PARTNERSHIPS FOR WATER SECURITY: WASH COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEETING REPORT

June 08, 2018

Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group

PARTNERSHIPS FOR WATER SECURITY - FRESHWATER CONSERVATION AND WASH INTEGRATION COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Report of the meeting held by the Kenya Water and Sanitation Civil Society Network and ABCG in Nairobi, Kenya
May 15, 2018

COVER PHOTO: Participants at the freshwater conservation and WASH integration community of practice meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya on May 15, 2018.
CAPTION: The Kenya Water and Sanitation Civil Society Network (KEWASNET)

I. TABLE OF CONTENTS

II. ACRONYMS

ABCG	Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group
CoP	Community of Practice
GIZ	German development agency
FW	Freshwater
KEWASNET	Kenya Water and Sanitation Civil Society Network
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
PES	Payment for Ecosystem Services
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene
WRAF	Water Risk & Action Framework

1. BACKGROUND

Water, poverty and environmental quality are deeply connected. The poor are most vulnerable to environmental risk factors such as unsafe water and climate change. Human communities living in remote areas with high biodiversity value are often impoverished with little to no access to improved water sources and sanitation facilities. The sustainability of freshwater resources and safe drinking water projects depend on the appropriate conservation of the broader watershed. Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) activities associated with conservation integrate health objectives with watershed management approaches, and link rural and urban water supply and sanitation. These linkages reduce the impact of pollution on the watershed and the ecosystem goods and services that it provides.

Recognizing the need to better link freshwater conservation and WASH initiatives, the Africa Biodiversity Collaborative Group's (ABCG) Freshwater Conservation and Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (FW-WASH) task group initiated a community of practice (CoP) with the aim of establishing an integrated learning and knowledge sharing platform between FW-WASH practitioners in a supportive and collaborative environment.

The main goal of the CoP is to bring together WASH and conservation practitioners to reduce watershed degradation and pollution, and improved health of freshwater ecosystems. Kenya Water and Sanitation Civil Society Network (KEWASNET) are the convenors of the CoP meetings in Nairobi.

2. INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME: PARTNERSHIPS FOR WATER SECURITY

The proliferation of water crises is the biggest global risk facing countries and industries (2015 World Economic Forum Global Risk Report). In many developing and emerging economies, water-related risks, such as floods, shortages and pollution, are creating a rising tide of increasing business risks for companies, threatening their profits, supply chains, investments and reputations. These risks are also having massive impacts on communities and governments, threatening broader socio-economic development.

New partnerships among governments, companies and communities must be forged urgently to address these threats effectively. Companies, governments and communities need to work effectively together to address water-related risks. This is built on the understanding that the complex and multiple causes of threats to water security cannot be managed by any single actor and that joint efforts are necessary.

Generally, partnerships are formed on the watershed level and seek to include water users, water managers and water influencers. Therefore, FW-WASH practitioners need to understand how to build partnerships at the watershed level to tackle shared water risks and threats facing communities and businesses to ensure water is secured for social and economic development.

The quarterly CoP meeting will focus on sharing knowledge and experiences in building partnerships for water security. Practitioners who have been involved in formulating multi-stakeholder partnerships shared their knowledge and practical experiences on;

- Relevant tools for formulating multi-stakeholder partnerships;
- Ensuring proper monitoring and communication within the partnership;

- Examples of innovative financing models for multi-stakeholder partnerships – Water Fund Model; and
- Private sector engagement in partnerships.

3. MEETING PROCEEDINGS AND HIGHLIGHTS OF DISCUSSIONS

Participants at the freshwater conservation and WASH integration community of practice meeting held in Nairobi, Kenya on May 15, 2018. Photo Credit. KEWASNET

3.1 Session One: The Experiences of the Water Stewardship Programme by Anne Marie Ran from the International Water Stewardship Programme - GIZ

Why water security? In 2015, the World Economic Forum categorized water crisis as one of the highest risks. Water is a critical resource in development. It is not only a fundamental essence of life but also a key driver of economic growth. Water insecurity thus has a direct bearing on socio-economic development. Based on these findings by the World Economic Forum (2015), governments in Europe agreed that they had to address the issue of water security or lack thereof.

What are water risks? Water risks include floods, droughts and lack of quality water due to pollution. 80% of the world's population will face this risk in the coming years. It's a big global problem. The objective is hence to increase the capacity of water users to address water risks through partnerships.

