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# WEST AFRICA WATER RESOURCES POLICY

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Elaborated in collaboration with



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Adopted on December 19, 2008



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## Acronyms

ADB	:	African Development Bank
AGRHYMET	:	Centre Régional d'Agrométéorologie et d'Hydrologie opérationnelle
AWF	:	African Water Facility
CILSS	:	Permanent Interstate Committee for drought control in the Sahel
EBID	:	ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development
ECOWAP	:	ECOWAS Agricultural Policy
ECOWAS	:	Economic Community of West African States
FAO	:	Food and Alimentation Organisation
FIDA	:	International Agricultural Development Fund
GWP	:	Global Water Partnership
IWMI	:	International Water Management Institute
IWRM	:	Integrated Water Resources Management
MDG	:	Millenium Development Goals
MFC	:	Ministerial Follow-up Committee
NEPAD	:	New Partnership for Africa's Development
NGO	:	Non Gouvernemental Organisation
PARGIRE	:	Regional Action Plan on IWRM
PASR/AO	:	Programme d'action sous-régional de lutte contre la désertification en Afrique de l'Ouest
PAU	:	Agricultural Policy of the Union
PCAE	:	Politique Commune d'Amélioration de l'Environnement
PDDAA	:	Programme Détaillé de Développement de l'Agriculture Africaine
PEC	:	Common Energy Policy
PFCM	:	Permanent Framework of Coordination and Monitoring
PIC	:	Common Industry Policy (PIC)
PMC	:	Common Mining Policy (PMC)
RADF	:	Regional Agricultural Development Fund
RAID	:	Regionale Association for Irrigation and Drainage
RAIS	:	Regional Agricultural Information System
RCCWR	:	sub-Regional Collaborative Council on water resources
TEC	:	Technical Expert Committee
UEMOA	:	West African Economic and Monetary Union
UNESCO	:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
WADB	:	West African Development Bank
WATAC	:	West African Technical Advisory Committee
WRCC	:	Water Resources Coordination Center

## General context

Poverty in all its forms is the major challenge facing West African countries. Indeed, the fifteen ECOWAS countries rank among the poorest in the world. To take up this challenge, the countries are implementing policies and strategies in order to accelerate growth and reduce poverty according to the ECOWAS vision and the West African vision for water, life and the environment for 2025.

Water is a key factor in socio economic development. Access to water and sanitation, increase in agricultural productivity, pollution control, integrated trans-boundary basin management and development of water infrastructure are indeed key factors in poverty alleviation campaign. West Africa has significant water resources, but suffers from chronic deficits, because of uneven distribution of rainfall and flows in time and space, low mobilization of potential resources and poor management of existing resources.

Water resources management covers various and complex issues such as responding to the people's fundamental needs, anticipating crises and protecting the resource, participation, cost recovery, rapid population growth, increase in environmental degradation and pollution, and threat of a reducing resource. These require the adoption of an integrated management approach, taking account of all the uses of water and involving all the actors concerned.

Interactions are complex between water policy and economic, sector-based, environmental policies, and all those policies are not necessarily consistent.

With the setting up of the Permanent Framework of Coordination and Monitoring of integrated water resources management, the ECOWAS, in collaboration with the UEMOA, and in consultation with all the stakeholders, intends to harmonize and integrate those various policies and to define a water policy framework in West Africa in order to reconcile economic rationality and social equity, economic development and environmental protection.

This regional policy document was prepared in a participatory way<sup>1</sup>: based on individual country water resources mapping and their management framework. A task force was set up to draft a preliminary document, with representatives of sub regional organizations involved in water resources management in West Africa (UEMOA, CILSS)<sup>2</sup>, resource persons recognized for their competence and their authority as regards water management and a team of the ECOWAS Water Resources Coordination Unit. This document was shared with the ECOWAS Regional Collaborative Council on water resources and was discussed in the member states. This process generated a document reflecting regional consensus, which has been validated by the ECOWAS Council of Ministers of water, 15 November 2007.

This document presents the vision, the challenges of a regional water policy, its objectives, guiding principles, main strategic areas of intervention, and the implementation details.

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<sup>1</sup>See Roadmap in Appendix 10.

<sup>2</sup> See appendix 4 : regional institutions

## **Part 1. To manage water efficiently: a strategic issue**

Reducing poverty in all its forms is the major challenge facing countries in West Africa. Indeed, the fifteen ECOWAS Member States rank among the poorest in the world. To take up this challenge, a great number of countries are already implementing national poverty reduction strategies aiming to accelerate growth and reduce poverty up the level of peoples' expectations. Governments in the region, aware of the limitations of national approaches, requested the ECOWAS and the UEMOA to propose an integrated approach with an action plan to deal more effectively with regional poverty.

Studies on the countries' progress towards the MDGS show that the projections in poverty alleviation remain unattainable, precarious and are still too far from what are needed to take up the challenge of the MDGS. Meaningful efforts were made since 1990 to improve access to drinking water, but 40% of the people still did not have access to drinking water in 2004. The situation is even more critical in the field of sanitation, since in 2004, 60% of the people still did not have access to a basic sanitation system<sup>3</sup>.

Achievement of Millennium Development Goals to halve by 2015 the number of people without access to drinking water and sanitation systems will happen by a sustained effort as regards access to water and increased effort as regards sanitation. Efforts will also have to be made about maintenance and improvement of existing infrastructure management.

Progress towards achieving MDGS remains slow and if current trends prevail, some countries in West Africa could not be able to achieve these goals by 2015.

Improvement made to water resources management will contribute to achieving the Millennium Development Goals<sup>4</sup>, according to the ECOWAS vision and the West African vision for water, life and the environment for 2025, mainly through access to water and sanitation, increase in agricultural productivity, pollution control, and development of integrated trans-boundary basin management. Sustainable natural resources management and in particular access to drinking water are determining factors in poverty alleviation.

### **1.1. ECOWAS vision**

The ECOWAS vision<sup>5</sup> is to create:

- a sub region without borders where people have access to the huge resources and enjoy them, creating sustainable production opportunities and jobs, within equitable distribution systems,
- a space where people live in peace in a state of right, good governance and a wealthy environment,
- a space that belongs to the African continental space, in the context of a planetary village, where each human being lives with dignity, enjoying equitable exchanges, mutual solidarity, and guided by shared principles.

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<sup>3</sup> Data UNICEF, 2006.

<sup>4</sup> Appendix 7: Water and Millennium Development Goals.

<sup>5</sup> (ECOWAS, 2007).

ECOWAS aims at integration in the perspective of a democratic, stable, prosperous Africa who shows solidarity. Therefore, the regional building of West Africa contributes to the vision and objectives of African Union.

The ECOWAS vision consists in fulfilling the West Africa integration, not only at the markets' level, but also at the people and countries' level. It is a political and economic integration, aiming at the region's citizens interests.

## **1.2. West African 2025 Vision**

In 1998-1999, under the aegis of the West African Advisory Committee of GWP (GWP-WATAC), the region prepared its regional vision of water by 2025, in consultation with key stakeholders. The vision was presented and discussed at the World Water Forum at The Hague in 2000.

In March 2000, the ECOWAS Council of Ministers of water and environment adopted the "West African Vision of water, life and environment for 2025". It states:

*« In 2025, water resources are managed in an effective and practical way, in a sustainable way for the environment so that each person in the region can have access to safe drinking water for basic needs, waste disposal, food security; poverty is reduced, human health is protected, and biodiversities of terrestrial and aquatic systems are protected. »*

## **1.3. Strategic analysis of the West African context**

The water context in West Africa is presented in appendix 1. The strategic analysis presented below highlights some key issues of the West African water context.

*Table 1: Strategic analysis of the WA context.*

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strong political will to deal with water related problems at the highest level.</li> <li>2. Presence of many regional and international organizations in the water field.</li> <li>3. Experience related to the existence of relatively long -standing basin organizations.</li> <li>4. Experience related to reform processes in water management undertaken in several States.</li> <li>5. Institutional framework reforms due to a strong decentralisation policy in the States.</li> <li>6. Presence of research and capacity building institutions in the water sector</li> </ol>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Insufficient water infrastructure in all the countries in the region and lack of maintenance for existing infrastructure in disaster areas.</li> <li>2. Insufficient coordination of water resources management policies at the national, basin, regional levels.</li> <li>3. Hardly enabling conditions for water mobilization (Climate, relief).</li> <li>4. Degradation of water resources (invasive aquatic weeds, pollution, sand silting).</li> <li>5. Poverty; inadequate financial resources of the people and Governments (Dependence on international aid).</li> <li>6. Insufficient skilled human capacities.</li> <li>7. Insufficient data and information on water resources</li> <li>8. Difficulties to implement the legislative and regulatory texts.</li> <li>9. Institutions instability</li> </ol>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Value adding potential of water resources recognized (e.g. irrigation).</li> <li>2. Consensus on a new method of water management among donors and Governments.</li> <li>3. Synergies created by the policy of integration of regional organizations, in particular of the ECOWAS.</li> <li>4. MDGs related Investments.</li> <li>5. Good local water management practices valorisation.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Threats</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Shocks generated by Global economic environment (fragility of rural economies).</li> <li>2. Climate change and variability.</li> <li>3. Pressure on natural resources resulting from rapid demographic growth (e.g. high increase in water demand; pollution; migrations).</li> <li>4. Non-sustainable methods of natural resources exploitation (forests, coastal zones, fishery resources).</li> <li>5. Political instability.</li> </ol>

West Africa has significant water resources, but suffers from chronic deficits, because of uneven distribution of rainfall and flows in time and space, insufficient knowledge about water resources, low allocation of potential resources and poor resource management.

Water infrastructure is still hardly developed in West Africa. In order to meet the needs of the people as regards access to water and sanitation, improvement of food security, energy supply and environmental protection, infrastructure need to be developed in a collaborative framework. New approaches need to be developed to allow participation of stakeholders.

## **1.4. Challenges**

It arises from the strategic analysis that the key challenges in water resources management in order to meet the regional socioeconomic development goals in a sound environment are as follows:

- better knowledge of surface and underground water resources,
- efficient use of water to support socioeconomic development in the region,
- anticipation of crises the preservation of water resources and related ecosystems,
- implementation of participatory management mechanisms for a better water governance,
- ensure financial sustainability in the water sector.



#### **1.4.1. Better knowledge of surface and underground water resources**

It is important that countries can control the data collection and have data in sufficient quantity and good quality for a better planning and a sustainable management of water resources. This will allow a saving of money in water mobilization investments by building adapted equipments.

#### **1.4.2. Efficient use of water to support socioeconomic development in the region**

In a context of rapid demographic growth, increasing urbanization and standards of living, the management of water resources must:

- meet the fundamental needs of the people as regards access to drinking water and sanitation in order to reduce the water-related diseases,
- improve food security,
- meet the water requirements of industry, energy, transport, tourism, recreation, mining ...
- meet the environmental needs.

At national, basin and sub-regional levels, there is a need to improve and expand water infrastructure to improve living standards in general.

