



Document from the 7th Africa Water Week,
held in Libreville, Gabon, 29 October – 2
November 2018

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practice in the provision, use and
management of water resources for
sustainable social and economic
development and maintenance of African
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Council on Water



PLENARY SESSION DAILY REPORT
(RAPPORT JOURNALIER DE SESSION PLÉNIÈRE)
‘7TH AFRICA WATER WEEK’
« 7^{IÈME} SEMAINE AFRICAINE DE L’EAU »
29 OCT. – 02 NOV. 2018

No.	AWW7-2018SS /12	Version No.	V1r0			Report Date: (Date du rapport)	30-10-2018	
Date:	30-10-2018	Time: (Heures)	9:10 AM	to	10:46 AM	Language: (Langue)	French	
Theme:	Toward Achieving Water Security and Safely Managed Sanitation for Africa							
French theme	« Vers la Sécurité de l’Eau et des Services d’Assainissement gérés en toute sécurité pour l’Afrique »							
Sub-theme: (Sous-thème)	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative (RWSSI), Strategic Plan 2018-2025							
Session No.	SS12	Title: (Titre)	Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative (RWSSI)					
Country: (Pays)	GABON	City: (Ville)	Libreville	Location: (Lieu)	Stade de l’Amitié Sino-Gabonaise, ANGONDJE			
Rapporteur (Rapporteur):	Wilde Rosny Ngalekassaga				Technical Partner: (Partenaire technique)	SASI GABON		
Further details: (Informations complémentaires)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint Presentation (YES): Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative – RWSSI; Draft Strategic Plan 2018 – 2025 • Technical Documentation (YES): 1- Rapport du deuxième forum RWSSI; 2- Brochure Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative 							
Abbreviations and acronyms: (Sigles et abréviations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WASH: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene • AfDB: African Development Bank • RWSSI: Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative • IAEAR: Initiative pour l’alimentation en eau et l’assainissement en milieu rural • IGAs: Income-generating activities 							

IDENTIFICATION OF THE LEAD CONVENER AND CONTACT (IDENTIFICATION DES RESPONSABLES ET CONTACTS)

Lead Convener (Responsable):	African Development Bank
Co-convener (Coresponsable):	AMCOW, UNICEF, Ministry of Water and Sanitation of Senegal, WaterAid
Contact:	

SPEAKER IDENTIFICATION (IDENTIFICATION DES INTERVENANTS)

Moderator (Modérateur):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Souleymane Ousmane Diallo, Expert/Consultant, RWSSI-AfDB • Mr Nelson Gomonda, Rural Water Supply Expert, RWSSI-AfDB
Speakers (Intervenants):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jochen Rudolph, Coordinator, RWSSI (Presenter) • Dr Ruben Um Bayiha, Regional Advisor WASH, UNICEF (Panellist) • Babacar Ndiaye, Panellist • Wambui Gichuri, Director of the Water and Sanitation Sector Development Programme, AfDB (Panellist) • Olutayo Bankole-Bolawole, Regional Director East Africa, WaterAid (Panellist) • Adama Iddo, RENEP, Cote d’Ivoire (Panellist)

SESSION OBJECTIVES (OBJECTIFS DE LA SESSION)

- The purpose of this session was to present the 2018-2025 strategic plan of the African Development Bank's Water Supply Initiative. The session consisted in promoting RWSSI and the challenges of developing the strategic plan developed by the organisation.

SESSION PLAN (PLAN DE SESSION)

- Sequence 1: Remarks by the Director of the AfDB's Water and Sanitation Sector Development Department
- Sequence 2: PowerPoint Presentation
- Sequence 3: Q&A session with the public
- Sequence 4: End of the session

SESSION SUMMARY (RÉSUMÉ DE LA SESSION)

The first phase of this session consisted in a keynote address by Mr Ousmane Diallo, a moderator who co-facilitated the session with Mr Nelson Gomonda. In accordance with the objectives set out by Mr Diallo, the session consisted in presenting the 2018-2025 strategic plan of the initiative for water supply in rural areas, developed by the RWSSI.

Ms Wambui Gichuri, Director of the Water and Sanitation Sector Department of the African Development Bank, took the floor to address a few observations comments to the participants. She noted that the African Water Week was an interesting opportunity to talk about the RWSSI and the new strategic plan 2018-2025 with a view to raising awareness. Ms Wambui Gichuri added that the RWSSI supports countries in achieving their sustainable development goals and noted that, although the population was becoming increasingly urban, it was still important to focus on rural areas. The new plan builds on lessons learned since 2003 and improves funding, planning, technical support, etc. The RWSSI also aims to improve partnerships with NGOs, the private sector, local communities, etc.

RWSSI Coordinator Jochen Rudolph delivered a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Initiative - RWSSI, Draft Strategic Plan 2018 – 2025". During his presentation, he noted that rural WASH in Africa is critical to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6. According to him, the RWSSI supported 67 programmes and projects in 35 African countries between 2005 and 2017. The new plan integrates all three dimensions of the RWSSI, namely: the continental dimension, the portfolio dimension and trust-fund operations. The plan kicked off by capitalising on the findings of external consultations with three stakeholders through 2015. The plan aims to achieve its objectives.