Why Partnerships in water security? *'Don't start a partnership if you really don't need it'*, Anne Marie says. Start a partnership to:

- Complement one another;
- Strengthen relationships;
- Pull resources together;
- Enhance work;
- Share lessons and experiences;
- Expand scope on activities that will give you a bigger impact: 1+1= 3 (synergy);
- Reduce or avoid duplication; and
- Have collective action in influencing policy.

According to the theory of the tragedy of the commons, increased use of the commons leads to degradation by undermining the capacity of natural resources. Water, in this case, belongs to all of us. It is not owned by anyone, but we all have a responsibility to manage it. Undermining such a resource can be resolved by strategies such as a well-organized/centralized state and defined group boundaries for instance privatization of land. Enforcement is, however, difficult even in the presence of a strong government.

So, what's the solution? Partnerships are important in establishing rules and setting up a monitoring system that facilitates the sustainable use of a finite resource like water. To be successful, partnerships should be acknowledged by the authority such as the government. They also need to be established under well-articulated structures such as the water risk and action framework.

What is the Water risk and action framework? This is a methodology used to structure and harmonize the complicated issue of forming partnerships. This framework ensures that an in-depth analysis/coverage of all pertinent issues during partnership creation and execution.

The water risk action framework has five phases: 1) prepare; 2) assess; 3) commit; 4) act; 5) scale and exit. Arguably, a partnership can begin at any of the stages depending on the data available and the phase of the partnerships.

3.2 Session Two: Group Work on the Tools under the Water Risk & Action Framework (WRAF) by Japhet Koros

There are several tools that can be used at each of the five stages of the water risk and action framework, but three of these tools were selected to be used in three different phases. The participants were then divided into three groups to learn about each tool and then rotate to the next group.

Highlights from Group: Business Case (Tool 1)

Overview of the Business Case Tool

The business case tool is used at the commit phase of the WRAF. To spur commitment, this tool has a couple of tenets that should be taken into account.

- *Business language*: The private and public sector have different and often conflicting objectives. Speaking a business language (e.g., financial economics) is a good starting point at getting the different sectors to be on the same page pertaining to water security. Although operational knowledge was important, business language was also important in convincing businesses in the private sector that a partnership was in their best interest.
- *Relevant data*: Businesses don't necessarily know the kinds of risks they are facing with regards to water security. Make sure you have the relevant data for instance by giving a ten-year projection of water capacity and its negative implications on the business. These could include interruptions on the supply chain
- *Business case:* Using the data build a business case by showing the costs vs. benefits of collaborative efforts. Costs could include lack of customer satisfaction, switching brands and higher repair/maintenance costs for instance through flooding.

Highlights from plenary discussion of the Business Case Tool

- There is great need to have a proper business language to convince the private sector to invest and commit, '*What exactly is there for them?*' The private sector cannot be engaged into water projects if they are going to eat into their profits.
- There is also a need to address the responsibility/needs conflict that is there between the private and the public sector. The government needs to be convinced to give incentives for conservation activities while the private sector also need to be convinced that it is in their best interest to complement the government's conservation efforts.
- How available is relevant data? Should you always have a clear picture? Better be quick and dirty then build an emergence for instance through scenario building. Don't try to be perfect. For example, the private sector doesn't have the luxury of time for collecting perfect data.
- There are tools to aid objective scenario planning in terms of costs vs benefits. The tool can help point to the private sector the amount of monetary/profit increase annually.

Highlights from Group 2: Assess Risks & Opportunities

Overview of the assess risks and opportunities tool

There are different approaches when forming partnerships and may be based on issues approach, catchment approach, city approach and/or economic/industrial zone approach. This tool has the following aspects:

- *Research*: Includes an in-depth study to understand the risks in the area; stakeholder analysis to get specific data/information to understand the area of scope and issues; hydrological modelling (e.g., predict what will happen in the future).
- *Problem butterfly*: This is commonly known as a problem tree and it is a critical analysis of the issues. It is important to understand the root causes of the risk including urbanization and climate change.
- *Public sector analysis*: This helps to get insight into mandate, policies available and structure.
- *List of damages and opportunities*: identify typical damages resulting from water impacts as well as areas of opportunity. Opportunities include influencing policy. It helps you to critically look at the risks and damages.

