

## A Regional Training on International Water Law (IWL) for improved transboundary water management in Africa

3-5 August 2015, Makerere University (Kampala, Uganda)



### Introduction

The African continent has the highest number of transboundary river basins and aquifers that collectively cover more than 64% of Africa's surface area and contain just over 93% of its surface water resources. These rivers are shared between two or more countries. While a common water resource is a potential source of conflict, it also has tremendous potential for cooperation as a driver for economic growth on the African continent.

As water scarcity intensifies, so does the reliance of countries on transboundary water resources which increase interdependencies between or among riparian states. In many cases, countries need to cooperate to manage floods or droughts. However, effective and coordinated management of transboundary water resources and effective cooperation across borders are among the major challenges that national governments in Africa, regional

bodies and organisations face. It is therefore essential to provide tools that will enable transboundary water resources to be managed efficiently, sustainably and equitably. This entails an understanding of the shared benefits resulting from sound water management and the establishment of collaborative governance mechanisms between and among concerned countries.

IGAD and ANBO work within their own mandates and have developed specific skills on transboundary water in order to assist countries and basin organizations develop effective management of shared water resources in Africa. Makerere University and University of Dundee conduct research and are specialised in international water law and cooperate with governments as well as basin organizations to train staff and strengthen capacities. As a neutral platform, GWP facilitates capacity development and collaboration to build synergies among various

stakeholders on integrated approaches to better water resources management.

Within their respective strategies and in the led-up to setting an ambitious pan African capacity building program, the 5 partner institutions have decided to join efforts to organize a training on IWL. The experiences and lessons learnt will be used as a pilot to develop a 5 year, (2016-2020) training programme on IWL. Hence a Regional Training on International Water Law (IWL) for improved transboundary water management in Africa is being organized jointly by Global Water Partnership (GWP), University of Dundee (UK), the Makerere University (Uganda), Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and African Network for Basin Organizations (ANBO). The Regional Training will take place in Kampala, Uganda 3-5 August 2015.

## Target Group

The Regional Training is aimed at strengthening the capacities of institutions of countries and basin organizations in Africa in addressing issues related to transboundary water resources management through enhancing knowledge and skills necessary for promoting cooperation among countries. The Training will be highly appropriate for those that are engaged in issues of transboundary water resources management specifically water management and development practitioners (not necessarily Lawyers) in positions to advice, and sometimes even make the decisions affecting transboundary water resources.

The primary candidates for this training are mid- to high-level practitioners and professionals from RBOs and governments (i.e. Foreign affairs ministries, ministries in charge of water affairs, legislators, water management agencies, etc.) who have a role in negotiating, drafting or reforming treaties and legislations (regulation, control), planning, decision-making on transboundary waters. The training will also consider a limited number of GWP Africa Partners who are in position to

contribute with specialised knowledge and experience on water governance in international watercourses.

## Requirements

Interested applicants for this IWL Training are required to have a university degree in Hydrology, Environmental Science, Earth Sciences, Law, Agriculture, International Relations or a related field. Applicants must be recommended by IGAD or Regional Economic Communities, GWP Regional and Country Water Partnerships in Africa and ANBO based on support from their respective institutions. The training will be conducted in English with a provision of translation into French. Thus, participants are required to be proficient in either English or French language. Applicants are expected to be willing to share their experiences by presenting case studies during the training to facilitate peer learning amongst the participants.

## Funding

The training is planned for a maximum of 36 participants and funding is available for 30 participants. While the other 6 spaces are open for self-sponsored participants. Self-sponsored participants are expected to cover their accommodation and travel costs, and pay USD 500 to cover for course materials, lunch, refreshment and other related expenses. Self-sponsored participants may approach other development partners or projects for possible support.

## Applications

Fill the application form and submit it online, and prepare the following supporting documents:

- a transcript of university courses with grades, and copy of diploma
- a full CV and the contact information of two referees

- a letter of motivation (description of past and current work as well as your suitability for the program)
- 2 letters of recommendation; one from the above stated institutions and another from your work place.

Please email all the supporting documents in Word or pdf to Mr. Kenge James Gunya at email address [kenge.james.gunya@gwp.org](mailto:kenge.james.gunya@gwp.org), from whom further information on the Training programme can be obtained.

Applications will be accepted until **25 June 2015**. **Incomplete applications will not be considered for evaluation.** A selection committee will be composed of IGAD, ANBO/SITWA and GWP. Successful candidates will be notified by the end of June 2015.

Participants who successfully complete the Regional Training will receive a Certificate of Attendance ratified by Course Organizers.

**The Global Water Partnership (GWP)** is a worldwide network which for over a decade has successfully supported countries to implement the equitable and sustainable management of their water resources. The network has more than 3000 institutional Partners, and spans over 169 countries in 13 regions. Its regional secretariat for Eastern Africa is located in Entebbe, Uganda. <http://www.gwp.org/en/GWP-Eastern-Africa/> and the global secretariat is in Stockholm, Sweden. [www.gwp.org](http://www.gwp.org)

**The University of Dundee IHP-HELP Centre for Water Law, Policy and Science**, under the auspices of UNESCO, is an international leader in water law, policy and science. The Centre's Water Law Water Leaders programme forms the heart of its teaching, and is focused on developing a new generation of local water leaders to effect locally-devised and locally-driven solutions to water issues. [www.dundee.ac.uk/water](http://www.dundee.ac.uk/water)

**Makerere University-Environmental Law Centre** is a department at the School of Law and its central purpose is to act as a centre of excellence of environmental law and policy in the Eastern Africa region. The Centre is responsible for teaching and research of environmental law and policies related courses. It is the first Environmental Law Centre of Excellence in the Eastern Africa Region and applies inter and multi-disciplinary as well as collaborative approaches in its methods of teaching and research. It hosts the Regional Centre of Excellence on Water Law and Policy and operates within the School of Law's main objective of producing legal professionals who are well equipped to deal with new and emerging legal problems. The Centre is driven by a strong desire to serve the community. <http://mak.ac.ug/academic-units/colleges-and-departments>

**Intergovernmental Authority On Development (IGAD)** in Eastern Africa was created in 1996 to supersede the Intergovernmental Authority on Drought and Development (IGADD) which was founded in 1986. IGAD is now one of Africa's regional political, economic, development, trade and security entity. IGAD promotes co-operation, integration, peace and stability in the region in order to attain food security, sustainable environment management and sustainable development. Its member countries include Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Uganda. IGAD's Secretariat is in Djibouti. <http://igad.int>

**African Network for Basin Organizations (ANBO)** was created in 2002 to facilitate and support the establishment and strengthening of basin organizations in Africa, based on the principles of IWRM.

**SITWA Project** (Strengthening Institutions for Transboundary Water Resources Management in Africa) is a pan-African initiative supported by the European Commission which aims to improve regional cooperation for sustainable management of transboundary water resources in Africa, focusing on programmatic and institutional strengthening of the ANBO. It is implemented by the GWP and ANBO Technical Secretariat which is represented by Senegal River Authority (OMVS) in Senegal. [www.raob-anbo.org](http://www.raob-anbo.org), [www.sadieau.org](http://www.sadieau.org) or [www.awis.org](http://www.awis.org)