

AFRICA GROUNDWATER NETWORK

WORKPLAN *2020*



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Overview

AGW-Net is a voluntary non-profit network, with an open free membership accessible to all African countries and to those external partners that wish to support the network goals. It aims to increase awareness of the potential and value of groundwater across Africa for multiple human uses as well as for the environment, and to contribute to the capacity development in the groundwater sector.

AGW-Net continues to implement visibility activity, despite funds shortage, with its existing and potential partners. An agreement was signed between AGW-Net and SADC-GMI to ensure expertise to SADC-GMI in capacity development in SADC region. The overall mission is to provide capacity building, awareness raising and knowledge dissemination for the groundwater sector in Southern Africa.

The network is also part of APAGroP (AMCOW Pan-African Groundwater Program), which first continental-level workshop was held in Nairobi, Kenya on 01-02 October 2019.

The workplan for 2020 is divided into sections as follows:

- Network Management
- Network Development
- Short Courses / Case studies
- Training Materials
- Partnerships
- AGW-Net website
- Fund Raising
- Visibility Actions
- Budget for 2020

Network Management

Since January 2015, Dr Moustapha Diene has taken over as Network Manager of the Africa Groundwater Network. A Steering Committee (SC) meeting was planned to renew the management board, it was not unfortunately held; we are confident that it will be possible to have it organised in the first quarter of the next year.

Network Development

Membership. Network membership has grown rapidly in the last 8 years to 361 in 2015. In 2019, the network total membership has exceeded 500. The network will continue to increase this membership in the coming years through vigorous membership drive and other visibility activities.

Short Courses / Case studies

Capacity building through short courses is a major activity of AGW-NET. The current priority is on capacity development in “**integration of Groundwater in River Basin Organizations (RBOs)**”, along with **Protection of trans-boundary groundwaters in a changing climate**, and “Groundwater to meet water security for livelihood in Africa”, bearing in mind the Sustainable Development Goals.

On the line of the MoU agreed with SADC-GMI, a Service level agreement was signed in February 2018 to develop a 5-course program for Cost Effective Drilling, two of them are already implemented. Last year, in partnership with AGW-Net, SADC-GMI has organised a short training course in Johannesburg on “Integration of Groundwater Management in Transboundary Basin Organizations in Africa”. This course was held in November 2018 (5-9th), with the support of Cap-Net. For next year 2020, 3 training courses are already agreed with the support of BGR.

The first online course on “Professional Management of Water Well Drilling Projects and Programmes” was held from February and May 2018. The same course was replicated in 2019 and has provided the opportunity for 97 participants working for NGOs, the United Nations, governments, private enterprises and academic/training institutions working in more than 34 countries, to improve their skills and knowledge on drilling professionalization. The course was hosted by UNDP Cap-Net on their Virtual Campus and has benefited support from Skat Foundation, Lotteriefonds St.Gallen, United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR), WaterAid UK, Oxfam UK, the Water Integrity Network (WIN), and the British Geological Survey (BGS). It is intended to implement the same activity this year.

In 2020, appropriate effort will be made to hold at least one short training course in collaboration with our partner from the Niger Basin. We have maintained steady contact with CRU-BN to run capacity building activities next year; for that the AGW-Net Manager was invited in Bamako to attend the activities planning process during the last week of October.

Some of short courses are scheduled in 2020:

1. **Dakar (Senegal)** Integration of Groundwater into Africa Basin organizations. Host: Moustapha Diene. French language course.
2. **ORASECOM (Namibia), ZAMCOM (Zambia) or LIMCOM (Mozambique):** Integration of Groundwater into Africa Basin organizations. Host: Tamiru Abiye, Daniel Nkhuwa, English language course
3. **Maputo, Mozambique:** Integration of Groundwater into Africa Basin organizations. Host: TBI. Portuguese language course
4. Online training course on Groundwater management in urban area (we will seek partners to run together the training) in French or in English

Case study

No activity.

Training Materials

The dissemination of the RBO training manual is undergoing through visibility activities undertaken since 2017, that will be pursued in the coming year.