#### **1.4.3. Anticipation of crises and preservation of water resources and related ecosystems**

Observations made in West Africa since the last decades show continuous degradation of water resources, both on the quantitative and qualitative levels. This degradation results in the following symptoms:

- Changes in the hydrological system
- Drying up of water sources
- Increase in the turbidity of rivers
- Siltation/sand silting of river beds and water bodies
- Reduction in ground water reserves and progression of salted intrusions in coastal zones
- Deterioration of the physical, chemical and biological quality of surface water
- Degradation of land due to soil erosion and decrease in soil fertility
- Ecosystems and aquatic biodiversity degradation

A regional water policy should allow :

- to sustainably manage water resources and prevent pollutions,
- to alleviate the environment degradation, the erosion,
- to prevent and manage natural disaster (flooding, drought),
- to anticipate impacts of climate change and variability,
- to prevent and manage conflicts on shared water resources,
- to reinforce cooperation between riparian countries.

#### **1.4.4. Implementation of participatory management mechanisms for a better water governance**

In the past, Governments took responsibility for the overall management of their water resources without consulting stakeholders. This resulted in a vicious circle of unsustainable projects, which are unable to meet the needs of the people, insufficient knowledge of the economic value of water, and people refusal to pay for the water.

Communities are central to the effective and efficient water resources management practices and a regional policy must promote the participation of all the stakeholders, and in particular the civil society, in the needs identification, conception and implementation of solutions and management mechanisms, especially for conflicts monitoring and resolution.

#### **1.4.5. Ensure financial sustainability of the water sector**

The absence of transparency and in particular the lack of accountability for the financial performances in the production and allocation of water resources is often at the root of faulty operations, inappropriate maintenance, financial losses and unreliable service provision. All this lead to substantial subsidies of water services in all the user sectors.

In order to provide hydro agricultural infrastructures, drinking water and sustainable sanitation services, cost recovery is a key factor which must be taken into account.

### **1.5. *Taking up the challenges by regional integration***

West African regional integration institutions have developed various sector-wide policies and strategies (agriculture, energy, environment, mines, industry...). These policies are presented in appendix 5.

It is essential for the water policy and the various regional sector wide policies and strategies to be harmonized and implemented in a consistent manner and this is one of the roles of the regional integration institutions ECOWAS and UEMOA.

Perspectives offered by regional integration can be packaged at three levels as follows<sup>6</sup>:

- Socio-economic planning

Regional socio-economic development goals are formulated to reconcile economic growth, social equity, in particular gender aspect, and environmental sustainability. Country development policies<sup>7</sup> take into account value addition of the water resource.

Management of the overall socio economic development must take into account the water sector. In particular, land and water relations are to be considered together and especially the implication of land pressure on the degradation of water resources.

Regional development takes into account shared water resources.

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<sup>6</sup> See appendix 2 : IWRM and water sector definition

<sup>7</sup>Consider PRSPs at least.

Public laws and policies that are related to water resources, must take into account all the water-related goods and services as well as all the actors concerned, and must be consistent.

- Water resources development

Water resources are developed through the building of needed infrastructure. They are managed in a participatory way, that takes into account the various sectors valorisation and is informed in terms of evaluation, management and planning.

- User Sectors

Management of value adding sectors must be participatory and informed, by taking into account the water resource.

The sectors are:

- Drinking water supply and sanitation,
- Agriculture including biofuels, livestock and fishing,
- Industries, mines and energy, biofuels,
- Environment, biodiversity,
- Tourism, craft industry,
- Navigation – Transport.

## **Part 2. Main directions of the West Africa Regional Water Policy**

### **2.1 General objective**

The general objective of the regional water policy is to contribute to poverty reduction and sustainable development by advising the Community and its Member States on water resources management, reconciling economic development, social equity and environmental protection.

### **2.2 Specific objectives**

The specific objectives of this policy are:

- to foster the development of Community guidelines in terms of water management,
- to support the harmonization and integration of national and regional water related policies,
- to encourage Governments to develop frameworks for water management nationally and in trans-boundary basins in West Africa by taking into account economic development, social equity and environmental protection.

### **2.3 Guiding principles**

Since the conference of Mar del Plata in 1977, various international meetings have taken place to build consensus on the general principles of water resources management, in particular in Dublin and Rio in 1992<sup>8</sup>.

To achieve equitable, efficient and sustainable water resources management by taking into account national and international experiences, the regional policy adopts the following guiding principles:

- **equitable and reasonable sharing of international surface and underground water resources**, a principle according to which each country is entitled to an equitable and reasonable share of water resources to achieve the greatest benefit with the least disadvantages to the other countries ;
- **precaution**, a principle according to which the absence of scientific proof should not lead a decision maker to defer the adoption of measures aimed at preventing a potential health or environmental risk ;
- **prevention**, a principle according to which preventive measures must be taken in all human activities, because the presence of a minor risk or damage to the environment should not be allowed.

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<sup>8</sup> See appendix 3 : Dublin and Rio principles

- **information** and **notice of intent**, a principle according to which all activities likely to generate damage to human and animal health and on the environment must be notified to the government and brought to the attention of the public ;
- **repair** or **polluter – pays** principle, according to which anybody or institution responsible for an incidence of pollution must pay for or repair the damage caused or likely to be caused to the environment ;
- **user-pays** principle, according to which users and recipients participate in the funding of the water sector ;
- **effective governance in water resources management**, a principle according to which all the actors must be involved and empowered in the development and implementation of water resources for balanced management ;
- **gender equality**, principle according to which the interests and contributions of women, men and vulnerable people in the society are taken into account in the formulation of policies, capacity development, planning, and implementation of programmes and overall investments in the water sector ;
- **subsidiarity**, a principle according to which the Community, shall deal with issues and programmes that cannot be treated more effectively at the trans-boundary basin, national or local levels ;
- **supplementarity**, principle which aims, from the perspective of regional integration, at best to exploit the complementarities of economies of Member States based on the current or potential comparative advantages ;
- **solidarity**, principle which aims to ensure the political and social cohesion, within the Community through support to the most disadvantaged people and areas, in order to remove disparities;
- **progressiveness** in the implementation of measures, to take into account the situation and specific interests of each State.
- **partnership**, principle which aims to finding complementarities and synergies with national or intergovernmental organizations, NGOs and associations working in the field of water resources.
- **cooperation**, principle which aims at developing relationship between states, basins organizations, and regional organizations, in order to ensure an integrated and peaceful water resources management.
- **hydrographic basins or aquifers systems management**, a principle according to which the basin or the aquifer is the appropriate framework for planning, developing, managing and protecting water resources.

## **2.4 Strategic areas of intervention**

To achieve the general objective of the regional policy, the following strategic areas of intervention are proposed:

- to reform water governance,
- to promote investments in the water sector,
- to promote regional co-operation and integration in the water sector.

### **2.4.1 To reform water governance**

Water governance refers to the system of rules and institutions which govern the management and use of water resources.

Reform of water governance aims at the development of the current system founded on a sector-wide approach towards an integrated management system that takes into account all the relevant factors and associating all the actors concerned for an equitable sharing and a balanced, ecologically rational and sustainable use of water resources.

The implementation of this intervention area centres around the following lines of intervention: set up an enabling legal and institutional framework, build instruments of economic governance, promote the participation of the private sector, develop water information and knowledge, promote research and capacity building, and support of environmental management programmes.

#### ***2.4.1.1 To set up an enabling legal and institutional framework***

The objective is to promote gradual development of Community legislation on water in West Africa and undertake legal and institutional reforms in countries and basins organizations.

As part of this, the Community shall:

- prepare water related regulatory community texts,
- prepare regional norms and standards,
- support the processes of legal and institutional reforms as regards water resources management at the country level,
- support the processes of integrated water resources management in countries,
- support the popularization and implementation of water related texts .

#### ***2.4.1.2 To build instruments of economic governance***

Effective water governance implies that users are accountable for the use and deterioration of water according to the polluter-pays and user pays approach.

When the user pays principle (“full cost recovery” or “full cost pricing”) is applied, water is sold without subsidises and users pay all the production, distribution and sanitation costs. Implementation of this principle by the majority of users is desirable to support an effective resource management but this should come only if special provisions are made to protect the minority of users who cannot afford the considerable increase in water prices that the implementation of user-pays principle involves.

The Community recommends the application of the polluter-pays and user-pays principle and the development of economic tools such as royalties for water use.

#### ***2.4.1.3 To promote the participation of the private sector***

The Community recommends the creation of an enabling environment for the participation of the private sector, to allow initiatives of the private sector, NGOs and civil society organizations, to supplement the efforts of governments in order to achieve a better service delivery to all the users in the water sector.

#### ***2.4.1.4 To develop water information and knowledge***

We need to improve knowledge about surface and groundwater resources as well as the different water sectors demands. The data gathering networks are deteriorating and this affects the quality and availability of data.

There is a great quantity and diversity of data, information, knowledge and expertise directly or indirectly connected to water and aquatic ecosystems in West Africa. These data are generated by various governmental and nongovernmental stakeholders. The scattered nature of the data does not support their availability, nor their use. It is thus necessary to gather and make the information and data accessible to all the water users. This availability of information is essential within the context of integrated water resources management.

To implement this line of intervention, the Community:

- encourage countries to develop and maintain water data gathering networks and to maintain them,
- encourage countries to promote knowledge about the resource and the global change impact on the evolution and availability of the West Africa water resources,
- set up a regional water observatory in West Africa in order to promote experience and information sharing,
- support the establishment or strengthening of national water information management systems.

#### ***2.4.1.5 To foster research and build capacities***

Applied research and technology development to provide sufficient knowledge on water related issues are necessary to help decision-making.

To make IWRM a success and to implement sustainable and participatory strategies for water resources management, capacities will have to be built within the stakeholders' groups including women. This should include training at the technical and managerial levels.

The Community shall elaborate a regional IWRM capacity building strategy and support research efforts and capacity building in West Africa.

#### ***2.4.1.6 To ensure consideration of environmental dimension***

Aquatic and riparian ecosystems as well as wetlands are recognised for their ecological richness and productivity, their biodiversity and their purification properties. They are subjected to multiple forms of economic exploitation and pleasure activities, which sometimes generate significant stress on these environments.

For a perennial use of rivers and water bodies taking into account the different water uses and in order to guaranty the health of aquatic ecosystems, the environment capacity must be respected. Moreover, actions must be taken in order to protect or restore littoral, rivers and water bodies, their floodplains, and in general the wetlands.

The Community recommends the protection of aquatic ecosystems.

Water quality is of essential concern in West Africa particularly for public health issues and aquatic ecosystems preservation. Waste water disposal without treatment in the seas, rivers and water bodies, have a negative impact on aquatic life and the whole ecosystem. This calls to the respect of norms by all the users.

The Community shall elaborate standards about surface and groundwater quality, liquid disposals, and recommends the development of protection areas for waterholes, rivers and water bodies.

### **2.4.2 To promote investments in the water sector**

Poverty reduction and the promotion of socioeconomic development in the region require investments in water infrastructure, which need enormous appropriations of funds to meet the demands of the various sectors.

To meet the needs of the many users requires strong coordination and close linkages with all the policies and strategies of the sectors in order to develop as much as possible multipurpose infrastructure.

The Community will see to the realization of impact studies and monitor their recommendations.

