



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^{IE}ME SEMAINE AFRICAINE DE L’EAU »
29 OCT. – 02 NOV. 2018

No.	AWW7-2018SS/28	Version No.	01r0			Report Date: (Date du rapport)	01/11/2018
Date:	01/11/2018	Time: (Heures)	9:45 AM	to	11:00 AM	Language: (Langue)	English
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)	Financing Africa’s SDG 6 Ambitions: Beyond Political Declarations.						
Session No.	28	Title: (Titre)	Beyond Political Declarations: What specific measures can governments and stakeholders can implement to ensure an efficient use of financial resources and infrastructure development in the sector?				
Country: (Pays)	GABON	City: (Ville)	Libreville	Location: (Lieu)	Stade de l’Amitié Sino-Gabonaise à ANGONDJE		
Rapporteur (Rapporteur):	Louise NTCHORERE			Technical Partner: (Partenaire technique)	SASI GABON		
Further details: (Informations complémentaires)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint Presentation (YES) : SAE_Engagement OSC ODD6_AFDH ppt • Technical Documentation Technique (NO) 						
Abbreviations and Acronyms: (Sigles et abréviations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO: Civil Society Organization 						

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

Lead Convener (Responsable):	WIN, BAD-FAE
Co-convener (Coresponsable):	IRC Regional Bureau for West Africa and the World Water Partnership for West Africa
Contact:	Koffi NDRI, koffindri@gmail.com ; Teun BASTEMEIJER, E.mail : TBastemeijer@Win-s.org

SPEAKER IDENTIFICATION (IDENTIFICATION DES INTERVENANTS)

Moderator (Modérateur):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teun Bastemeijer • Armand Houanya
Speakers (Intervenants)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arnauld Adjagodo • Jean Michel Ossete • Sylvain Usher • Sareen Malik

SESSION OBJECTIVES (OBJECTIFS DE LA SESSION)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Despite the existence of a consensus in the field, the financial resources are insufficient to reach SDG 6. The allocation of more funding only is not sufficient to reach the SDG 6, if integrity, transparency and participation are unprotected. The session will allow to explore the link between transparency constructive pieces, participation and SDG 6 financing durability.
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SESSION PLAN (PLAN DE SESSION)

- Introduction by Teun Bastemeijer
- Presentation by Jean-Michel Ossete
- Presentation by Arnauld Adjagodo
- Discussion Panel-Audience

SESSION SUMMARY (RÉSUMÉ DE LA SESSION)

The moderator began by noting the obsolete state of water infrastructures in Africa. This session will focus on progress, performance and financial gaps. It is important to find solutions to improve performances and attract new investments.

- The problem of financing and hydraulic infrastructure is a common issue to the entire continent. The African population growth and the rapid development of urban areas requires water security solutions. To improve the living conditions of populations, the different conflicts around transboundary basins, the conflictual relation between herdsman and farmers, the preservation of natural ecosystems, as well as pollution are the only issues that need to be examined.

The infrastructure insufficiency is cruel, if we only look at Gabon, which has 6000 megawatts hydroelectric potential, but has only exploited 2% and that is how gaps are created. Africa is lagging behind at the structural level, compared to the rest of the world. Combined with climatic changes effects such as famine and the consequences will be soon be felt as impacts on economic growth. The political will is well present, in view of all the environmental treaties that have been signed, but the lack of knowledge sharing at the country level slows the evolution process. As the first African financial institution, the AfDB engages in many ways such as guaranteeing water security, finding investments, maintaining cooperation between countries that share transversal basins and developing institutional knowledge. The AfDB has found an area of focus in focusing on direct investment, a ten-year strategy and change its water regulation processes. The 5 priorities of the AfDB are listed as follows:

- Light Africa
- Feed Africa
- Industrialize Africa
- Integrate Africa
- Improve living conditions in Africa

Water is at the core of these preoccupations and by funding these projects, the AfDB really contributes to Africa's Development.

- Why look for such funding or construct these infrastructures if we cannot put them to good use? The lack of governance is what makes those infrastructures inefficient because they are costly, of bad structural quality and mediocre services. Implementing an integrity and transparency charter is now vital to ensure the continuity of any investment. Watershed Mali and Mission Fasseau are CSOs that within their activities allow the reinforced monitoring of engagements and human rights defence. The CSOs are extremely important on the influential plan and if they are well structured and tooled, they can play a reinforcing role in the achievement and maintaining of these engagements.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (QUESTIONS ET RÉPONSES)

