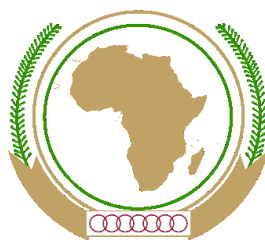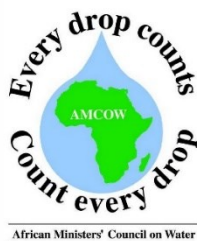Document from the 7th Africa Water Week, held in Libreville, Gabon, 29 October – 2 November 2018

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.

Copyright for this material rests with the authors.

A knowledge asset of the African Ministers' Council on Water

Plenary Session Daily Report
(Rapport journalier de session plénière)
'7th Africa Water Week'
« 7ieme Semaine Africaine de l'Eau »
29 Oct. – 02 Nov. 2018

No.	AWW7-2018SS26	Version No.		V1r0	Report Date: (Date du rapport)	01/11/2018

Date:	01/11/2018	Time: (Heures)	9:26 AM	to	10:32 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)		Choices, approaches and actions for safely managed sanitation in Africa by 2030é

Session No.	26	Title: (Titre)	Decision-making Process Improvement based on WASH (IWED) Proofs for Safely Managed Sanitation in Tanzania

Country: (Pays)	GABON	City: (Ville)	Libreville	Location: (Lieu)	Stade de l'Amitié Sino-Gabonaise à ANGONDJE

Rapporteur (Rapporteur):	Brel-Maurel MICKONGO MOUKAKOU		Technical Partner: (Partenaire technique)	SASI GABON

Further details: (Informations complémentaires)	• PowerPoint Presentation (YES) : WALIS_Presentation_AWW7_FINAL • Technical Documentation Technique (NO)
Abbreviations and Acronyms: (Sigles et abréviations)	• WALIS: Water for Africa through Leadership and Institutional Support. • NSMIS : National Sanitation Management Information System • SINAS : Water and Sanitation National Information System/Système national d'information sur l'eau et l'assainissement

Identification of the lead Convener and Contact (identification des responsables et contacts)

Lead Convener (Responsable):	USAID-WALIS
Co-convener (Coresponsable):	Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, MoHCDGEC Water Aid Tanzania
Contact:	Alayne Potter, Alayne_potter@walis.org

Speaker Identification (identification des intervenants)

Moderator (Modérateur):	POTTER, Alayne (Modératrice, WALIS)
Speakers (Intervenants)	• MWAKITALINA, Anyitike (WALIS) • GEVORYAN, Anahit (WALIS) • BAWA, Kitchinme (WALIS) • WASH: Water, Sanitation and Water. • AMCOW : African Ministers Council on Water (Conseil des ministres africains sur l'eau)

Session Objectives (objectifs de la session)

• Reinforce accountability and decision-making processes improvement based on WASH data in Tanzania through the introduction of a mobile web portal within the National Sanitation Management Information System (NSMIS) and thus improve the access to quality data.

SESSION PLAN (PLAN DE SESSION)

- No session plan.

SESSION SUMMARY (RÉSUMÉ DE LA SESSION)