The Community will foster a close collaboration between and among all the sectors, in particular water supply, rural development, energy, health and environment.

Community action in the various sectors is proposed as follows:

- Drinking water and sanitation: The Community makes sure that countries draw up objectives in relation to the Millennium Development Goals and progress towards achieving these objectives. It supports countries in their search for financing to realise the infrastructure needed to improve people access to drinking water and sanitation.
- Water and food security: The Community identifies centres of production for irrigated agriculture and contributes to the development of these centres; Infrastructure programmes are developed in connection with agricultural policies at the regional and national level. The Community will encourage private investments in support of countries to create, maintain and renew storage and irrigation infrastructure. The



Community will also support the building of hydraulic infrastructure for fishing and breeding activities development.

- Hydro-electricity: Hydroelectricity is a clean and renewable energy source. The Community will promote the development of multi-purpose works (hydroelectricity generation, agricultural water, water supply and sanitation) especially those that are common to several States. The Community will identify sites to be developed at the regional level in the energy sector consistent with the energy and environment policies at the regional and national levels.
- River transport - tourism: The Community shall identify rivers and lakes with a high potential for transport and tourism and support countries to ensure their development.
- Mitigation of environmental risks (floods, droughts, pollution, degradation of ecosystems, sand silting). The Community shall support the construction of protection infrastructure and the implementation of risk mitigation measures. It supports the States in the management of invasive aquatic weeds.

### **2.4.3 To promote regional co-operation and integration**

The objective in this area is to build good relations between countries, basin organisations and regional organisations in order to ensure a collaborative, integrated, sustainable and peaceful water resources management system in West Africa

Thus the Community shall create an enabling environment, to promote collaborative trans-boundary water resources management, to promote co-operation and resource mobilization, to promote crisis and conflicts resolution and prevention mechanisms, to ensure monitoring of international commitments and to promote building and operation of common infrastructure.

#### ***2.4.3.1 To promote collaborative trans-boundary water management***

Shared water resources can be at the root of conflicts among several countries. In this regard, it is always difficult for countries to reconcile demands of national sovereignty with those of solidarity especially for strategic natural resources. On the contrary however, shared water resources can be a factor of co-operation and peace if they are managed collaboratively by the various countries. Indeed, reasonable and equitable use of shared water resources by each country preserves the legitimate right of other users and therefore peace at the regional level. More so, common exploitation of shared water resources contributes to the optimization of resources and reinforces solidarity between countries depending on the same resource.

The Community recommends the establishment of trans-boundary basin organizations that will deal with underground water by developing dialogues.

Existing basin organizations should improve and expand their institutional arrangements to include effective management of groundwater resources

It recommends the development of common projects and activities that integrate social, economic and environmental considerations.

#### ***2.4.3.2 To promote conflict and crisis prevention and resolution mechanisms***

The Community sets up conflict prevention and resolution mechanisms with respect to the use of shared water resources.

It recommends the integration of water issues in the prevention of humanitarian crisis, in particular:

- establishment of water reserves to avoid crisis,
- development of crisis management plans,
- definition and monitoring indicators (early warning).

#### ***2.4.3.3 To ensure monitoring of international commitments implementation***

The Community supports the ratification and implementation of water related Conventions, Treaties, Agreements and Protocols.

It recommends the ratification of the United Nations Convention on the law of the non-navigational uses of international watercourses.

It reinforces the participation of West Africa in international debates on water:

- support for the participation of countries,
- setting up a mechanism to promote regional consensus building,
- taking joint positions,
- building capacities on international agreements.

## **Part 3. Details of implementation**

The regional policy shall be implemented through:

- an institutional arrangement to be set up,
- the mobilization of public and private financial resources,
- a monitoring and evaluation mechanism to be set up collaboratively with ECOWAS, UEMOA and CILSS.

### **3.1 Institutional mechanism**

The institutions and actors involved in the implementation of the regional policy are as follows:

- ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS,
- National and local governments,
- Trans-boundary basin organizations,
- Public (intergovernmental organizations), and private partners, NGOs, training and research organizations,
- Technical and financial partners,
- Users (users associations, producers' organizations).

**The institutional framework of implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the regional policy shall be based on an ECOWAS – UEMOA-CILSS coordination. ECOWAS will be the process leader.**

National and local governments shall ensure implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policy at national and local levels.

Trans-boundary basin organizations shall ensure implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the policy in their respective basins.

Public and private partners, NGOs, training and research organizations shall take part within their respective competences in the implementation of the policy.

Technical and financial partners shall support the implementation of the policy.

Users shall be consulted and involved through suitable mechanisms in the implementation of the policy.

#### ***The Permanent Framework for Coordination and Monitoring***

The ECOWAS Permanent Framework of Coordination and Monitoring (PFCM) of water resources management has a role of promoting, coordinating and ensuring the implementation of the Community policy as regards water resources management in West Africa. Its bodies are:

- The Ministerial follow-up Committee composed of the ministers in charge of water resources in ECOWAS Member States. It is the PFCM decision-making and guidance body;

- The Technical Experts Committee, composed of the focal points that are experts of water resources representing on the one hand the Member States and on the other hand, basin organizations in West Africa. It assists the Ministerial Follow up Committee in its role of PFCM guidance and steering;
- The Regional Collaborative Council on Water Resources (RCCWR), an advisory body, composed of 45 members, representing governments, basin organizations, local governments, partners and the civil society including the private sector.
- The Water Resources Coordination Unit (WRCU), the PFCM executive body.

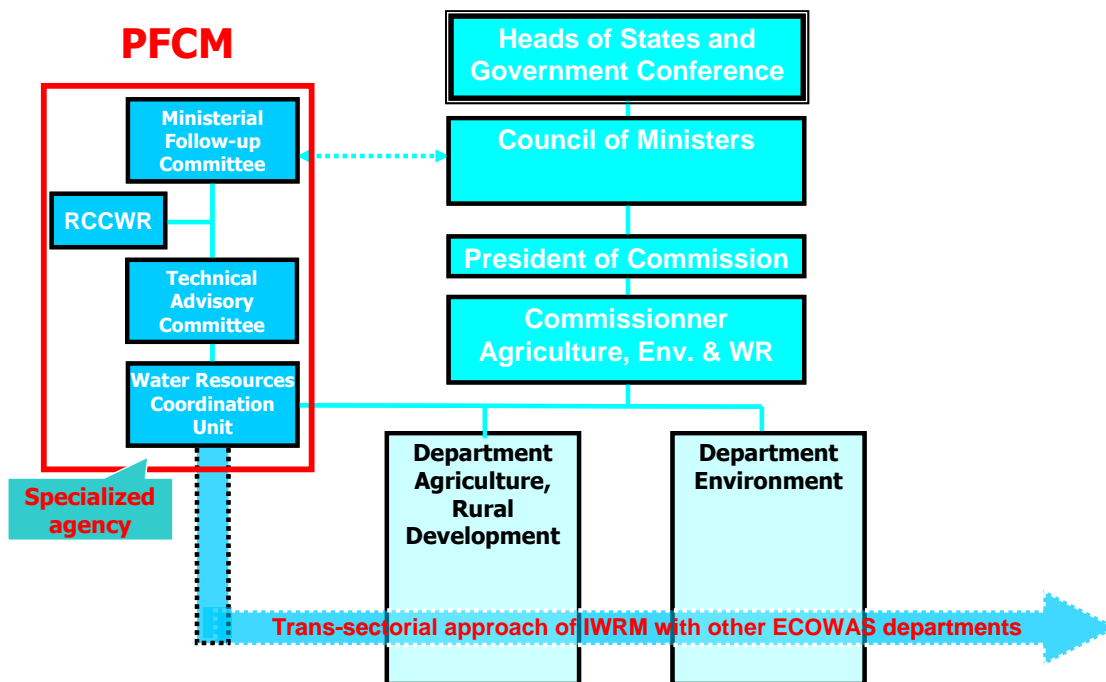


Figure 1: PFCM organization chart

PFCM is the coordination and monitoring body of the regional water policy in collaboration with the Member States and stakeholders. Specific working committees and task forces shall be set up to deal with the multiple themes of regional integration in the field of water management. Recommendations from those committees will be made to the Commission for approval and application in the various sectors.

### 3.2 Financing Instruments

The identification of the challenges to the regional water policy must enable member countries to mobilize political will and the financial resources needed for its implementation. Public and private financing will be coordinated for project and implementation.

The main funding sources are as follows:

- **Resources of the ECOWAS - UEMOA-CILSS and member countries.**

The ECOWAS shall liaise with member countries to allocate financial resources for water in their national budgets, in particular by associating with Members of Parliament.

The ECOWAS shall encourage countries to authorize basin agencies to contract loans directly and to guarantee these loans, in particular through the ECOWAS Bank of Investment and Development (EBID), the West African Development Bank (WADB).

Funding mechanisms set up as part of regional and subregional cooperation will be mobilized, in particular facilities offered by the African Water Facility of the African Development Bank (ADB) and the West African Development Bank (WADB); under consideration as part of implementation of the New partnership for Africa's development (NEPAD).

A Water Facility could be set up inside the EBID.

- **Private sector and civil society**

The ECOWAS, in collaboration with the UEMOA and the CILSS, shall create an enabling environment to foster the participation of the private sector.

- **Resources from users**

The ECOWAS, in collaboration with UEMOA and CILSS, shall encourage the implementation of the user-pays, polluter-pays principle, water cost recovery, and the consideration of costs of maintenance for water infrastructure.

- **Foreign resources**

ECOWAS, in collaboration with UEMOA and CILSS, shall support countries in external fundraising and funds mobilization.

The Community shall build the capacities of studies and project formulation that could have support from:

- International donor agencies,
- UN agencies.

### ***3.3 Monitoring and evaluation mechanism***

ECOWAS, in collaboration with UEMOA and CILSS shall set up tools for monitoring and evaluation for the implementation of the regional water policy through the bodies of the Permanent framework of coordination and monitoring.

Monitoring and evaluation will be supervised by the PFCM Ministerial Follow-up Committee, which meets periodically to review progress made in the implementation of the regional policy and institute necessary reforms.

The Commission shall support a joint programme ( ECOWAS, UEMOA, CILSS) for defining a shortlist of indicators to be used for monitoring the implementation of the regional water policy.

In parallel, ECOWAS in collaboration with UEMOA and CILSS will undertake monitoring of the technical and financial implementation of the Community programmes and projects in the field of water in collaboration with countries, basin agencies and intergovernmental organizations.

Finally, impact studies in specific fields will be carried out in order to make sure that actions taken as part of the regional water policy have a meaningful impact for the people and regional integration.

### ***3.4 Action plan***

ECOWAS, with UEMOA and CILSS, defines an action plan for the implementation of this policy, in particular through the updating of the Regional Action Plan for Integrated Water Resources Management.