Question No.	1	Author (Auteur):	Armand Hounya
Wording (Libellé):	One of the objectives to be reached by 2030 is the universal access to water. The financial gaps are the most complex challenges we are facing before we can reach these objectives. We need \$35 billion per year, but for example in 2017 we have only received \$7 billion. To improve monitoring, the usage quality and services provided with the little means we receive. Can you tell us about cases of inefficient use of these resources and solutions that you have brought?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)		Speakers (Intervenants)	
In the case of Kenya, there exist a system of kaki envelopes (kickbacks). A study was conducted within the public administration to evaluate the sources, the effects and the ways to terminate these. It was discovered that the system was implemented by the		Sareen Malik	

service providers even before the infrastructure funding was released so the monitoring should begin at the top of the chain. The political manipulations toward populations also play a role over the choice of the infrastructure to be constructed. To be clear, the sanction for people breaking the law is a better way to reinforce integrity within institutions. In Kenya, we have an Attorney General that is very active on that level and has allowed a great change.	
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Question No.	2	Author (Auteur):	Participant
Wording (Libellé):	Does devolution help the consumer?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
We notice that in the rural areas, the important actors in water management are often penalized for installations that are considered illegal, but they contribute the most to water management.			

Question No.	3	Author (Auteur):	Armand Houanya
Wording (Libellé):	Rapid urbanization, often little or not planned in our cities, causes important water management issues. What does AfWA does to help at that level?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
AfWA determines whether the investment is necessary and viable because it is not only a matter of constructing something that will not sustain over the years. For an infrastructure that already exists, how is it maintained? The State in our countries, is the water provider to the people so any private company must coexist with the people for better and for worst. For any water produced, only 40% is billed and the rest is lost. We therefore reinforce the capacities of institutions to improve their performance.			Sylvain Usher

Question No.	4	Author (Auteur):	Dr Diop
Wording (Libellé):			
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
It would be good to also consider the optimization of existing structures rather than adding new investments which add new variable. Prioritizing this option also provide openings on the economic and employment level.			

Question No.	4	Author (Auteur):	Arnauld Ajagodo
Wording (Libellé):	I have observed restructuration plans contracts between the State and the Benin Water Society. Are those restructuration plans really necessary when other countries who have done so are enduring negative consequences? I have always said that to lower the price of water, the best solution is hydroelectricity because the thermic system will always be more expensive.		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
Unfortunately, AfWA cannot tell States what to do in terms of how they manage their resources, we have studied multiple cases and their consequences, but all we can do is raising concerns.			Sylvain Usher

Question No.	5	Author (Auteur):	
Wording (Libellé):			
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)

The issue of poor integrity and management is the same everywhere in Central Africa. I think that decentralization and private sector implication in the management process are part of the solutions to resolve this issue.	
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Question No.	6	Author (Auteur):	Lydie Menouer (SIWI)
Wording (Libellé):	Are there studies based on the human capital of these water companies to whom we hand over the management of these infrastructures? Because we need to whether they are capable or not to handle this responsibility.		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
In the context of Kenya, we have to realize the deep realities of these institutions. Many will tell your that they have inherited an obsolete and outdated staff that they cannot drop because the process would be too costly. They try to make the best out of the situation but the issue is complex.			

Question No.	7	Author (Auteur):	Jean Michel Ossette
Wording (Libellé):			
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
At the AfDB, we have regulations for financial investments. We have 4 key indicators: pertinence, objectives, efficiency and viability. The projects are monitored and rated, out of 75 projects 62 are 90% satisfying. The real issue is not physical development, but how to correctly manage the allocated budget. We decentralize and equip CSOs to be the judges of service quality and efficiency.			

Question No.	8	Author (Auteur):	Participant
Wording (Libellé):			
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
The discussion was interesting and I have a remark to address to AfWA. It is important to look at the unbilled water issue and the devolution has helped a lot for the public engagement.			

Question No.	9	Author (Auteur):	Participant
Wording (Libellé):			
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
Corruption is an important challenge, but the AfDB has a department dedicated to that. If the result of our investigations lead to proven cases, they are banned from the organization and this ban will follow them even when they will reach other institutions for financing.			

Question No.	10	Author (Auteur):	Sylvain Usher
Wording (Libellé):			
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)			Speakers (Intervenants)
Water and sanitation are particular issues. It is unacceptable that in 2018 we have such issues when Europe has done incredible things at that level. I think every country should invest all the appropriated resources and deal with it at once. After that, there won't be			

any more corruption, because there won't be a need for funding in the sector.	
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CONCLUSIONS OF THE SESSION (CONCLUSIONS DE LA SESSION)

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We need to improve the performance of the water organizations and include an integrity charter in the functioning process. There is also a lack of data on many subjects and maybe the AfDB can help in that sense. |
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