- During the session on WASH (IWED) data based decision-making process improvement, it were question to present the Tanzanian experience on safely managed sanitation throught the NSMIS system.
- Before the presentations, Ms. Anahit GEVORGYAN presented the WALIS missions, which a project funded by USAID to reinforce the leadership capacity of African institutions in providing safely managed WASH services thanks to an improved governance, and to ensure a monitoring based on data and peer-learning.
- The Project consists in three main activities:
- Stakeholder and enlightened leadership engagement.
- Convincing Data based decision-making program improvement.
- Institutional support.
- The project is divided into two cohorts; the first is composed by the following countries: Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar; and the second comprises Senegal and Ghana.
- In 2015, the joint WHO/UNICEF Surveillance Program has raised, for example, that 47% of the population in Madagascar still uses surface water or non-improved safe water sources. Therefore, the project has been implemented in this part of the cohort, in regions such as Diana, Vakinakaratra, Haute Matsiatra, Amoron'l Mania, Vatovavy Fitovinanyy. The project led to the improvement of WASH services and to the development of a financial planning model.
- Besides Madagascar, the WALIS project has also lead studies in Mozambique. The aim was the development of the Water and Sanitation National Information System (SINAS) for the National Directory of Water and Sanitation Supply. The project has namely allowed the creation of a mobile data collection tool called m-SINAS, the training of 84 technicians and the distribution of 75 data collection tablets.
- In general, the WALIS Project works through water, sanitation and hygiene data collection to study and share them with decision-makers for a better implementation of the WASH program. It promotes behavioural change in hygiene and sanitation matters.
- Anyitike Mwakitalima from the WALIS Project in Tanzania presented the activities carried within the framework of the NSMIS Program. His intervention covered the presentation of Tanzania's geographical situation, its population, the NSMIS application and progress scope in the country. He mentioned the challenges faced by the country and the system, however he discussed a few solutions, before presenting the NSMIS System web portal, discussing the lessons learned and the next steps, and concluding his presentation.
- It was important to highlight that the project requires community engagement.
- Before the introduction of the NSMIS system, data collection was a difficult and non-performant process, it was done manually and the studies did not allow to know the true state of waters and hygiene conditions in communities. It also encountered arithmetical and human errors, due to the limited knowledge of most of the staff on the use of Microsoft Excel, the analysis of raw data was a considerable issue, a lack of consistency was also observed. The data was stored on computer and external hard drives. Reliability was also an important problem.
- The NSMIS System has integrative characteristics allowing simplified use and access across the country and by everyone. Among other characteristics, it is easily accessible from the national server, as well as from a computer or Cloud. It works with operating systems such as Linux, Windows, Mac OSX and Solaris. It works with browsers such as Google Chrome, Firefox, etc. The revision is free and does not require license fees. It allows all users to type-in data without being connected to the Internet. It is accessible offsite via Vodacom; the information saving directly done by the Ministry of Health. It allows to easily give feeback and decision-makers can access all the reports generated by the system. It allows easy resource planification and allocation since it relies on performance. All the councils now write reports on the progress of the sanitation campaign through the SNAMS.
- NSMIS allow the management of the following: sanitation and hygiene, nautical security, water, sanitation and hygiene in health facilities, WASH in schools (elementary and secondary), health and security in the workplace, health in seaports, waste management, etc.
- Regarding hygiene levels, the NSMIS System has allowed, for example to stratify the level of hygiene according to sanitary facilities. It allows to identify sanitary installations of type (A), among others, that include any toilet with slab, but not necessarily washable; the (B+C+D) type are washable and durable toilets with a

- superstructure; type C+D, etc.
- Moreover, the speaker indicated that the achievement of the 6th SDG encountered a some difficulties linked to the lack of hygiene staff within neighbourhoods, which is a consequence of the fact that the target audience has not been touched (decision-makers, public and development partners). However, he stated that all those difficulties were gradually resolved thanks to the support of WALIS and USAID through the implementation of the NSMIS System.
- As for the lessons learned, it appears that:
- The system is an important tool for decision-making based on probative data, as it gives data that can be shared at all the levels for planning and budget establishment.
- It is easy to follow the intervention progress relative to results and to dispose of flexibility in evaluating the probability of reaching targets and predefined objectives.
- Coherent monitoring and supervision are important in ensuring that quality data are obtained at the primary level.
- Data entry and collection is tedious, therefore sufficient spacing between the two is necessary, and it is scheduled to reduce the collection, from a trimestral to a biannual frequency.
- As for future projects, he named other points:
- The creation of a NSMIS System user manual,
- The recruitment of a specialized staff in information technology to support the SNIGM assistance service, etc.
- Mr. Anyitike Mwakitalima also pointed out that NSMIS use has added value to the monitoring of sanitation and hygiene indicators in the country, by transforming the processes of data collection, storage and analysis. African countries who are not yet equipped with such a monitoring system are encouraged to develop one.
- In his intervention, Mr. Kitchinme BAWA from AMCOW indicated the importance of projects such as WALIS and systems such as NSMIS, because they help the coordination of information that is essential to the decision-making process at the national level and to AMCOW.
-

Questions and Answers (questions et réponses)

Question No.	1	Author (Auteur):	Agatha	
Wording (Libellé):		How to reassure ourselves with project durability and post-financing systems?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)				Speakers (Intervenants)
We have parallel plans allowing sustain projects.				Anyitike MWAKITALIMA

Question No.	2	Author (Auteur):	Speaker	
Wording (Libellé):		What is your engagement toward communities?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)				Speakers (Intervenants)
Communities are at the core of our projects, as the trainees are from the communities, and they responsible for data collection.				Anyitike MWAKITALIMA

Conclusions of the Session (conclusions de la session)

- No conclusion from the moderator.