



**The AFRICA GROUNDWATER NETWORK**

# **WORKPLAN**

**2010**

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## **AGW-NET WORKPLAN 2010**

### **Introduction.**

The Africa Groundwater Network (AGW-Net) was formed in July 2008 in Pretoria. The key purpose in forming the AGW-Net was to add urgency to the task of capacity building for groundwater management across Africa and to provide additional support to the already established networks, WaterNet, WA-Net, Nile IWRM-Net and NBCBN in the area of groundwater.

Significant developments have taken place in AGW-Net (see the 2009 AGW-Net Annual Progress Report) and the network can be said to have attained a satisfactory initial level of functionality. The work-plan for 2010 is designed to build on the foundations laid to date, to expand the range of AGW-Net “products”, to strengthen our cooperation with our partners and to develop new partnerships. AGW-Net particularly seeks to work with the existing networks in 2010 in order to bring the groundwater agenda into the mainstream of River Basin Organization (RBO’s) planning and management at an international level and the Catchment Councils at a local level. AGW-Net also seeks to raise the political profile of groundwater and its sustainable management across the continent by collaborating with international partners (eg International Association of Hydrogeologists IAH) and continental structures (eg Africa Ground Water Commission AGWC).

In addition AGW-Net seeks to strengthen its management structures and its accountability to its membership by holding an annual steering committee meeting and by running a web site.

### **Vision.**

The key focus for the network in 2010 is summarized below:

- Continue to build capacity for improved groundwater management at all levels
- Strive to improve awareness of groundwater resources by collaborating with public and private / NGO sector partners.
- Improve the level of integration between surface and groundwater practitioners by penetrating the RBO’s and Catchment Councils in collaboration with the existing surface water networks.
- Develop new “products” on borehole maintenance and low cost drilling in cooperation with existing organizations such as RWSN (rural water supply network) and WaterAid.
- Promote a “gender in groundwater” policy
- Make an impact at local level by supporting grassroots organizations with capacity development activities through our membership.

### **Governance – 2010 expanded steering committee meeting:**

The network plans to hold an expanded steering committee in early / mid 2010 together with potential partners in order to try and map a unified strategy for groundwater in Africa. It is envisaged that other interested and relevant groups be invited to attend the AGW-Net steering committee meeting, such as the Groundwater Management Advisory Team, Burdon Groundwater Network for Africa (affiliate of IAH – International Association of Hydrogeologists), the Africa Groundwater Commission, the Rural Water Supply Network (RWSN) as well as funding agencies such as Cap-Net and BGR.

The purpose of such a meeting will be to develop a unified strategy for the groundwater sector in Africa and in particular to identify areas of potential cooperation and to minimize duplication.

### **Plans for 2010.**

At this stage the key activities planned for 2010 focus on:

- 1) Facilitation of a number of short regional courses in groundwater management, with courses proposed for Togo (French language course), Addis Ababa and southern Africa. These courses would use the already developed Groundwater Management Training Manual material, and would be hosted together with other regional networks such as WANet (Togo course), Nile IWRM-Net (Addis Ababa course) and WaterNet (Southern Africa course). AGW-Net will target the River Basin Organizations (RBO's) and try to attract them to participate in these courses.
- 2) Local country courses. AGW-Net will encourage the facilitation of local in-country groundwater management courses with active Catchment Councils in order to improve the sustainable allocation of (ground)water resources.
- 3) AGW-Net will seek to develop new short courses in collaboration with our supporting partners (eg RWSN and National Water Resources Institute, Nigeria) and as requested by member feedback in topics such as a) Cost Effective Borehole Drilling with Effective Data Capture and b) Borehole Pump Maintenance Strategies etc.
- 4) AGW-Net will launch its web-site early in 2010, with a variety of sections from course and membership applications, course materials, discussion forums and a calendar of AGW-Net activities.

### **AGW-Net Budget for 2010 for capacity building activities.**

Funding for all capacity building activities listed below will be sought by preparation of a specific proposal which will be forwarded to our various supporting partners such as CapNet, BGR, Splash etc.. Each activity will be supported by a specific ad hoc budget.

## Budget for 2010.

### Network development and management Capacity building activities

Network Development & Management Activities				
Activity	Time	Unit cost	Total	Source of Funds*
Network administration – Correspondence, office management etc	½ time	\$600 pm	\$7200	CapNet core grant
Web site hosting and management - Depends on cost of hosting	Continuous	\$1000	\$1000	CapNet core grant
Communications – email / telephone, stationery etc	Monthly	\$100 pm	\$1200	CapNet core grant
AGW-Net Steering Committee Meeting (March 2010) (plus Drs Nkhuwa and Tindimugaya)	Once	Est. \$15,000 Airfares, hotel, per diems x 8	\$15,000	Ad hoc grant from CapNet / ? Donors
Office Equipment – scanner / fax. Filing cabinet	Once		\$500	CapNet core grant
Administration fee to host (Institute of Water & Sanitation Development – IWSD)		5%	\$500	CapNet core grant
Total			\$25,400-	

\* CapNet seed funds are \$10,000 per year. Any excess in expenditure needs to come from other donors and from AGW-Net earnings from its activities such as mounting short courses.

<b>AGW-Net Capacity Building Activities.</b>				
Activity	Venue	Date	Cost est.	Partners
Short Course: Groundwater management for water managers: a role of hydrogeological science.	Wits university, Johannesburg, South Africa	6-10 July 2009	\$75,000 @25000 each	Splash Cap-Net Wits
Groundwater management within IWRM	Cheikh Anta Diop University, Dakar, Senegal	2009	\$75,000 @25000 each ??	?Cap-Net ?Splash CAD Uni.
Groundwater management within IWRM	Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Accra, Ghana	2009	\$75,000 @25000 each ??	?Cap-Net ?Splash KNUST
Cost Effective Borehole Drilling, Design and Aquifer Assessment for Groundwater Practitioners, Managers and Supervisors (same course in Mozambique ??)	National Water Resources Institute, Kaduna, Nigeria / RWSN (Rural Water Supply Network)	2009	\$75,000 @25000 each ??	?CapNet ?RWSN NWRI
Regional Training on Groundwater Exploration & Water Quality Management.	University of Dar es Salaam Department of Geology, Tanzania.	2009	\$75,000 @25000 each ??	?CapNet ?Splash UDSM
Preparation of training materials and a training manual on groundwater management within IWRM	AGW-Net and Nile IWRM net managers	2009	?	CapNet

\* ?? means funds not yet committed. Local host institution contribution is not cash, but facilities.

### Summary

As may be seen from this work-plan, the Africa Groundwater Network is at the early stage of its life. A number of activities to do with basic network establishment, such as securing a host institution and a bank account etc. still remain to be done. The network has no guidelines and the steering committee has no terms of reference at this time.

In addition to these network management issues, the network is trying to initiate a number of short courses. One course has already received funding support and is due to be presented at Wits University Johannesburg in July 2009. Another course has been previously presented by WANet and is due to be presented again in by AGW-Net in both Senegal (French version) and in Ghana (English version). Negotiations are underway with regards to funding for these two courses. Recently a partner (RWSN – Rural Water Supply Network) has agreed to work with AGW-Net in preparing a course on cost effective borehole drilling / groundwater development and some interested network members have already been identified.

The development of the network structure and the development of capacity building activities are the two main priorities for AGW-Net in 2009.

Signed

Richard Owen  
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2 March 2009.