding Microeconomics\*. He also writes columns and opinion pieces for various publications.

Jeremiah Mutamba: Is currently a Senior Manager at TCTA where is he leading and driving the organizational water-centred knowledge business, including research, partnership development and knowledge dissemination. He also works in planning, formulation and leading of strategic projects and programme management of high-profile multi-billion rand national strategic infrastructure projects, including development of programme business plans and national master plans. He job includes planning and management of diverse and complex water supply projects and contributing to national water-resources management policies.

He has previously worked for Lonmin where he presided over the mine's water management portfolio and led project planning, project designing and (project) management of the mine's water projects to ensure water sustainability as well as to comply with environmental legislative requirements

Jeremiah has also worked for the CSIR – a world class research institution and a number of consulting engineering companies working on water related projects. He is a qualified civil and water engineer and has a MBL from UNISA and is currently studying for his PhD in Strategic Management with the Wits Business School.

**Babatunde O. Abidoye:** is an international economist. He is currently a consultant providing support for UNDP's work in Peru, Nepal and Uganda on Ecosystem Based Adaptation to climate change. Dr. Abidoye is also a Senior Lecturer at the Centre for Environmental Economics & Policy in Africa – CEEPA (University of Pretoria) where he also coordinates UNDP's Economics of Climate Change Adaptation (ECCA) program in Africa and supports similar program in Asia including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh and Thailand. Dr. Abidoye has experience working for other international organizations such as the World Bank and the European Commission.

Dr. Abidoye has vast experience working on economic and environmental issues in different countries. He has written a number of peer-reviewed articles and reports focusing on water quality, environmental valuation, climate change, commodity price dynamics and household welfare. He received an award of excellent publication in the Journal of Environmental and Resource Economics (ERE) for his work on environmental valuation, to and water quality.

Dr. Abidoye received a bachelor's degree in economics from University of Ilorin and a doctorate in economics from Iowa State University. While at Iowa State, he worked as a researcher at the Resource and Environmental Policy Division of the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD) receiving a competitive grant from the United States Environmental protection Agency for "Research on the Design of Policies for Pollution Control Using Market Mechanisms, and Data Gathering for Dissertation and Early Career Research on the Pollution Control Aspects of Environmental Economics."

Mtchera Chriwa: is the Chief PPP Infrastructure Specialist within the AfDB South African Office.