



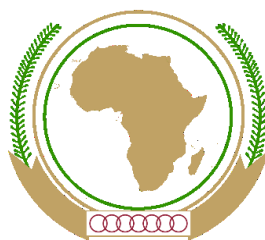
Document from the 7<sup>th</sup> Africa Water Week,  
held in Libreville, Gabon, 29 October – 2  
November 2018

*This material is shared as a learning resource to promote awareness and good practice in the provision, use and management of water resources for sustainable social and economic development and maintenance of African ecosystems.*

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A knowledge asset of the African Ministers'  
Council on Water



**PLENARY SESSION DAILY REPORT**  
**(RAPPORT JOURNALIER DE SESSION PLÉNIÈRE)**  
**‘7<sup>TH</sup> AFRICA WATER WEEK’**  
**« 7<sup>IE</sup>ME SEMAINE AFRICAINE DE L’EAU »**  
**29 OCT. – 02 NOV. 2018**

|  |  |                          |   |                            |   |  |            |
|--|--|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|---|--|------------|
| <b>No.</b>   | <b>AWW7-2018SS/25</b>  | <b>Version No.</b>       | 01r0  |                            |   | <b>Report Date:</b><br>(Date du rapport) | 01/11/2018 |
| <b>Date:</b>   | 01/11/2018   | <b>Time:</b><br>(Heures) | 9:00 AM   | to                         | 10:40 AM  | <b>Language:</b><br>(Langue)             | English    |
| <b>Theme:</b>  | Toward Achieving Water Security and Safely Managed Sanitation for Africa   |                          |   |                            |   |  |            |
| <b>French theme</b>  | ‘Vers la Sécurité de l’Eau et des Services d’Assainissement gérés en toute sécurité pour l’Afrique’  |                          |   |                            |   |  |            |
| <b>Sub-theme:</b><br>(Sous-thème)                              | Water Security: Infrastructure, Investments and Innovation.  |                          |   |                            |   |  |            |
| <b>Session No.</b>   | 25   | <b>Title:</b><br>(Titre) | The Contribution of Underground Water to Water Security in Africa |                            |   |  |            |
| <b>Country:</b><br>(Pays)                                      | GABON  | <b>City:</b><br>(Ville)  | Libreville  | <b>Location:</b><br>(Lieu) | Stade de l’Amitié Sino-Gabonaise à ANGONDJE         |  |            |
| <b>Rapporteur</b><br>(Rapporteur):                             | M. Sacha IBOUNDJI MAGAYA   |                          |   |                            | <b>Technical Partner:</b><br>(Partenaire technique) | SASI GABON                               |            |
| <b>Further details:</b><br>(Informations complémentaires)      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PowerPoint Presentation (YES) : BackgroundPaper1_Presentation_Final</li> <li>• Technical Documentation Technique (YES) :Africa Water Week Special/ behalf of UPGro: October 2018. Flyer UPGro.</li> </ul> |                          |   |                            |   |  |            |
| <b>Abbreviations and Acronyms:</b><br>(Sigles et abréviations) | •  |                          |   |                            |   |  |            |

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

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Lead Convener (Responsable):</b> | UpGro and AMCOW  |
| <b>Co-convener (Coresponsable):</b> |  |
| <b>Contact:</b>                     | Sean Furey ( <a href="mailto:sean.furey@skat.ch">sean.furey@skat.ch</a> ) ; Dr Andrew Bullock ( <a href="mailto:andybullock61@btinternet.com">andybullock61@btinternet.com</a> ) ; |

**SPEAKER IDENTIFICATION (IDENTIFICATION DES INTERVENANTS)**

|                                |  |
|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>Moderator (Modérateur):</b> | Dr. Andrew Bullock (Senior Consultant)   |
| <b>Speakers (Intervenants)</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kirsty UPTON (Africa Groundwater Atlas)</li> <li>• Dr. Callist TINDIMUGAYA (Water Ressources Planification and Regulation Commission/Commission de la planification et de la régulation des ressources en eau)</li> <li>• Cyrille MASSAMBA</li> <li>• Rabirah KWABAKO (Civil and Environment Engineer)</li> </ul> |