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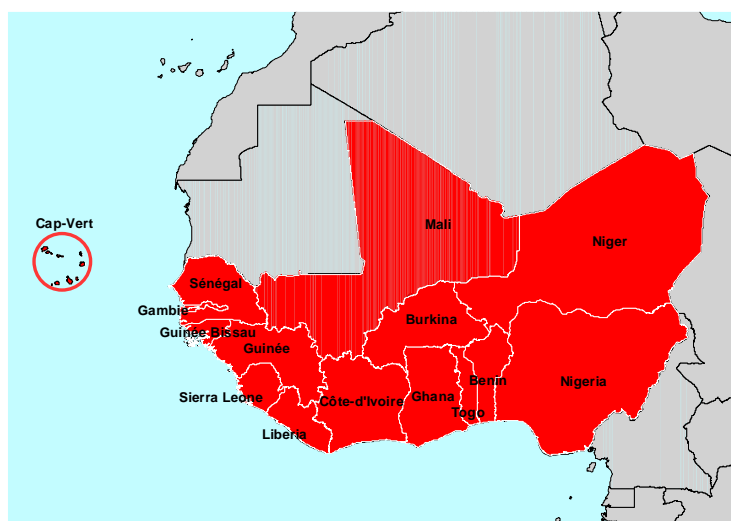
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## Appendix 1: Water resources: West African context

Countries of West Africa<sup>1</sup> (cf figure 1) form a vast set of more than 6 million km<sup>2</sup> and more than 260 million inhabitants. They show notable differences in terms of climate, surface, population, but nevertheless form a homogeneous unit, initially by geology and geography, then by populations, culture, history and socio-economic conditions, and finally by a common will of regional integration.

Figure 1: ECOWAS countries

Pays	Superficie km <sup>2</sup>	Population 2004 million
Bénin	115	8,20
Burkina	274	12,8
Cabo Verde	4,03	0,47
Cote D'Ivoire	322	17,9
The Gambia	11,3	1,50
Ghana	239	21,7
Guinée	246	9,20
Guinée Bissau	36,1	1,50
Liberia	111	2,95
Mali	1241	13,1
Niger	1267	13,5
Nigeria	924	129
Sénégal	197	11,4
Sierra Leone	71,7	5,30
Togo	56,7	6,00
	<b>5115</b>	<b>254</b>



### 1. INSTITUTIONAL CONTEXT

West African region has many agencies dealing with natural resources, environment and economy of subregion and related co-operation. The ECOWAS and the UEMOA deal with political co-operation and subregional integration.

The ECOWAS<sup>2</sup> «*aims to promote co-operation and integration from the perspective of West African economic Union in order to raise the standard of living of its people, to maintain and increase economic stability, to reinforce relations between the Member States and to contribute to progress and development of the African continent* ". The action of the Community will relate in particular to "*the harmonization and coordination of national policies and the promotion of programmes, projects and activities in particular in the fields of agriculture and natural resources, industry, transport and telecommunication, energy, trade, currency and finances..., the harmonization and coordination of policies for environmental protection.* »

As for UEMOA,<sup>3</sup> it has as mission to build a coordination of national sector wide policies, by implementing joint policies or actions inter alia in the following fields: human resources,

<sup>1</sup> West Africa has 16 countries (15 countries in ECOWAS region and Mauritania)

<sup>2</sup> ECOWAS Revised Treaty, 2006.

<sup>3</sup> Amended Treaty of the West African Monetary Union, January 2003.



regional planning, transport and telecommunications, environment, agriculture, energy, industry and mines.

The missions of the ECOWAS and the UEMOA recut in many sectors.

As subregional organizations, the ECOWAS and the UEMOA are legitimately founded and have the duty to develop a joint policy for management of their subregion water resources.

The African Union indicated the ECOWAS as coordination and monitoring structure for the implementation of NEPAD projects in West Africa.

With regard to water resources management, West Africa engaged in a regional process of integrated management, which resulted in the setting up under the aegis of the ECOWAS of a Permanent Framework of Coordination and Monitoring (PFCM) of integrated water resources management. Within this framework, the ECOWAS set up a "Water resources" Department in 2004, the Water Resources Coordination Center" (WRCC). One of the roles of the PFCM is the installation and reinforcement of a dynamics of integration and development of the water sector at the regional level.

## **2. SITUATION OF WATER RESOURCES IN WEST AFRICA**

The area is particularly concerned by the questions of water resource availability. Water is a constant concern for the people, governments and professionals in the sector, confronted with several types of water resources issues, which reinforce mutually to lead to situations prejudicial to socio-economic development: water shortages, waterborne diseases, floods, etc.

In all the countries of West Africa, the issues of water resources water have multiple causes, depending in particular on the difficult environmental conditions (climate, vegetation, land and underground) and limiting human elements (poverty, social and cultural gravities, demography, low technical capabilities). Everywhere, growth of water demand is higher than economic growth and in many places; the needs are already largely higher than the available resources.

West Africa is a much-contrasted region from the rainfall point of view with a clear opposition between areas with a lot of rainfall and arid areas. However, this contrast is strongly attenuated by the configuration of the hydrographic system. The major rivers in the region rise in areas with a lot of rainfall before crossing the Sahelian zones where rainfall deficits were chronic since the early 1970s. This accordingly allows a fresh water transfer from wetlands to arid areas and creates a strong interdependence of the countries with regard to fresh water use and management. These rivers allow a transfer of fresh water from wetlands areas to arid areas, thus creating a strong interdependence of the West African countries with regard to freshwater resources use and management.

## 2.1. COUNTRIES OF WEST AFRICA ARE STRONGLY INTERDEPENDENT AS REGARDS WATER

Although covering less than a quarter of surface of the African continent, West Africa concentrates 25 trans-boundary river basins, that is to say a little less than half of the some 60 rivers found in Africa. With the exception of Cape Verde, each country in the region shares at least one international river. The figure presented below presents the dependency index of the countries. The dependency index represents the total share of renewable water resources of the country produced outside its borders. Niger and Mauritania have about 90% dependency index.

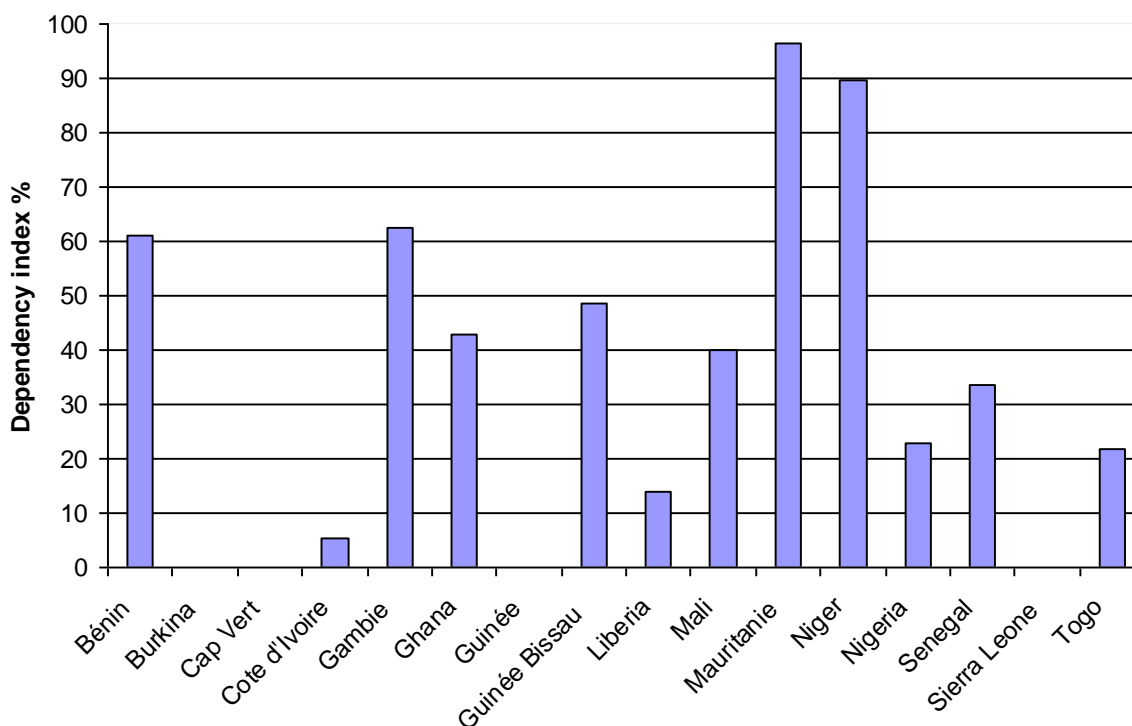
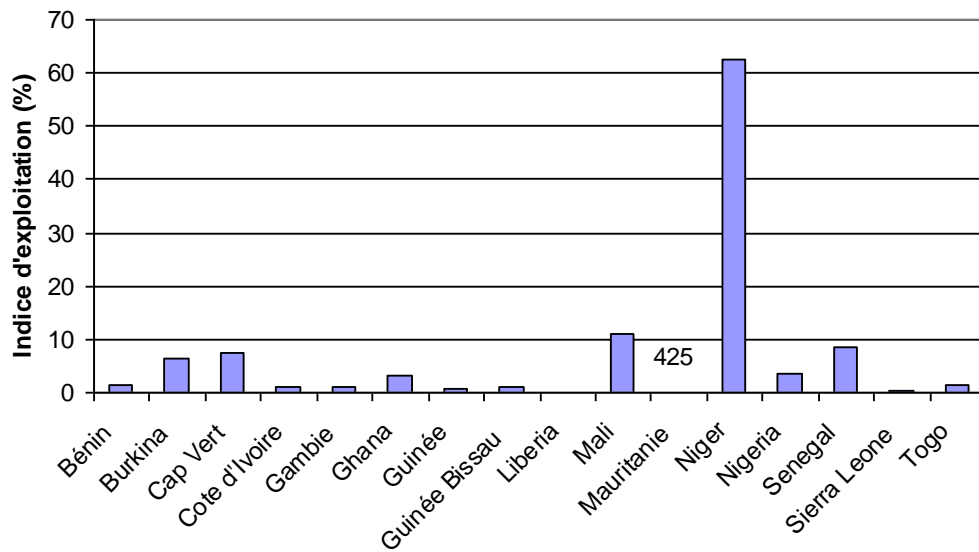


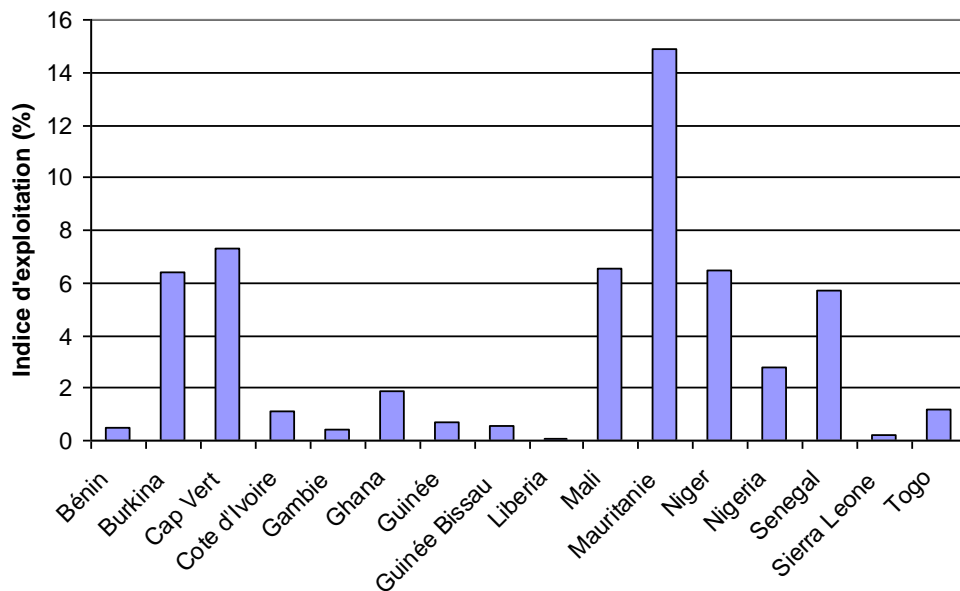
Figure 2: Index of dependence of countries in West Africa (Source : FAO- Aquastat 2005)

## 2.2 STRESS ON WATER RESOURCES WILL ACCENTUATE

The current level of fresh water taking in the West African region (cf. figure 3) represents at this stage only a small proportion (less than 4%) of the total renewable resource availabilities (more than 1000 billion m<sup>3</sup>).



