



CONSULTATION ON LARGE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS IN THE WATER
SECTOR WITHIN ECOWAS

**REGIONAL VALIDATION WORKSHOP OF THE DRAFT
DIRECTIVE ON WATER INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN
WEST AFRICA**

31 MARCH - 1 APRIL 2014

TERMS OF REFERENCE



1. Background and justification

West Africa has embarked on a regional process of integrated water resources management. ECOWAS has set up a permanent framework for coordination and monitoring of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) and the Water Resources Coordination Centre was established in 2004. A strategic plan of the Permanent Framework for Coordination and Monitoring of IWRM in West Africa (PFCM) has been developed and adopted for the period 2007-2015. With regard to transboundary water governance, the strategic areas of intervention are:

- Provide support to transboundary basins and assist IWRM processes in the basins;
- Advance regional integration of the water sector.

The WRCC is developing a regional framework and integration tools to help countries and basins to move faster and in a concerted manner towards practical implementation of IWRM.

The integration tools mainly include:

- Creation of a regional policy framework for the water sector,
- Information management and sharing,
- Facilitated dialogue on ECOWAS large infrastructure projects of the water sector.

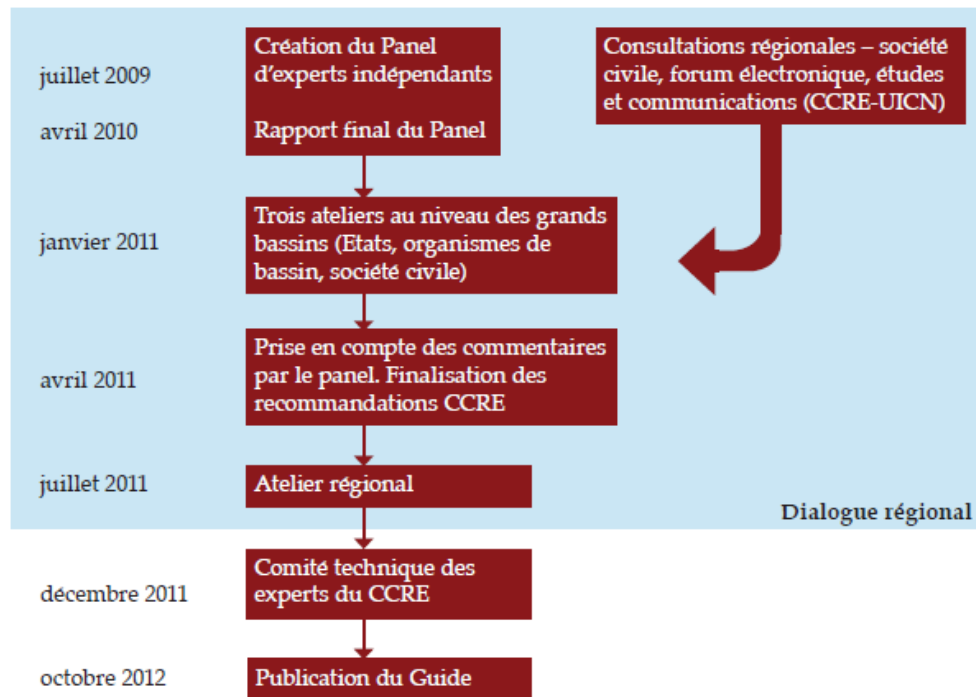
To help develop this tool, a process of regional dialogue was initiated in 2009 to provide Basin organisations and Governments with dialogue tools to support the development and implementation of their investment plans in the context of West Africa's socio-economic development. In fact, some of West African transboundary basin organisations have been operational for decades now, while others are still being established.

The overall objective of this programme is to contribute to a smooth development of ECOWAS Member States and regional integration through implementation of a dialogue on the water sector infrastructure. This dialogue therefore includes regional, national and local components around individual structures.

To help provide a first analysis of West African experience, the WRCC set up, in July 2009, a panel of independent experts with the aim to provide evidence of good practices in the development and implementation of transboundary infrastructure projects in the water sector in West Africa. This panel was composed of 7 experts including an expert in water resources, a legal expert, an economist, an expert on dams, an agronomist, a sociologist expert in participatory approaches and an expert in environmental assessment.

