



Stockholm Resilience Centre
Sustainability Science for Biosphere Stewardship



Stockholm
University



THE SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT
GOALS
CENTER FOR
AFRICA

EXPERT WORKSHOP

”ANSWERING THE CALL FOR AN AFRICAN WATER REVOLUTION”

27th – 28th June 2018

Serena Hotel, Kigali, Rwanda

Africa faces rising water challenges due to higher demand caused by rapid population growth, urbanization, increasing food demands, depletion of natural water resources and climate change. Close to 70% of people living in Sub-Saharan Africa are engaged in rain-fed subsistence farming and facing increasingly variable rainfall patterns. One third of people across the continent are currently facing food insecurity, and there is an urgent need to solve the hunger crisis.

There is a unique opportunity to achieve water resilience based on the efficient use of green water across Sub-Saharan Africa with potential impacts on farmers and whole economies. Green water is infiltrated rainfall water which is stored in the upper layers of the soil and available to plant roots. Proven and cost effective solutions can maximise the capture, storage and utilisation of green water which enhance food production and reduce vulnerability to climate variability and climate change. This represents a practical, low cost and sustainable approach for the “invisible majority” across Sub-Saharan Africa.

So why is rain-fed subsistence agriculture not being implemented across Sub-Saharan Africa? What will it take to scale up solutions? What must be done differently and what are the barriers to change? Where are the good practice examples and what are the key success factors? What are the existing and new sources of finance? And what leadership is required to achieve an African Water Revolution?

Join international, regional and national experts in Kigali, Rwanda to answer these questions and help shape an African Water Revolution. On 27th-28th June 2018, participants from governments, multilateral, bilateral and academic institutions, philanthropic foundations and the private sector will identify what it takes to scale up green water investments across Africa and design a process in advance of a High-Level Roundtable in January 2019. Discussions will be conducted in English in a closed discussion space to identify challenges, and seek a mandate and solutions for the way forward.

For more information, please contact the meeting organizers at afriwaterrev@sdgcafrica.org

WEDNESDAY 27th JUNE

Meeting moderators: Mr. Anton Earle & Ms. Katherine Madden, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)

08:30 Registration

09 00 Welcome and introduction

This session will explain the purpose of the workshop and contextualise the call for an African Water Revolution by providing a short background to the initiative and its aims.

- Mr. Torgny Holmgren, Executive Director, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)
- Dr. Belay Begashaw, Director General, Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGC/A)
- Mr. Jean Claude Kayisinga, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, Rwanda

09:30 Why do we need an African Water Revolution?

This session will highlight the current crisis facing Africa's silent majority and feature a discussion of the potential of green water, its role in rain-fed agriculture and how to maximise its capture, storage and utilisation. Followed by Q&A.

- Video presentation of Professor Malin Falkenmark, Senior Scientific Advisor, SIWI & Professor Johan Rockström, Director, Stockholm Resilience Center (SRC)
- Professor Kitila Mkumbo, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Tanzania; Representing the African Ministers' Council on Water (AMCOW)
- Dr. Nathaniel Matthews, Program Director, Global Resilience Partnership
- Dr. Amare Hailelassie, Senior Researcher and Head of Office for East Africa and Nile Basin, International Water Management Institute (IWMI)

10:45 Coffee / Tea Break & Photo Session

11:15 Best practice and the challenge of scaling green water solutions

Group discussion led by experts to explore what it will take to scale up green water solutions across Sub-Saharan Africa. The discussion will identify best practice examples and identify local / regional / global barriers to scale including institutional, governance, coordination and behavioural issues and will identify potential levers of change.

- Mr. Maimbo Mabanga Malesu, Programme Coordinator, World Agroforestry Centre / International Centre for Research in Agroforestry (ICRAF)
- Mr. Takuji Tanaka, Executive Technical Advisor, Rural Development Department, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- Mr. Desire Kagabo, Scientist, Climate Services & Farming Systems, International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)

13:00 Networking lunch

14:30 Financing change

This session will begin with a short presentation on what it will take to scale up green water investments across Africa including the case for public financing and integrating green and blue water investments. Different voices from the financial community will give responses to the paper (*African Water Revolution – Financing improved rainfed agriculture*) highlighting perspectives, challenges and opportunities.

- Mr. Len Abrams, Consultant, Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI)
- Mr. Yigrem Kassa, SDGs Advisor, Development Finance, The Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGC/A)
- Mr. Josses Mugabi, Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist, World Bank
- Mr. Okey Daniel Ogbonnaya, Lead, Rwanda Program Coordination and Rwanda Country Program, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

15:45 Coffee/Tea Break

16:15 Designing a financial mechanism

In groups, participants will discuss which financial approaches would be most appropriate to scale up green water solutions. This will include identifying potential sources of financing (redirecting existing sources and possible new sources) and the key steps involved in setting up such a mechanism. Key questions for discussion include:

- What is the purpose of the Fund?
- What are the potential sources of finance?
- What are the key features of such a Fund?

17:45 Closing Remarks

Summary of the day's proceedings and meeting wrap-up.

- Professor Nuhu Hatibu, Regional Head for East Africa, Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA)

18:00 Reception at Serena Hotel, Poolside Terrace

THURSDAY 28TH JUNE

08:30 Vision

This plenary and group session will draw together discussions and set out a vision for an African Water Revolution to achieve water resilience based on the efficient use of green water across sub-Saharan Africa.

09:30 Key success factors

There will be a short presentation of the Africa Water Funds Partnership, a partnership in Nairobi to fund upstream water conservation which replicates the work of the Latin America Water Funds Partnership. Building on this example and the experience of participants, the presentation will be followed by group work to identify the key success factors for the African Water Revolution.

- Eng . Philip Gichuki, Africa Water Funds Partnership

11:00 Coffee / Tea Break

11:30 Stakeholders, key players and partners

This session will focus on who should be part of the African Water Revolution. In plenary, participants will identify the different stakeholder groups, specific individuals and organisations that need to be engaged and who might be the potential partners / funders / champions. Participants will then work in groups to map out the various roles and responsibilities for stakeholders at different levels. There will be a particular focus on leadership.

12:30 From Vision to Reality

This final plenary session will move from design to action. There will be a short presentation summarising the findings from the workshop before a discussion on how this initiative will move forward. Topics include upcoming meetings (WWW, UNGA, Africa Water Week), high level roundtable in January 2019, accountability, funding, leadership and partnerships. Final insights will be shared by African Water Revolution partners, SIWI and SDGC/A.

- Dr. Belay Begashaw, Director General, Sustainable Development Goals Center for Africa (SDGC/A)
- Mr. Torgny Holmgren, Executive Director, Stockholm International Water (SIWI)

13:30 Lunch

13:45 Optional field visit (Box lunches will be provided for those attending)

For participants who are interested and available, we will visit the Rwamagana 34 site, part of the Government of Rwanda's Land Husbandry, Water harvesting and Hillside irrigation project, approximately 1 hour drive from Kigali. The project uses a combination of techniques and technologies in the construction and management of the land (e.g., soil bunds, terraces, waterways, afforestation and reforestation), developing land husbandry practices for both rain-fed and irrigated hillside agriculture. We aim to return to Kigali by 17:30.