**SESSION OBJECTIVES (OBJECTIFS DE LA SESSION)**

|  |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish the pertinence of underground water in the global trajectory toward water security in Africa – including the African Water Vision, the SDGs, the national growth and poverty reduction strategies. To complete the referential basis having authority, recent research has highlighted the way in which innovation</li> </ul> |
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## **SESSION PLAN (PLAN DE SESSION)**

- Water Security
- UPGro: Release the potential of underground water for the poor
- The Contribution of Underground Water for Water Security in Africa
- Water Security: the Role of Underground Water
- Water Security: National Growth and Poverty Reduction
- Underground Water Investments: Gains and Risks
- Underground Water Investment

## **SESSION SUMMARY (RÉSUMÉ DE LA SESSION)**

- The concept of water security can be understood as being:

“...the availability of acceptable water quality and quantity for health, subsistence, ecosystems and production, associated with an acceptable level of risks for water linked to populations, environment and economies.”

- The role of underground water is to promote the fair and universal access to water in Africa. These underground waters are hidden resource, consumed by at least 50% of the African population. The role of underground waters is determined by a storage resistance  $> 0.5$  million of km<sup>3</sup>, dominated by North African basins. The entire stockage is non-renewable, but represents 20 times the water volume stored in lakes and reservoirs. This storage serves as a stamp against climatic variability. Its recharge is produced in an episodic manner, in response to abundant rainfalls, but the most intense rains risk to occur more frequently with climatic changes.
- Water Security: national growth and poverty reduction. This part was a discussion about water vision, which can be defined as:

“...An Africa where there exist fair and sustainable use and management of water resources for poverty reduction, socio-economic development, regional and environmental cooperation.”

A figure was made and interpreted:

- Irrigation
- Washing
- Agricultural production
- Job opportunities
- Food security
- Livelihood
- Health
- Education
- Economic growth
- Social wellbeing

- Water security contributes to socio-economic development, but remains a challenge. Underground waters have an essential role to play, namely:
  - Water supply in rural areas
  - Urban water supply
- Investments in underground waters: gains and risks

Advantages:

Socially inclusive and sustainable rural water services

- Manual community drilling pumps
- Advantages of access to water on health and education
- Livelihood
- Underground waters irrigation: agricultural production, livelihood, food security, motorized pumps increase agricultural productivity by allowing investment in improved seeds, increased value crop and inputs such as fertilizers.

However, there are issues with the waterholes. The reasons of failure are more complex. The most felt impacts are linked to gender, health and wealth.

In addition to the advantages, we can also note general risks:

- Access inequality
- Underground waters depletion
- Underground waters pollution
  
- Urban water security also presents important points:
  - Development Strategy
  - Governance capacity
  - Surveillance
  - Collaborative approaches
  - Urban waters management
- Underground water investments: risk reduction. The following points have been raised to reduce the risks:
  - Fair and durable use of underground waters
  - Gaps in knowledge: availability – access – quality
  - Governance
  - Network and partnerships
  - Data
  - Capacity
  - Resources

### **QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (QUESTIONS ET RÉPONSES)**

|  |   |                         |                                |
|--|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Question No.</b>  | 1   | <b>Author (Auteur):</b> | World Bank                     |
| <b>Wording (Libellé):</b>  | If the bank allocates 2 billion for this project, how will the funds be used? |                         |                                |
| <b>ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)</b>  |   |                         | <b>Speakers (Intervenants)</b> |
| The funds will be used according to priorities for a better implementation of the project. |   |                         |                                |

|  |   |                         |                                |
|--|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Question No.</b>  | 2   | <b>Author (Auteur):</b> | M. Francis (NIGERIA)           |
| <b>Wording (Libellé):</b>  | What will the Ugandan Government do to control its underground water? |                         |                                |
| <b>ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)</b>  |   |                         | <b>Speakers (Intervenants)</b> |
| The government will create an internal mechanisms to monitor the program and improve the management. |   |                         |                                |

|                                |   |                         |                                |
|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Question No.</b>            | 3   | <b>Author (Auteur):</b> | M. Francis (NIGERIA)           |
| <b>Wording (Libellé):</b>      | How can we control water contamination risks? |                         |                                |
| <b>ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)</b>      |   |                         | <b>Speakers (Intervenants)</b> |
| No answer due to short timing. |   |                         |                                |

### **CONCLUSIONS OF THE SESSION (CONCLUSIONS DE LA SESSION)**

- No conclusion from the moderator.