The panel's recommendations, which were presented in 2010 to a small group (WRCC, steering committee, basin organisations) formed subsequently the subject of three consultations with the States and civil society of from the ECOWAS 5 major basins. The WRCC gathered again the panel in April 2011 to incorporate suggestions and address criticisms made during the consultations to make a proposal to be submitted to the PFCM official authorities. They finally approved these recommendations as guidelines for the development of water infrastructure in West Africa (see www.dialoguebarrages.net) for the preparation of a framework Directive at the ECOWAS level.

The whole broad process of regional consultation on the panel's recommendations is summarized in the chart below.



This regional workshop is a continuation of such a dialogue to enable stakeholders to validate the draft version of the Framework Directive that will be presented and discussed, in order to then submit the document to the ECOWAS decision-making bodies for approval and adoption.

This meeting is organised in partnership between the WRCC, the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), with financial support from the British (UKAid) and Swedish (SIDA) cooperation through the programmes of the Global Water Initiative (GWI) and the Partnership for Improving Environmental Governance (PAGE) in West Africa.

2. Overall objective

The overall objective of the workshop is to present, discuss and validate the draft Directive on the development of water infrastructure in West Africa produced from the guidelines validated in December 2011 by ECOWAS.

3. Expected results

The expected results include, amongst others:

- The Draft Directive is presented and explained to all stakeholders (Governments, Basin organisations, civil society)
- Stakeholders share their observations in an open dialogue
- The Draft Directive is amended, where appropriate, and validated by stakeholders to be submitted to the ECOWAS decision-making bodies.

4. Methodological approach

The proposed methodology is as follows:

- The WRCC sends the Draft Directive and Guidelines to countries well in advance for review and to the other participants for information (week of January 13, 2014).
- Countries send their comments in writing to WRCC no later than 10 February 2014.
- The Consultant takes into account the comments received from countries to adjust the Draft Directive as appropriate. He prepares an amended version and an explanatory presentation justifying the inclusion or not of comments received for discussion/validation in plenary session with all participants.
- All documents are available in English and French versions.

5. Participants

Participants will include:

- Representatives of the WRCC Focal Point Technical Ministry and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of all ECOWAS member countries
- WRCC Focal Points with Basin organisations
- Civil society representatives who have been following the dialogue process since 2009
- Representatives of the ECOWAS Legal Department
- Representatives of WRCC's technical and financial partners

6. Dates and venues

The workshop will be held over 2 days in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso. The provisional dates selected are Monday 31 March and Tuesday 1 April 2014.

7. Draft agenda

Monday 31 March 2014	
8H30	Arrival and registration of participants
9H-9H30	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none">• IUCN -PACO• ECOWAS Water Resources Coordination centre.• Ministry of <u>Water, Hydraulic Facilities and Sanitation</u> (MEAHA) Self introduction by participants Presentation of programme (facilitator)
9H30-10H30 Session 1 : Plenary	Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The consultation process on large infrastructure projects in the ECOWAS water sector: Background and perspectives. <i>Mahamane Touré, Programme Officer, WRCC.</i>• Introductory presentation of the Draft Directive on the development of water infrastructure in West Africa: steps of the document preparation process .

	<i>Amidou Garane, Legal Consultant</i>
	Discussion
10H30-11H	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11H-12H30 Session 2 : Plenary	Detailed presentation of the Draft Directive <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanations and justification of the content of the amended version following comments received from countries and Basin organisations. <i>Amidou Garane, Legal Consultant</i> Discussions
12H30-14H	LUNCH
14H-16H30 : Session 2 (continued)	Detailed presentation of Draft Directive (continued) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explanations and justification of the content of the amended version following comments received from countries and Basin organisations. <i>Amidou Garane, Legal Consultant</i> Discussions

Tuesday 1 April 2014	
9H-10H30 Session 3: Plenary	Presentation of conclusions of Day 1 plenary sessions and discussion.
10H30-11H	COFFEE/TEA BREAK
11H-12H30 Session 4: Plenary	Reading of final communiqué and closing
12H30-14H	LUNCH AND DEPARTURE OF PARTICIPANTS