**Figure 3: Index of water resources exploitation in relation to internal renewable resources (source: FAO Aquastat 2005)**



**Figure 4: Index of water resources exploitation in relation to total renewable resources (source: FAO Aquastat 2005)**

However, if the current trends maintain, this level should increase fivefold by 2025 (GWP, 2000).

The West African region, despite considerable water resources, suffers from chronic deficits, because of uneven distribution of rainfall and flows in time and space, low allocation of potential resources and poor existing resources management. If West Africa were to realize its development ambitions, stress on water resources should be even stronger.

### 2.3. ACCESS TO WATER AND THE SANITATION

Meaningful efforts were made since 1990 to improve access to drinking water (cf figure 5), but 40% of the people still did not have access to drinking water in 2004.

The situation is even more critical in the field of sanitation (cf figure 6), since in 2004, 60% of the people still did not have access to a basic sanitation system.

The consequence of low water and sanitation coverage rates is that the majority of the people are affected by water related diseases such as malaria, Guinea worm, cholera, typhoid fever, bilharzias<sup>4</sup>, ...

Achievement of Millennium Development Goals to halve by 2015 the number of people without access to drinking water and sanitation systems will happen by a sustained effort as regards access to water and increased with regard to sanitation.

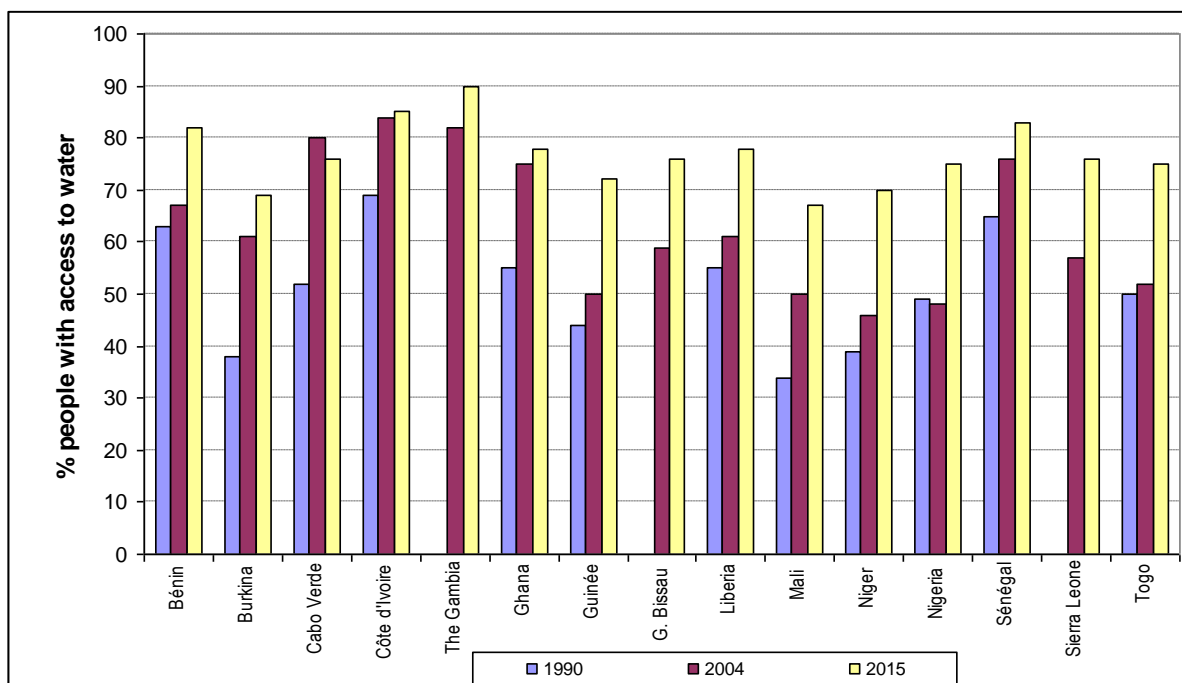


Figure 5: Access to water – Achieving Millennium Development Goals in West Africa<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> GWP, 2000a

<sup>5</sup> UNICEF - Un bilan pour l'eau et l'assainissement, numéro 5, septembre 2006

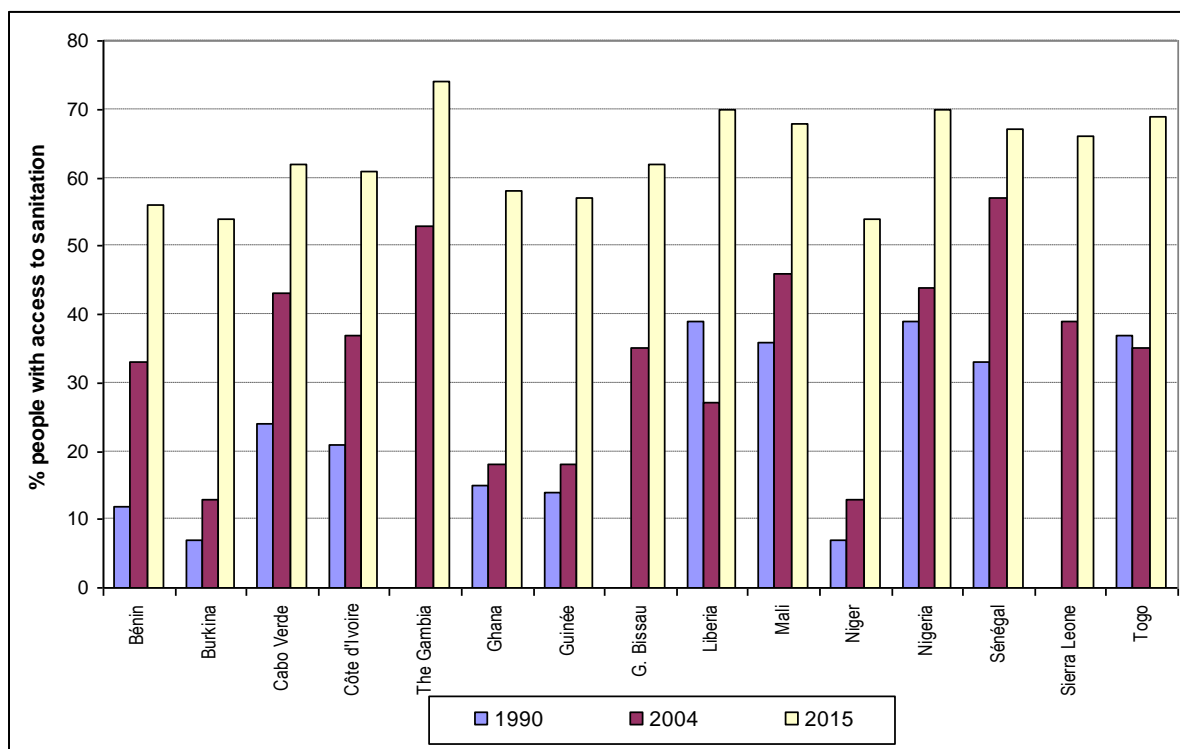


Figure 6: Sanitation – Achieving Millennium Development Goals in West Africa<sup>6</sup>

## 2.4 FOOD AND IRRIGATION

Agriculture is the first source of income for most of the countries in West Africa, where 70% of the rural population depend on food agriculture. Agricultural productivity in West Africa is one of the weakest in the world. Studies show that investments in the management of agricultural water and irrigation are critical to ensure food security and poverty reduction. Food deficit is compensated by imports, which constitute severe levies in the currency resources of countries in the region, in particular during years of low rainfall.

It is deemed that nearly 10% of the potentially irrigable lands are currently irrigated. The potential of development is large. A trend analysis of the evolution of demand for agricultural water by 2025 shows that internal renewable water resources (1000 billion m<sup>3</sup>) would allow a sufficient irrigation to achieve food security in base crops (request estimated at 59 billion m<sup>3</sup>).<sup>7</sup> Constraint to agricultural development in West Africa does not lie with water availability but with the lack of infrastructures to store and transport water to the farms.

## 2.5 HYDROELECTRICITY

A strong dependence on oil products and vulnerability of the energy sector in general, of the poorest rural people in particular, call urgently for allocation of local and renewable energy sources whose financial viability is reinforced with the price rises of oil barrel. Implementing these approaches is restricted neither by the availability of natural resources nor by the maturity of technologies, but by financial barriers instead, these renewable energies having higher capital costs than "diesel generation".

<sup>6</sup> UNICEF - Un bilan pour l'eau et l'assainissement, numéro 5, septembre 2006

<sup>7</sup> GWP, 2000a

Hydroelectric potential in particular is estimated at 25 000MW within the ECOWAS and is exploited only at a total value of 16% (ECOWAS UEMOA, 2005).

The development of interconnections underway will allow to use at best the complementarity of hydraulic and thermal resources as well as to lower the costs of energy for the region. This will benefit particularly the landlocked countries, which depend on thermal sources.

To achieve the Millennium goals as regards access to a modern energy service by 2015, amounts of meaningful investments will have to be mobilized.

## **2.6 ENVIRONMENT**

Improvement of water management, including pollution control and environmental protection are the key factors to maintain the integrity of ecosystems.

The development of integrated river basin management will lead to a situation where ecosystems sustainable management is possible and where impacts upstream and downstream are mitigated.

Biodiversity conservation, desertification control are facilitated by a sound water management.

A regional environmental policy of the ECOWAS is being prepared.

## **2.7 A DEVELOPMENT OF NEEDED INFRASTRUCTURES WITHIN A COLLABORATIVE FRAMEWORK**

While allowing storing fresh water during the surplus seasons and years in order to make it available when needed, dams are effective tools to control water shortages and the often-random character of its distribution in time and space. However, dams affect methods of access to water. If the process of resources re-allocation by dams can contribute to poverty alleviation and social and economic progress, it is likely to generate tensions and conflicts between water users and countries and must necessarily be done in a collaborative context.