Partnerships

- a) **AMCOW (African Ministers' Council on Water):** AGW-Net is engaged in the initiative of APAGroP (AMCOW Pan-African Groundwater Program) around groundwater knowledge brokering and supporting capacity; we participated at the first Experts' and Stakeholders Workshop held in Nairobi, 1-2 October 2019.

- b) AGW-Net is core partner in GRIPP (Groundwater Solutions Initiative for Policy and Practice), coordinated by IWMI. The first partners meeting was held in Geneva 08-09 February 2017, the network was represented during the last meeting held during the SWWW in Stockholm (2019).
- c) IAH (International Association of Hydrogeologists) through the Burden Network, has manifested willingness to participate in training courses funding. During the last 4 years, it took part to all training workshops implemented by AGW-Net.
- d) CRU-BN (in French Coordination Régionale des Usagers du Bassin du Niger – Regional Association of Niger Basin water users) is one of our major partners. So far, our partnership has resulted in holding 4 training events: Bamako and Porto Novo in 2013, Ouagadougou in 2015, and Bamako (Mali) in November 2017, with a support from Cap-Net. On behalf of the network, the Manager has attended the planning activities meeting, held in October 2019.
- e) RWSN (Rural Water Supply Network) is a potential partner of AGW-Net in capacity building development. An online course was held this year on Professional drilling. RWSN is engaged in UPGro (Unlocking the Potential of Groundwater for the Poor), a seven-year international research programme (2013-2020) which focuses on improving the evidence base around groundwater availability and management in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Two of Steering Committee members are nominated ambassadors of this programme (Callist Timdimugaya and Moustapha Diene). This is an opportunity to widen the audience of AGW-Net through more diversified partnership.

Web Site and E-Newsletters

The AGW-Net website was successfully utilized to disseminate information to members and mobilize members to participate to Africa Groundwater Atlas (BGS). The contacts in the website have been utilized to disseminate relevant information. We will continue to develop and dissemination information in 2020. Our aim is to invest social network with the website manager Prof Daniel Nkhuwa.

Fund Raising

As per the recommendation of the fund-raising task team, 7% of cost recovery will be made in all network activities.

Visibility Actions

In 2019, AGW-Net has attended the Experts and Stakeholders' Workshop on the AMCOW Pan-African Groundwater Program (APAGroP), this opportunity was used to promote AGW-Net.

The 3rd GRIPP partners meeting was held in Stockholm with the participation of AGW-Net as a core partner. It was represented by Callist Tindimugaya.

Visibility materials were produced with an electronic version of the manual; the distribution was initiated during the World Water Week in Stockholm. Our partners in Mali have already received the materials; national and international events will also be opportunities to make our network more visible. In 2020, appropriate events will be targeted to enhance the visibility of the Network.

The 2020 Budget

The budget for 2020 is presented below.

A) AGW-Net Budget 2020 for core activities

Activity	Time	Unit cost USD	Total USD	Source of Funds
Network administration	Continuous (pm)	100	1,200	CapNet core grant
Web site and e-newsletter production and management, telephone, email communications, social media use, website regular update	Continuous (pm)	200	2,400	CapNet core grant
Admin Assistant	Continuous (pm)	50	600	CapNet core grant
MELP	Annual	-	2,000	CapNet core grant
AGW-Net Meetings, support to visibility activities	Annual	4086	4,086	CapNet core grant
Host Fee (PNES)	Annual	5%	514	CapNet core grant
Total			10,800	CapNet core grant

Summary

AGW-Net is a network with very limited funding but working on the continental level, where groundwater is a vital source of water especially for rural communities. Despite all obstacles, we have managed to raise our visibility and membership in 2019 and hope to attract more in the future. We are engaged on training on the integration of groundwater at a transboundary basin scale as per the declaration by AMCOW. The initiative of APAGroP (AMCOW Pan-African Groundwater Program) should be an opportunity for the network to be significant partners in the rollout of the strategy implemented by AMCOW to sustainably develop and manage groundwater in Africa.

Signed

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Moustapha', with a horizontal line underneath.

Moustapha DIENE
AGW-Net Manager
13 November 2019