



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

*This material is shared as a learning
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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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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/29	Version No.	01r0			Report Date: (Date du rapport)	01/11/2018
Date:	01/11/2018	Time: (Heures)	11:00 AM	to	12:50 PM	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)	Water Security: Infrastructure, Investments and Innovation.						
Session No.	29	Title: (Titre)	Aquifer Exploitation, a Key Element for Water Security in Africa.				
Country: (Pays)	GABON	City: (Ville)	Libreville	Location: (Lieu)	Stade de l’Amitié Sino-Gabonaise à ANGONDJE		
Rapporteur (Rapporteur):	Erica MAGANGA LOUEMBA				Technical Partner: (Partenaire technique)	SASI GABON	
Further details: (Informations complémentaires)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PowerPoint Presentation (YES) : BGR-BURUNDI et Message clés de la 1ère Conférence deSADC-GMI bis • Technical Documentation Technique (YES) : Cartes des eaux souterraines du monde 						
Abbreviations and Acronyms: (Sigles et abréviations)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BGR Bundesamt für Geowissenschaften und Rohstoffe in Deutschland. 						

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

Lead Convener (Responsable):	BGR
Co-convener (Coresponsable):	
Contact:	ramon.brentfuehrer@bgr.de

SPEAKER IDENTIFICATION (IDENTIFICATION DES INTERVENANTS)

Moderator (Modérateur):	No moderator
Speakers (Intervenants)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BGR Director • Robert NIJIMBERE (BGR/Geographical Engineer, BURUNDI)

SESSION OBJECTIVES (OBJECTIFS DE LA SESSION)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlight the potential of underground waters in Africa

SESSION PLAN (PLAN DE SESSION)

- Intervention #1 of the BGR Director
- Intervention #2 Robert NIJIMBERE (BGR/Geographical Engineer, BURUNDI)
- Q&A

SESSION SUMMARY (RÉSUMÉ DE LA SESSION)

- Reminder of the need for underground water exploration as an important resource in that the current supply of surface water is increasingly insufficient compared to the demand for drinking water, which is explained by several factors such as population growth, climate conditions and change in consumption behaviour.
- The discovery and exploration of aquifers in Africa requires technological means, complete researches on the productivity of these aquifers, as well as the exploration strategies that require investments just as important as the ones allocated for gas or oil drilling.
- For example, in Kenya where a large aquifer was discovered thanks to an aeronautic exploitation in 2013, but remains unexploited.
- As an exploitation strategy:
 - Initiate researches to support the ones carried by helicopter, there should be magnetic sound appliances, geological techniques pushed through the funding of geophysics such as in the East of Namibia for the exploration of the Etosha Basin.
 - Inform on the climate impact and its changes to positively affect the achievement of underground exploration objectives.
- Strategic exploration, BGR Program (Burundi Case)
Improvements:
Despite the insufficiencies in terms of safe water, the small country has 1277mm annual rainfall and is able to supply a large part of its population thanks to the increase of the rate of underground water use and to the researches conducted within the BGR Project since 2013.
This improvement was made impossible in the past due to the striking lack of data and hydrogeologic services.
This project was born out of the lack of water resources that have dried up and the high cost of surface water treatment.

Challenges:
 - Opening of water references analysis laboratory for underground waters.
 - Sensitization of the populations to raise their interest in jobs linked to surface and underground water exploitation.
 - Dynamization of the underground waters sector to better professionalize it.
- Results and recommendations from the First SADC Conference on Underground Waters on the theme: "Adaptation to Climatic Change in the SADC Regional thanks to Water Security – Priority for Underground Waters."
The conference deliberated on the role of underground waters in the improvement of water security and resilience in the SADC region under the pressure of climatic change and human development.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (QUESTIONS ET RÉPONSES)

Question No.	1	Author (Auteur):	Participant
Wording (Libellé):	Is the methodology of underground water exploitation applicable to other countries?		
ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)		Speakers (Intervenants)	
Burundi is a great lakes country, which is the case for many countries such as Rwanda, Congo... this methodology is therefore applicable to all the countries sharing the same hydrogeologic context.		Robert NIJIMBERE (BGR/Geographical Engineer, BURUNDI)	

Question No.	2	Author (Auteur):	Participant
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Wording (Libellé):	Why is not possible to test the water quality in Burundi instead of sending the samples in Germany?	
	ANSWERS (RÉPONSES)	Speakers (Intervenants)
That is due to the absence of competent laboratories in the matter of analysis of specific parameters.		Robert NIJIMBERE (BGR/Geographical Engineer, BURUNDI)

CONCLUSIONS OF THE SESSION (CONCLUSIONS DE LA SESSION)

- No conclusion from the moderator.