Highlights from Group 3: Market Scan

Overview of the market scan tool

The market scan is a tool that is used at the first stage - prepare. The objective of a Market Scan is to identify potential partners with water intensive businesses and partners facing water-related risks with regard to water stewardship activities in order to enlarge your engagement with corporate partners.

Water intensive industry sectors are highly dependent on water resources or are highly vulnerable to water risks.

Highlights from plenary discussion of the market scan tool

- The 'polluter pays' principle could be a guiding principle to engaging the private sector on how much of their profits could be ploughed into water resource management to enhance water security
- There is no law mandating mandatory collaborative efforts between the private and the public sector.
- Integrity, transparency, credibility and accountability: ensures that you equally cover the interests of all partners and not just the strong partner(s) or with more financial clout. This ensures long term effectiveness. Efforts should be all inclusive and represent all the partners' issues.

3.3 Session Three: Monitoring & Communication by Japheth Koros - KEWASNET

Of what value is Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) to partnerships? Allows accountability to donors and to partners; check progress; and develop appropriate corrective actions.

How do you conduct M&E in a partnership? There are different approaches to M&E used by different organizations. Initially in classical development projects were concerned with the inputs and outputs. This has since changed. Currently, projects are looking at outcomes and impact in the form of behavior change and long-term benefits.
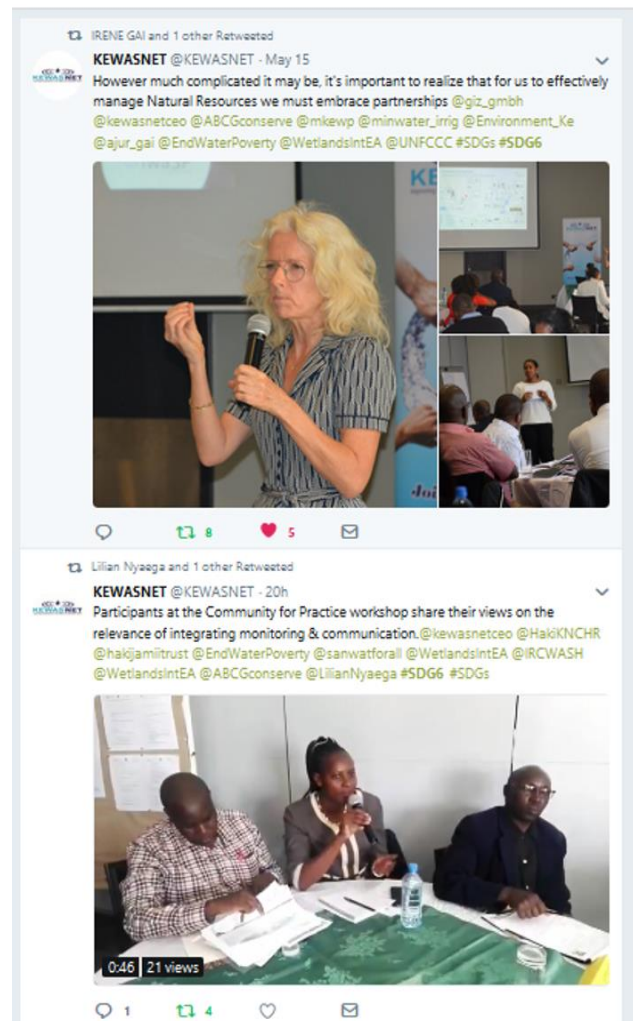
Social media post of the FW-WASH community of practice meeting. Photo credit. ABCG

Formulation of indicators. Partners need to formulate specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound key performance indicators and link the formulated key performance indicators for each output, outcome and impact. A good key performance indicator captures; quality, quantity of change, time period, place and target group.

Drafting a communication and an M&E plan for the partnership. There are several aspects that need to be taken into account:

- Alignment with partners: Discuss plans, tools, key performance indicators and activities. What was your target, means of verification and any stories of change?
- Regular M&E meetings: Meet with partners regularly for instance quarterly to compile achievements, successes and challenges.
- Reporting results: Include stories of change, annual reports and other communication materials
- Feedback to partners and beneficiaries.

3.4 Session Four: Innovative Financing Models for Partnerships by Kennedy Bwire – The World Wide Fund

Overview of the presentation

Following the 2009 drought, the stakeholders in Naivasha experienced a shared risk of lack of sufficient water. This led to a study that bore the Integrated Water Resource Action Plan Programme that brings together international and local partners. The partners include the local communities, Water Resources Authority, and the World Wide Fund (as the coordinating body).

