





WHO WE ARE



The Africa Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEW) is a regional networking body of African civil society organizations actively involved in the field of sustainable water management, water supply and sanitation



These CSOs are committed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets.



They are also committed to ensuring availability of water for all in our continent, and its sustainability for all current and future generations





WHO WE ARE



ANEW was set up to ensure that African civil society voices are represented in international and regional water policy forums



ANEW ensures that the African CSO voices are heard during the increasingly political water debates at national, regional and global levels







CURRENT STATUS



At present, the role of civil society in transboundary water management is limited across the globe, but arguably least in Africa



In some African regions, indigenous CSOs are participating in addressing particular issues, albeit at small scale, and amplified in sites of international interest



This takes exception, in comparison with other regions across the world, and other areas of interest that African CSOs participate (politics, human rights)





RATIO

RATIONALE OF INVOLVING CSOs



Transboundary water is a regional public good, meant to benefit poor populations of a region, most of whom CSOs represent



In some parts of Africa, the rapidly developing civil society-government interface is a strong mechanism for second-track diplomacy and confidence building amongst transboundary catchment stakeholders



Public must be engaged in development and implementation of strategies to address sustainable water resource management - environmental, social and economic catchment system. It influences impact beyond the catchment system.







THE ROLE OF CSOs

INITIATION OF PROCESS & REPRESENTATION



Offer civil diplomacy between neighbouring groups, even states



Initiation of stakeholder dialogue/participation through networks/caucuses of civil society groups at basin or regional level



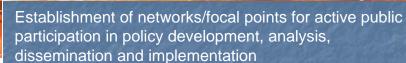
Provide a link between national, regional players and local communities



Advocate for government, local or national, to participate in initial TWM deliberations



THE ROLE OF CSOs



INSTITUTIONAL MANAGEMENT



Nodal points for data collection in development and operations of Information Management Systems



Identify traditional structures used in natural resources management and integrate them into current arrangements



Provision of technical and financial support for institutional strengthening/capacity building at various levels for effective and sustainable WRM







PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION



Capacity building of grassroots communities to enhance appropriate resource use and water governance practices



Participate in implementation as well as offer independent monitoring of implementation/post processes across the board



Offer specialized expertise and identify emerging issues



Consolidate through networks/caucuses, experiences and success stories from grassroots communities to facilitate mutual learning and co-ownership of water resources across the region/basin