Increase in the number of dam building projects, high degree of interdependence of West African countries as regards water, and reduction of availability create an enabling ground for tension around water resources in West Africa.<sup>8</sup> For this reason, countries began since 1998 a collaborative process of integrated water resources management, in particular with the adoption of the Regional Action plan of Integrated Water Resources Management in 2000, which envisage

- the setting up of a regional co-operation framework for water resources management
- The creation or revitalisation of the advisory frameworks between bordering countries for collaborative-shared basin water management.
- Development of national and regional strategies for mobilising financial resources needed for the integrated water resources management.

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<sup>8</sup> Niasse, 2004.

## Appendix 2: Definition of IWRM and the water sector

Integrated water resources management is a process which encourages coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources in order to maximize the economic and social welfare which results thereof in an equitable way, without impairing the sustainability of vital ecosystems (*Global Water Partnership, 2000*).

The "water sector " represents all the means and activities dedicated to water resources allocation and use. The "water sector " thus defined includes all at the same time (i) activities related to water resource allocation and (ii) activities related to water use within the traditional socio-economic sectors (e.g. distribution of drinking water, agriculture, industries).

To address as a whole the water resources issue in West Africa, it would be useless to set out to deal with each cause taken in isolation, as interactions between the causes are strong and complex. These interactions exist not only between various aspects of socio-economic development but also between areas. The eminently trans-boundary nature of water problems, as well as the existence of a common, economic and human regional area, justifies the implementation of an "Integrated Water Resources Management" (IWRM) dynamics, planned at the regional level.

To be effective, water resources management must therefore take into account three perspectives:

- (i) The political perspective for general socio-economic planning (e.g. Governments, local authorities)
- (ii) The perspective of water resources "allocation" (e.g. water administrations)
- (iii) The perspective of "user sectors " of the water resource (e.g. agriculture, energy, WSS, environment...)

This management stated along three perspectives spread on all the scales of territorial political organization (e.g. regional, national, basins, decentralized).

The regional water policy covers all the means and activities dedicated to water resources knowledge, governance, conservation, allocation and use.

It concerns in particular:

- (i) activities relating to knowledge of the resource and its uses,
- (ii) activities related to water resource governance,
- (iii) "upstream" activities impacting on the resource space-time distribution and/or quality with an aim to patrimonial management,
- (iv) "Downstream" activities using water in conversion processes with socio-economic or environmental value adding objectives.

## Appendix 3: Principles of Dublin and Rio

Dublin	Rio <sup>9</sup>
<p>1. Fresh water is a finite and vulnerable resource, essential to maintain life, to development and environment.</p> <p>2. Water development and management must base on a participatory approach, involving the users, planners, and political decision makers at all the levels.</p> <p>3. Women play a central part in water supplying, management and protection.</p> <p>4. Water has an economic value in all its competing uses and it must be recognised as an economic good.</p>	<p>18.68 One can state as follows the main guiding principles to apply for a total and ecologically rational water resources management in rural areas:</p> <p>a) Water must be regarded as a finished resource having an economic value and an unquestionable importance as regards social and economic aspects, considering the need to meet the basic needs;</p> <p>b) Local authorities must be associated through in water resources management; women full fledged participation is particularly necessary, considering the importance of the part they play, daily, in water supplying, management and use;</p> <p>c) Water resources management must come as part of consistent policies in the following fields: I) health; II) food production, conservation and distribution; III) mitigation of effects of disasters; iv) environment protection and conservation of resources base;</p> <p>a) D) The role of rural people, that of women especially, must thus be recognised and supported unreserved.</p>

Tableau 1 : Formulation of the principles for water resources management as adopted in Dublin and Rio.

<sup>9</sup> Agenda 21, French version, chapter 18, page 156.



## **Appendix 4: Regional institutions**

### **1. ECOWAS : THE Economic Community of West African States**

The Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) is a regional group of fifteen countries, founded in 1975. Its mission is to promote economic integration in "all fields of economic activity, particularly industry, transport, telecommunications, energy, agriculture, natural resources, commerce, monetary and financial questions, social and cultural matters..."

The Institutions of the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) are as follows:

- The Commission
- The Community Parliament
- The Community Court OF Justice
- ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development (EBID)

The ECOWAS Commission and the ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development, more often called The Fund are its two main institutions designed to implement policies, pursue a number of programmes and carry out development projects in Member States. Such projects include intra-community road construction and telecommunications; and agricultural, energy and water resources development.

### **2. UEMOA : West African Economic and Monetary Union**

The UEMOA was created by a Treaty signed at Dakar, Senegal, on January 10, 1994 by the Heads of State and Government of Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and Togo. On May 2, 1997, Guinea-Bissau became its eighth member state.

UEMOA is a customs union and monetary union between some of the members of Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). Its objectives are :

- Greater economic competitiveness, through open and competitive markets, along with the rationalization and harmonization of the legal environment
- The convergence of macroeconomic policies and indicators
- The creation of a common market
- The coordination of sectoral policies
- The harmonization of fiscal policies

## **2. CILSS : Permanent Interstate Committee for drought control in the Sahel**

The **permanent Interstate Committee for drought control in the Sahel** (French: *Comité permanent inter-État de lutte contre la sécheresse au Sahel* , abbreviated as *CILSS*) is an international organization of countries in the Sahel.

The Sahel is a transition area between the very dry North and tropical forests on the coast. It mostly displays bushes, herbs and very small trees and does not offer regular harvests to its inhabitants. Main characteristics include:

- a very irregular and little predictable rainfall, from 200 mm to 2500 mm
- predominance of agriculture and husbandry. More than half of the inhabitants are farmers and agriculture contributes more than 40% to the PIB
- high demographic growth (around 3.1%) and high urban growth (around 7%)

The CILSS was created in 1973 during the first great drought in the region with the aim of mobilizing the population in the Sahel and the international community to facilitate urgent need and the organization of works in various domains i.e. rainfed and irrigated agriculture, environment, transport, and communication. In 1995 it centered its activities on basic food security and the use of natural resources.

The executive office is located in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

List of countries that are a member

- Burkina Faso
- Cape Verde
- Gambia
- Guinea-Bissau
- Mali
- Mauritania
- Niger
- Sénégal
- Tchad

## Appendix 5: Regional policies

### 1. REGIONAL POLICIES AT THE ECOWAS LEVEL:

#### 1.1 ECOWAP: COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY: AGRICULTURE – LIVESTOCK – FISHING

« The ECOWAS agricultural policy aims to contribute sustainably to meeting the people's food needs, economic and social development and poverty reduction in the member States" For that, the policy inter alia must allow, "to ensure a sensible intensification of production systems, appropriate to the various agro-ecological contexts, in order to ensure a growth of production while preserving the natural resources. »

The issue of natural resources is clearly taken into account in the regional agricultural policy: indeed, "in addition to labour, West African agricultures firstly mobilise the potential offered by natural resources. Nevertheless, old ecological balances, which allowed maintaining land fertility, are disrupted in multiple situations under the double effect (i) of action of men confronted with increasing densities (land pressures) and (ii) climate changes: reduction in rainfall and increase in its spatial and temporal variability. In the absence of a radical change in the production systems, a significant share of lands is confronted with a reduction in fertility even with forms of aridification. The diversity of agro-ecological contexts results in privileging an approach closest to the ground to support and impel a sustainable conversion of these agricultural production systems. However, this could not be enough. **Some dimensions of the essential transformations in agricultures must be considered regionally: they are problems relating to sharing water resources and to managing the investments made for a control of common water (underground waters and river water),** this means managing the impacts on neighbouring countries of national natural resources management strategies. Natural resources management, environmental protection and implementation of strategies of sustainable agricultural surfaces development, which are mainly national level, must find regionally common extensions and approaches. This is mainly the case of rivers management and allocation, which can cause risks of very bad conflicts between the countries. »<sup>10</sup>

Thus the "Regional 2006-2010 Action plan for the implementation of the ECOWAS Agricultural Policy (ECOWAP) and the PDDAA/NEPAD in West Africa" <sup>11</sup> recognises the promotion of water harnessing as an intervention programme towards achieving the objective "Improving productivity and competitiveness of agriculture" through a modernization and a securisation of farms.

With regard to the fishing sector, the regional policy also integrates the problematic of water resources: "The policy will introduce management actions and measures to ensure resources conservation and protection including joint monitoring, control and surveillance; joint research activities one trans-boundary (shared) aquatic resources and joint management of the resources; capacity building; exchange and sharing of information; technology transfer;

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<sup>10</sup> ECOWAS, 2004.

<sup>11</sup> ECOWAS, 2005a.

strengthening fish quality management programmes; improving legislation and enforcement; and encouraging meaningful investments in the sectors. "

## **2. REGIONAL POLICIES AT THE UEMOA :**

### **2.1. THE AGRICULTURAL POLICY OF THE UNION (PAU),**

The Authority of Heads of State and Government adopted the Agricultural Policy of the Union (PAU) on 19 December 2001, through additional Act n°03/2001<sup>12</sup>.

This policy aims to contribute, in a sustainable way, to the satisfaction of people food needs, to economic and social development of the Member States and to poverty reduction.

The PAU structures around three large areas of intervention:

- Adaptation of the production systems and improvement of the production environment;
- deepening the Common Market in the agricultural sector and shared resources management
- And integration of agriculture of UEMOA subregion in the regional and global markets

The implementation of PAU began in 2002, as part of a triennial work programme, 2002-2004, whose execution is continuing until now, taking into account the difficulties of financial resources mobilisation within the needed times.

The UEMOA Commission is gradually setting up the instruments of implementation envisaged in the Additional Act (Regional Agricultural Development Fund - RADF- created in 2006, installation of regional Consultative Committees, and pilot phase of the Regional Agricultural Information system - RAIS).

The UEMOA Commission also prepared several Community rules and regulations, relating to the implementation of PAU main lines, including those which some were adopted in 2006 and 2007 (texts on the harmonisation of veterinary medicinal products, texts on the harmonisation of medical standards, master plan of priority agricultural subsectors, collaborative fishing and aquaculture development plan, etc). Other texts are in preparations, including some in collaboration with the ECOWAS Commission (texts on the harmonisation of seed-bearer legislations and the homologation of pesticides).

### **2.2. ENERGY**

The Authority of Heads of State and Government adopted the Common Energy Policy (PEC) on 19 December 2001 through additional Act n°04/2001<sup>13</sup>; it includes six (06) essential objectives:

- To guarantee the safety of Union energy supply;

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<sup>12</sup> [http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2001/acte\\_additionnel\\_03\\_2001.htm](http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2001/acte_additionnel_03_2001.htm)

<sup>13</sup> [http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2001/acte\\_additionnel\\_04\\_2001.htm](http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2001/acte_additionnel_04_2001.htm)

- To add value and to ensure Union optimal energy resources management by systematising interconnection of electrical supply networks and creation of Community works;
- To promote renewable energies;
- To promote energy effectiveness;
- To develop and improve access of Union rural populations to energy services;
- To contribute to the protection of environment.

### **2.3. MINES**

The UEMOA Authority of Heads of State and Government adopted the Common Mining Policy (PMC) on 14 December 2000, through Additional Act n°1/2000<sup>14</sup>. In order to make mining sector a powerful lever of socio-economic development for its Member States while enabling the development of important and varied mining potential that contains the Community soil and subsoil, this policy has as major objectives:

- introduction of an enabling business environment for mining investments;
- diversification of mining production;
- on site processing of mineral substances;
- industrial mines - mining craft industry coexistence
- In addition (v) protection of the environment.