The program sought to address catchment degradation, poor land management, cultivation on river banks, increased water pollution and receding water levels on Lake Naivasha. Based on these common problems, the program initiated an innovative financing model – Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES).

- Overview of negotiation process on PES - It has four stages: 1) seller consultation; 2) buyer consultation; 3) buyer/seller forum; and 4) contract signing.
- Overview of the results monitoring - There are several monitoring mechanisms such as water level gauging scales and graduated rods in farms.
- Payment mechanism – Done through a voucher for the purchase of agricultural inputs that can be committed to improvement of water conservation.
- Challenges experienced - Lack of policies supporting PES; low rate of adoption by buyers; weak capacities for the participating institutions; degraded public lands and the existing complex land ownership.

3.5 Session Five: Experiences from Private Sector in Conservations/ Partnerships by Johnstone Mulay - Kenya Flower Council

Overview of the presentation

The Kenya Flower Council is a voluntary association of independent growers and exporters of cut flowers and ornamentals, established in 1996, with the aim of fostering responsible and safe production of cut flowers in Kenya with due consideration of workers welfare and protection of the environment.

Membership is composed of producers (120) and Associate (90). About 80% of total flower growers and exporters.

How does the Kenya Flower Council ensure that its membership undertake water security? The Kenya Flower Council stresses on having a water management plan in place (e.g., a water allocation plan); water usage is within the legal water abstraction permit issued by the Government; sets objectives for water use to demonstrate that the system they are using is efficient; membership in local riparian associations and committees (e.g., Local Water Resource User Associations); no cultivation on riparian land; and no diversion of rivers/streams, or construction of dams without written permission by the authorities (e.g., Water Resources Authority).

3.6 Session Six: Experiences from Private Sector in Conservation/ Partnerships by Jane Serah - Mount Kenya Water Ewaso Partnership

Overview of the presentation

Mount Kenya Water Ewaso Partnership which was founded in 2016 is hosted by Laikipia Wildlife Forum. It has 69 partners including water resource user associations, water service providers and conservancies. It was founded after identifying common problems such as insufficient water supply to cater for the demand in the Ewaso Nyiro basin. Mount Kenya Water Ewaso Partnership envisions water security for all in the Ewaso Nyiro basin was founded as a platform to provide solutions to these problems.

Challenges

- Inadequate financing at county and individual level
- Some water resource user associations members don't share information

3.7 Session Seven: Fish Bowl Discussion: Building Partnerships for Water Security

After stressing the theme of the CoP and explain the rules of this session, Jennifer invited the first four plenary members; Enock, Johnstone, Anne Marie and Jane Serah. They discussed the following:

- *What would you say are the issues faced by Lake Naivasha Water Resources User's Association in forming partnerships and what recommendations would you give for people forming partnerships?* Most of the organizations were working in silos and some sort of mistrust was present contributed to by thinking others had better funds and mechanisms. There was a delay of processes due to consultations, for instance in decision making. In addition, it is difficult to meet everyone's expectations and often requires bending some of your policies.
- *What makes the Kenya Flower Council participate in partnership initiatives for example with Imarisha?* Partnerships have given a lot of benefits to the Kenya Flower Council including: building the profile of the membership; learning and sharing; providing strengths in numbers; and increasing the bottom line of our exporters.
- *What would be a good approach in a first meeting with a prospective partner?* Speak a business language by showing what is in it for the private sector. The benefits must be mutual in

terms of financial profit margins and especially partnership with a partner who can lobby and has political clout is desired.

▪ *Lake Naivasha Water Resources User's Association, how do you ensure that your partners continue giving contributions?* We conduct a negotiation between sellers and buyers of environmental services. In these meetings we highlight successes of conservations in the upper catchment areas. We organize quarterly field visits in upper catchment areas where partners can see where they are investing their money which boosts their contributing morale. Ultimately, we share M&E reports and can see the outcomes and impact of their investment.

  o Notably, payment for ecosystem services is a voluntary scheme. We however developed a threshold on how a buyer can contribute based on aspects such as on the amount of abstraction.

▪ *What are the key lessons you can share in terms of building partnerships?* Good leadership and individual commitment is crucial. Also ensure that the organizations address governance issues. It is also important to mix being strategic and being opportunistic.