Following the presentation, the panellists responded to a series of five questions from Mr Nelson Gomonda, the second moderator. Then, a discussion was engaged with the participants, who asked questions answered by the panellists and the presenter. In closing, Ms Gichuri summarised the main lessons learned from the discussions and thanked the participants for attending the session.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (QUESTIONS ET RÉPONSES)

Question No.	1	Author (Auteur):	Mr Nelson Gomonda, Moderator
Wording (Libellé):	What do you consider to be the key elements of the RWSSI?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)		Speakers (Intervenants)	
Picture a place where hydraulic pumps are installed but there is no water. Picture another where there is water but no hydraulic pump. This is an issue we often face. The RWSSI allows us to understand the economics of the appropriate policy for each location. The RWSSI also provides a connection with the private sector, formal support to existing structures, improved public policies and better monitoring of funding and expenditure.		Unidentified panellist	

Question No.	2	Author (Auteur):	Mr Nelson Gomonda, Moderator
Wording (Libellé):	Which partnership type do you recommend and what is the role of the various partners in the		

	implementation of the RWSSI?	
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)		Speakers (Intervenants)
<p>First of all, we must acknowledge the work that has been accomplished so far, and recognise that no initiative can be implemented without a partnership. The more partnerships, the better. There are opportunities to reach everyone at local, national and international levels. With respect to partnership types, we need to think outside the box and put things into context. Social enterprises and the private sector (which has a key role to play) can be involved. We should also consider partners who can make investments.</p>		Ms Olutayo Bankole-Bolawole

Question No.	3	Author (Auteur):	Mr Nelson Gomonda, Moderator
Wording (Libellé):	What changes need to be made to ensure that RWSSI goals can be met?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
<p>Institutional changes are needed to adapt operations in rural areas to their context. These areas are most often isolated and remote. There are three possibilities for change:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Land-use planning: empowering the population - Economics: in rural areas, people pay more due to the absence of a price subsidy mechanism. Businesses must therefore find a market opportunity in rural areas. - Governance: decentralisation and devolution of powers from the state to local communities should be accelerated. 			Mr Adama Iddo

Question No.	4	Author (Auteur):	Mr Nelson Gomonda, Moderator
Wording (Libellé):	What can the AfDB and private partners do to help increase the private sector's contribution to meeting the goals of the strategic plan?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
<p>The AfDB's role is not just about funding projects. I believe it has another role that is much more important, i.e. boosting country-specific policies. It can help change the way we think about water and sanitation. The Bank can also help involve more partners. The open defecation phenomenon is a major issue in villages. This can mean business opportunities for enterprises. When it comes to private sector partners, there is no size limit. Small businesses are also taken into account.</p>			Dr Ruben Um Bayiha

Question No.	5	Author (Auteur):	Mr Nelson Gomonda, Moderator
Wording (Libellé):	What recommendations can you make after listening to other panellists discuss the key components of the RWSSI?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
<p>As already mentioned, private sector involvement is key. Senegal's experience with AGIFORs has shown us that working solely with associations has its limitations. It is therefore important to work with the private sector. When we started working with the private sector, we saw a drop in water prices, a better quality telephone network and lower desludging costs. Creating an enabling environment, controlling financial flows and combating disparities are also necessary. That is why Senegal is now considering the creation of a Blue Fund, which will consist in producing analyses of strategy references. Finally, integrated water, sanitation and hygiene projects should be implemented.</p>			Mr Babacar Ndiaye

Question No.	6	Author (Auteur):	Participant
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Wording (Libellé):	How do you correlate the proposals made in previous strategies with what you are proposing now? Secondly, investment in countries facing difficulties often takes the form of humanitarian aid, due to the instability in those countries. What kind of investment are you referring to?	
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)		Speakers (Intervenants)
Considering the limited time available, the presenter will have to take a few minutes to discuss this with you at the end.		Ms Wambui Gichuri

Question No.	7	Author (Auteur):	Participant
Wording (Libellé):	It is very important to establish a diagnosis of what did not work. Have you made an assessment of how the funds previously allocated have been used?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
It would be interesting to include gender mainstreaming in project implementation. In Côte d'Ivoire, we found that the types of projects launched in the 1970s, where all the management committees were 100% male, no longer exist. We launched a hydraulic pump construction initiative in 2004 and integrated women into management committees after training them and raising their awareness. As a result, more than 14 years later, these projects are still operating and women have developed other IGAs due to the surpluses generated through project management. So it is very important to make the right diagnosis.			Participant

Question No.	8	Author (Auteur):	Participant
Wording (Libellé):			
Contribution (Intervention)			Speakers (Intervenants)
I agree in principle with the issue of integrating the private sector into the water supply and sanitation strategy. However, we must ensure that the private sector actors involved understand what we are talking about. We need to do some mapping work to identify potential investors, provide all the information, etc.			Participant contribution

CONCLUSIONS OF THE SESSION (CONCLUSIONS DE LA SESSION)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the end of this session, it should be noted that RWSSI increases the impacts and benefits of what has already been achieved in the rural water and sanitation sector. This creates added value. It was also noted that with regard to funding, the initiative can act as a lever to increase assets contributing to success. Partnerships were also discussed. This is a new area for the AfDB. We have people out in the field doing things, but there are limits to what they can accomplish. It is up to institutions to assess what can be improved to ensure that objectives are met.