### **2.4. INDUSTRY**

The Authority of UEMOA Heads of State and Government adopted the UEMOA Common Industry Policy (PIC) on 8 December 1999, through Additional Act n°05/1999<sup>15</sup>. The UEMOA Common Industry Policy has as specific objectives:

- to ensure and consolidate the competitiveness of Union industrial companies;
- to accelerate adaptation of the Union industry to the structural changes underway;
- To preserve and build the capacities of export of the Member States, as part of new global trade order.
- to foster installation of an enabling environment for private initiatives, establishment and development of companies, in particular SMEs;
- to support construction within the Union of an industrial base strongly integrated while resting, in particular, on SMEs;
- To support diversification and densification of Union industrial base.

### **2.5. CRAFT INDUSTRY**

The UEMOA Authority of Heads of State and Government adopted a Policy for the Promotion of Craft industry on 19 December 2001, through Additional Act n°5/2001<sup>16</sup>. This Policy aims to:

- improve the effectiveness and competitiveness of companies in the craft industry sector;
- add value to local raw materials and cultural inheritance of the Union States;

<sup>14</sup> [http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2000/AA\\_01\\_2000.htm](http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2000/AA_01_2000.htm)

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.uemoa.int/actes/dec99/AA0599.htm> et <http://www.uemoa.int/actes/dec99/picindex.htm>

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2001/acte\\_additionnel\\_05\\_2001.htm](http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2001/acte_additionnel_05_2001.htm)

- harmonise the regulatory frameworks of activities of the craft industry;
- improve the contribution of the craft industry sector to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP)

## **2.6. REGIONAL PLANNING**

The Authority of UEMOA Heads of State and Government adopted the UEMOA Community Regional planning Policy on 10 January 2004, through Additional Act n°03/2004<sup>17</sup>. This Policy aims in the long term, the construction of a stronger and interdependent Union, attractive and competitive, with a regional market in which each State optimises, in complementarity, its comparative advantages. It includes four large areas of interventions:

- Promotion of Community regional planning in the public policies of Member States;
- Acceleration of collaborative creation of large Community interest infrastructures and facilities as well as definition of a regional urban infrastructure;
- Region driven development of the Union potentialities to reinforce complementarity, competitiveness and better integration of Member States in regional and global economy;
- Development of Community solidarity and strengthening social cohesion.

## **2.7. TOURISM**

The UEMOA Commission is working out a Common Policy of Tourism, which would structure around four major areas:

- To reinforce tourist offer, visibility and attractiveness of destination, to develop regional market;
- To develop competitiveness for access to the UEMOA tourist destinations and inside its zone;
- To establish a harmonised and incentive regulatory, legal and tax framework for investments and enabling competitiveness of the regional tourist offer;
- To build the capacities and the organisation of players and to support the emergence of a Union-wide tourist inter-profession;
- To develop a regional market of tourism.

# **3. COMMON POLICIES AND STRATEGIES**

## **3.1. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY**

ECOWAS and UEMOA currently collaborate in the development of a Common Environment Improvement Policy (PCAE), which aims to reverse the heavy tendencies of degradation and reduction of natural resources, to reverse the degradation of habitats and qualities of life and to maintain biodiversity.

An ECOWAS – UEMOA common study of the main trends of the PCAE is currently being finalised and will serve as a basis for the development of the additional act, which should be adopted at the end of 2007.

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<sup>17</sup> [http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2004/CCE/acte\\_additionnel\\_03\\_2004.htm](http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2004/CCE/acte_additionnel_03_2004.htm) et <http://www.uemoa.int/actes/2004/CCE/CadrPolAmenTerrit.pdf>

## 3.2 ENERGY WHITE PAPER

### Vision and objective of the regional policy

The Member States and the Region decided to engage in an ambitious regional policy increasing access to modern energy services. They set themselves as objective, by 2015, to allow at least half of the population to reach modern energy services. This objective results in access to modern energy services for 36 million additional homes and more than 49.000 additional localities, that is to say a multiplication by four compared to the number of people served in 2005.

### Specific objectives

The regional policy centres around three specific objectives:

- **Objective 1: Strengthening regional integration**, through the pooling of the best practices, experience sharing, a regional information system, the development of transnational co-operation, which will be in particular used to feed capacity development and strengthening.

This objective, which corresponds to one of the essential missions, entrusted to ECOWAS and UEMOA institutions, will allow to better capitalising country complementarities.

- **Objective 2: Promoting harmonised political and institutional frameworks** (i.e. PRSPs, MDGs monitoring framework...) **integrating access to energy services as one of the country priorities to ensure a human development and to achieve MDGs.**

The existence of such political and institutional frameworks resting on consideration of the crosscutting nature of energy function, through a multisectoral process of formulation should allow the concerned policies to have financial means needed for the necessary scaling to achieve the MDGs in 2015.

Moreover, the coherence of political frameworks of Member States will facilitate the constitution of a mobilising regional market for the required investments, thus creating the conditions needed for an increased support of development partners.

- **Objective 3: Development**, on the basis of country political frameworks, **of consistent energy programmes and centered on poverty reduction in rural and périurban areas, and achieving MDGs**

These energy programmes will bring into focus:

- The development of productive activities, in particular those related to value adding and processing of agro pastoral productions for urban markets,
- The modernisation of basic social services (health, education, water...) and improvement of living conditions,
- The status of women, prone disproportionately to all dimensions of poverty, in particular in terms of health (i.e. heaviness of wood and water collection and transport odd jobs).

### **3.3 PASR: DESERTIFICATION CONTROL**

The subregional Desertification Control Action plan in West Africa and Chad (PASR/AO) CILSS-ECOWAS<sup>18</sup> came into force in 1999 and aims to develop subregional co-operation as regards rational shared natural resources management and to contribute to sustainable development of West African countries in order to ensure food security, energy security, and economic growth.

To achieve this goal, the PASR/AO must allow:

- Harmonising, supplementing and making Country Action Plans (CAP) more effective;
- defining and implementing subregional strategies in the long run to control desertification more effectively and to mitigate the effects of drought;
- supporting players of the subregion in their efforts of shared resources management and realising joint programmes decided by common agreement, in partnership with players.

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<sup>18</sup> Download the PASER/AO document at <http://www.hubrural.org/pdf/pasr-cilss-cedeao.pdf>



## Appendix 6: Ouagadougou statement

*Statement of Ministers and Heads of delegations in charge of water resources having participated to the West African conference on integrated water resources management held in Ouagadougou from 3 to 5 march 1998.*

We, the Ministers and Heads of Delegations, responsible for water resources and participating in the West African Conference on Integrated Water Resources Management held in Ouagadougou from 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> March 1998, having considered the different aspects of present water resources management in our countries, particularly the following main issues:

- Formulation of policies, legislation, regulations, standardisation and their implementation within the appropriate institutional framework;
- Development of capacity, including instruments for planning, co-ordination and evaluation;
- Decentralisation and de-concentration, participatory approaches, and the role of users, stakeholder groups and civil society
- Regional conventions and their implication for national legislation;
- Consultation among West African countries on shared basins;
- Scientific and technical co-operation: education and training, studies, research, information exchange between laboratories, etc.;

Acknowledging that our countries are confronted with various problems related to water, which increase over the years, and lead to situations which constrain their economic and social development: water shortage, water related diseases, floods, etc.

Acknowledging that the main causes of these problems are: Rapid population growth, poverty, drought and desertification, sub-sectoral management of water resources, etc.

Acknowledging that the solution to these severe problems necessarily call for integrated water resources management, an action plan for the water sector, and concerted action by the African countries following the main principles of water resources management outlined in the document “**Agenda 21**” from the United Nations’ Conference on Environment and Development in Rio.

Stressing the lack of follow-up in the implementation of several declarations already adopted on management of our water resources

Convinced that integrated management of our water resources is an important factor for sustainable development of our countries.

Urge our governments to:

- Implement in our respective countries a process of integrated water resources management based on National Water Action Plans;
- Create a framework for regional co-operation on integrated water resources management; harmonisation of policies and legislation on water issues and exchange of experience;
- Create or re-vitalise the consultative frameworks between riparian countries for joint management of shared basins;
- Prepare national and regional strategies for mobilisation of financial resources required for integrated water resources management.

Express our recognition to bilateral and multilateral co-operation partners for their efforts already made for the benefit of our people in their daily struggle for a better life

Call on our partners for development for technical and financial support to meet the important challenge of integrated water resources management, in particular concerning the knowledge and management of the resources, and the establishment of regional co-operation and a water partnership.

Decide to establish a follow-up committee at ministerial level, responsible for making the recommendations of the Ouagadougou Conference operational, and mandate the Government of Burkina Faso to take the initiative to convene the first meeting of the follow-up committee.

Mandate the Government of Burkina Faso to present this Statement, as well as the conclusions of the West African Conference on Integrated Water Resources Management, at the international conference "Water and Sustainable Development" in Paris.

**Adopted the 5 March 1998 by the Ministers of Burkina Faso, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Senegal, and the Heads of delegations from Benin, Gambia, Guinea, Liberia, Mauritania, Nigeria, and Togo.**

## Appendix 7: Water and Millennium Development Goals<sup>19</sup>

<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Poverty</b> To halve the number of people whose income is lower than 1\$/day.	<input type="checkbox"/> Water is an input in agriculture, industry and many other types of economic activities. <input type="checkbox"/> Investments in water infrastructures and services are catalysts of local and regional development. <input type="checkbox"/> A lesser vulnerability to water related risks reduces hazards in investment and production. <input type="checkbox"/> A lesser degradation of ecosystems makes surer systems of subsistence for the poor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <input type="checkbox"/> A better health increases the capacities to produce and reduces the burdens weighing on those who take care of the patients.</li> </ul>
<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Hunger</b> To halve the number of citizens in the world who suffer from the hunger.	<input type="checkbox"/> Water is a direct input of irrigation for an increased production. <input type="checkbox"/> Reliable water for subsistence agriculture, kitchen gardens, husbandry, fruit trees. <input type="checkbox"/> A sustainable production of fish, fruits and other food made from Community resources (also affects poverty when products are sold to generate incomes). <input type="checkbox"/> A reduction of hunger in urban areas thanks to less expensive food products. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People in good health are ready to absorb the nutritive substances in food than those suffering of water related diseases, particularly worms.</li> </ul>
<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Primary education</b> To make sure that everywhere in the world children will have the possibility to follow a complete cycle of primary studies.	<input type="checkbox"/> Improvement in school attendance thanks to a better health and thanks to reduction of water chores, especially for girls. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The availability of separate sanitary facilities for girls and boys in schools increases the girls schooling</li> </ul>
<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Gender Equality</b> To make sure that boys and girls have access to primary education and secondary education in the same way.	<input type="checkbox"/> Water management organisations within the grassroots communities contribute to the improvement of women's share capital. <input type="checkbox"/> A reduction of burdens with respect to time, health, and care thanks to better water services allows women to spend more time on production work, adults training, empowerment activities and spare time. <input type="checkbox"/> Thanks to water points and sanitary facilities nearby the residences, women and girls are less exposed to risks of sexual harassment and aggressions when they go to draw water or want to preserve their privacy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in child's survival rate is precursory of demographic transition towards a reduced fertility rate; the fact of having less children reduces women reproductive duties</li> </ul>
<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Infant mortality</b> To reduce two-thirds death rate of the children less than 5 years.	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase in water quality and quantity and domestic sanitation reduces the main factor of child mortality and morbidity. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement in nutrition and food will reduce predisposition to diseases.</li> </ul>
<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Maternal mortality</b> To reduce three-quarter of maternal death rate	<input type="checkbox"/> Improvement in health and reduction of the burden of water duties reduces mortality risks. <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement in nutrition and food reduces predisposition to anaemia and other conditions affecting maternal mortality. <input type="checkbox"/> Access to pure water in sufficient quantity for washing before and after childbirth reduces the number of serious infections. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase in the rate of child survival is precursory of the demographic transition towards a reduced fertility rate, and reduction of the number of pregnancies per woman causes reduction of maternal</li> </ul>