▪ *How do you deal with defiant stakeholders that don't see the bigger value of partnerships?* It is important to show value to these stakeholders. For example, some stakeholders are not ready to pay for payment for ecosystem services since they argue that they already pay a fee to Water Resources Authority. It is also important to give incentives and allow donors to channel implementation funds through the private sector and not necessarily the government.

  o With the experience of Lake Naivasha Water Resources User's Association: Stakeholders are not defiant, but misinformed. They are not aware of what is happening. In Naivasha, this is done through organizing annual conferences where all stakeholders are invited to share experiences.

▪ *How did you manage to sustain the partnerships after a couple of years?* Open and continuous communication is key in starting and sustaining partnership. This can be done through continuous meetings where findings are reported. Participation from the inception phase is also critical in creating a buy-in.

▪ *Is it possible for the public sector to facilitate partnerships?* The public sector is driven by mandate as anchored in the law. It is therefore important for Civil Society Organizations and the private sector to align their engagements with these mandates so as to get buy in.

4. Suggested future topics for discussion

▪ Climate change
▪ Policies
▪ Water Act 2016 - its implications
▪ Public participation in budget formulation
▪ Water security
▪ Governance of partnerships
▪ Environmental action plans
▪ Water quality
▪ Water conservation
▪ Financing mechanism and resource mobilization
▪ Knowledge management and communication
▪ Gender issues in water

5. Annexes

List of Attendees

- Anne Marie - GIZ/IWASP
- Jennifer Musyoki - GIZ/IWASP
- Japheth Koros - GIZ/IWASP
- Nicholas Abuya- Act Change Transform
- Vincent Ouma - KEWASNET
- Denis Munai - KEWASNET
- Benedict Omondi - KEWASNET
- Johnstone Mulay - KFC
- Enock Kiminta - LANABWRUA
- Kennedy Bwire - WWF Kenya
- Jane Serah Mukundi - MKWEP/ LWF
- Paul Wambugu - KBU/CFAs
- Jack Oduor - Umande Trust
- Joyce Saiko - Neighbors Initiative Alliance
- Jane Chepkonga - KFS
- Sophia Kamau - GIZ
- Daniel Mbandu- CDN/NDC
- Dorcas Njoroge - Kajiado County Government
- Irene Gai - KWAHO
- Eunice Kivuka - CESPAD
- Phoebe M. Orina - WRA
- Mercy Miriti - WASH Alliance Kenya
- Professor Bancy Mati - JKUAT/WARREC
- Lucy Mulenkei - Indigenous Information Network
- Samuel Wakori - KEFRI
- Omeno Suji - BERYL Consultant Limited
- Lucy Kithinji - Rapporteur
- Elizabeth Wambui - Tatu city
- Evelyn Namvua - ABCG
- Barbara Mumbua - WRA
- Martin M. - World Vision Kenya
- Julius Kimani - KENVO

FRESHWATER CONSERVATION AND WASH INTEGRATION COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE MEETING
MAY 15, 2018, EKA HOTEL, NAIROBI

THEME: PARTNERSHIPS FOR WATER SECURITY

AGENDA

Time	Item	Facilitator
8:00am	Arrival and registration	
8:30 – 8:50 am	Opening prayer and Introduction	KEWASNET
8:50 – 9:00 am	Opening remarks • KEWASNET • ABCG	KEWASNET
9:00 – 10:30 am	Water Stewardship Partnerships: • Introduction to partnerships • The Water Risks and Action Framework (WRAF) tools	IWaSP
10:30 – 11:00 am	**TEA BREAK**	
11:00 – 12:00 pm	Monitoring and Communication *"Case of Water Stewardship Partnerships"*	IWaSP
12:00 – 12:40 pm	Innovative Financing Models for Partnerships	WWF
12:40 – 1:00 pm	Experiences from private sector in conservations/partnerships • Kenya Flower Council (KFC) • Coca Cola	KEWASNET
1:00 – 2:00 pm	**LUNCH**	
2:00 – 3:30 pm	**Discussion**: Building partnerships for water security (lessons, experiences and approaches)	IWaSP
3:30 – 4:00 pm	Future engagement for the CoP • Topics for future Discussion	KEWASNET
4:00 pm	**Evening Tea & Close of Meeting**	

Presentations from the Meeting and Select Photos

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/8pj4g1e1d6uws9v/AABwFu58aYYASU8GlHLFgsyza?dl=0