<sup>19</sup> This information was taken from the interim report of Water and Sanitation Task Force on the Millennium Project

	mortality.
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<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Serious illnesses</b> <input type="checkbox"/> To halve, stop and have started reversing the spreading of HIV/AIDS, the plague of malaria and all the other serious illnesses	<input type="checkbox"/> A better water management restricts the mosquito-breeding habitat and the incidence of malaria. <input type="checkbox"/> A better water management restricts the frequency of many other water related diseases. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A better health and a better nutrition reduce predisposition to - or seriousness – of HIV/AIDS and other serious diseases</li> </ul>

<b>Millennium Development Goal by 2015</b>	<b>Contribution of improvement made in water resources management and access to drinking water supply and sanitation</b>
<b>Environmental sustainability</b> To stop unsustainable exploitation of natural resources and to halve the number of citizens in the world without access who do not have access to or cannot afford safe drinking water..	<input type="checkbox"/> An improvement in water management, including pollution control and water conservation are the key factors to maintain the integrity of ecosystems. <input type="checkbox"/> Development of integrated river basins management will lead to a situation where sustainable ecosystems management is possible and where upstream and downstream impacts are mitigated. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation of biodiversity, desertification control are facilitated by a sound water management</li> </ul>

## **Appendix 8: Main initiatives of the donors**

### African Water Facility<sup>20</sup>

The African Water Facility (AWF) is an initiative led by the African Ministerial Council on Water (AMCOW), intended to mobilise resources for funding activities of water resources development in Africa. The Facility was established in the background of the African Vision of water and the Millennium Development Goals. The African Development Bank manages the Facility at the request of AMCOW.

The goal of the Facility is the pooling of donors resources to finance the water infrastructures and activities suitable to facilitate investment in the water sector in Africa. Amounts of funds allocated range from 50.000 to 5 Million Euros per project. These investments are intended as lever to mobilise other resources.

The level of poverty coupled with a slow economic growth and high levels of debt prevent investments in the development of water resources. Preliminary evaluation in Africa shows that an average investment of 20 billion \$US per annum is needed in the next 25 years to achieve the Millennium Goals and the goals of the African Water Vision. Current engagements are insufficient to satisfy these needs, and the projected funding tendencies are not very likely to be sufficient unless important reforms are undertaken. Constraints related to direct foreign investment and international funding lead to the consideration of making collaborative efforts for resources mobilisation with banks and local financial institutions so that they can invest in the field of water.

This funding gap is a critical factor at the origin of the AWF setting up. According to these needs, the Facility focuses on improving the environment to allow attracting of massive investments needed to achieve the regional goals in the water sector and to carry out the appropriate and strategic investments in this sector.

### European Union

The European Union launched in 2002 in Johannesburg the European Water initiative. It aims to participate in the realisation of MDGs by priority inscription of this sector in the national policies, strengthening of co-operation between financial donors and beneficiaries as well as a greater effectiveness of financial mechanisms. It in addition launched a European Water Facility to support implementation of the European Water initiative. This budgetary facility is dedicated to countries in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. 500 Million € was allocated in March 2004

### The World Bank

The World Bank set out to implement the proposals put forth by the Camdessus panel, in particular the creation of new funding tools and risk hedge mechanisms. It weighs in addition

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<sup>20</sup> AWF, 2005.

the key role of infrastructures in the field of water and sanitation and the need for significant aid increases in this field to achieve the Millennium Goals.

### NEPAD

The regional water policy is consistent with the NEPAD action plan, whose implementation is ensured by the ECOWAS for West Africa. Financings may be obtained as part of the NEPAD.

## Appendix 9: Cost Estimate

### Water and Sanitation :

According to the various official estimates of the investment requirements to achieve the objectives at horizon 2015 and 2025, current financial flows are far from being adequate. The resources devoted each year to investments in this sector in developing countries will have to double<sup>21</sup>.

No funding source will be able alone to fill the gap. Water profits from several funding sources and an effort of all will be necessary. Currently, States, official development aid organizations and multilateral funding organizations at the origin of most of the investments. Cash coming from the receipts of water-companies generally only cover one part of the recurring expenditure and seldom contributes to investment.

At the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto in March 2003, the world panel chaired by Michel Camdessus presented the report "To finance water for all". This report advises donors in particular to double their funding in this sector, to better measure the impact of aid, to increase its effectiveness and finally to seek a better action leverage of official aid on the other funding sources.

### Irrigation :

More than 130 experts of 32 African countries and their development partners met in Ouagadougou, from 26 to 28 March 2007 to promote hydro-agricultural development (DHA), strategic planning, and preparation of investments in order to rekindle interest for DHA in sub-Saharan Africa. The meeting was convened by five development partners - ADB, FAO, IFAD, IWMI and the World Bank at the conclusion of a joint report on "Investment in agricultural water resources for poverty reduction and economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa" as part of their Collaborative Programme of DHA. The meeting was hosted by ARID.<sup>2</sup>

Participants pointed out in particular that the existing potential allows multiplying to some extent by five irrigated surface, but that constraints on this development are especially economic and institutional order. They advised increasing investments in hydro-agricultural development and only in sustainable and viable projects, designed for maximum profitability, poverty reduction, and growth.

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<sup>21</sup> Camdessus, 2003.

# **Appendix 10: Roadmap for developing the regional water policy.**

## **1. BACKGROUND**

Definition of a regional water policy lies in the heart of the strategy advocated by the Permanent Framework of Coordination and Monitoring (PFCM) of IWRM in West Africa, in particular with a view to manage to set up an integration framework allowing the countries and the basins in the region to move faster and collaboratively towards IWRM implementation.

The WRCC engaged this activity by commissioning studies in particular of situation analysis in the countries and a regional executive summary.

Collaboration set up between the ECOWAS and the UEMOA towards the development of the regional policy, from the perspective of formulating and implementing a regional water policy common to both organisations in West Africa.

## **2. METHODOLOGICAL APPROACH**

Elaboration of the policy document obeyed a participatory approach, according to the stages presented below.

### **2.1 DEVELOPMENT OF A WORKING PAPER**

The WRCC produced a working paper based on elements taken in the situation analysis in the various countries, the regional executive summary and the West African Vision of Water 2025.

### **2.2 ELABORATION OF A PRELIMINARY DOCUMENT**

A task force was set up and prepared a preliminary document based on working paper proposed by the WRCC.

#### **Task Force :**

It gathers WRCC executives, representatives of subregional organizations involved in water resources management in West Africa (in particular, the UEMOA and CILSS) and renown persons recognized for their competence and their authority as regards water resources management related issues in West Africa.

Members of the Task force are:

- Resource People



- Dorm Adzobu, Professor, Ghana ;
  - Lekan Oyebande, Professor Nigeria ;
  - Abel Afouda, Professor, Benin ;
  - Athanasse Compaoré, Consultant, Burkina
  - Yamar Mbodj, NEPAD Advisor, ECOWAS ;
  - Daniel Zimmer, Executive director of the World Water Council ;
  - Madiodio Niasse, Consultant, President of GWP/WAWP
  - Abou Amani, UNESCO-Accra ;
- 2 representatives of the UEMOA (WAEMU);
    - Issiaka Hachimou, Environment Officer,
    - Jean René Cuzon, Technical assistant to the Department of Rural Development, Natural resources and Environment (DDRE)
- 1 representative of CILSS ;
    - Keffing Sissoko ;
- Executives of the WRCC :
    - Rui Silva ;
    - Innocent Ouédraogo ;
    - Mahamane Dédéou Touré ;
    - Liberator Doscof Aho ;
    - Florence Ardorino.

The preliminary document is shared with the members of the Subregional Collaborative Council on water resources (RCCWR) and the Technical Experts Committee (TEC).

### **2.3 SHARING PRELIMINARY DOCUMENT AT THE LEVEL OF COUNTRIES**

The preliminary document is shared at the level of ECOWAS Member States through national focal points and members of the regional consultation council.

Focal points will disseminate the document at national level and will be in charge of organising a large consultation with local communities, country water partnerships, NGOs and socio-professional organisations involved in water resources management.

At the close of national workshops, comments are taken into account and a project document is produced.

### **2.4 REGIONAL WORKSHOP ON VALIDATION OF THE PROJECT DOCUMENT**

It gathers representatives of national institutions involved in the development and implementation of country water policies in ECOWAS Member States, representatives of basin organizations, subregional organizations involved in water resources management, the GWP/WAWP, NGOs, subregional social and occupational organisations, and development partners.

The objective of this workshop is to consider and validate the draft policy document reviewed in the light of observations made in the countries.

## **2.5 APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT DOCUMENT BY THE PFCM BODIES**

The draft document shall be submitted for approval to the Technical Experts Committee (TEC) and the Ministerial Follow up Committee (MFC).

## **3. ADOPTION OF THE REGIONAL WATER POLICY**

For a regional policy document to commit States and basin Organizations, it has to be adopted formally at Community level to acquire a legal validity.

With regard to the legal system in force in the ECOWAS, an additional act appears as the most suitable form. An additional act is a provision, which supplements the Treaty and appended to it. It is made by the Authority of Heads of State and Government.

The Regional Water Policy Document will have thus to be adopted by the Authority of Heads of State and Government and will come into force after its publication by the Commission in the Community Official Journal.

## **4. PLANNING**

Agenda for development and adoption of the Regional Water Policy articulates as follows :

- 1<sup>st</sup> fortnight of March 2007: WRCC In-house thought sharing meeting;
- March - April: Development of a working paper;
- 2<sup>nd</sup> fortnight April: Meeting of the Task force;
- 30 April – 11 May: Finalization and translation of the preliminary document;
- 12 – 18 May: Exchanges between members of the Task force on the preliminary document;
- 21 – 31 May: Integration of comments;
- 4 June – 30 July : Exchange with partners : TAC, RCCWR and national consultations;
- 1 – 18 August : Integration of comments;
- Early September : Convention of the Regional Validation Workshop;
- 16 September : Transmission of document to the TEC, the Ministerial Follow up Committee (MFC);

- Mid October : Submission of document to PFCM authorities (TEC, MFC) ;
- December: Submission of the document to the Summit of ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government.

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