



Freshwater News

Strengthening civil society's participation in water policy formulation

Number 7 August 2005



Timeyin Uwejamomere

Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) campaign launch in Nigeria

2005 – The progress so far

This is an important year, for water and sanitation, for civil society, and for Africa. A unique combination of circumstances and events has led some to believe that if change in these areas is possible, the decisions to make it happen will be made in 2005.

Although these decisions could change poverty on a global level, the focus has undoubtedly been on Africa. The UK has taken centre stage in how events will play out as it hosted the G8 meeting in July and holds the Presidency of the EU from July-December.

The UK will also join member states at the UN in September for the Millennium Review Summit (MRS) where progress on water and sanitation will be discussed under Goal 7 of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Water and sanitation have already had UN attention during the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD 13) in April.

CSD 13 did not get 2005 off to the good start we hoped for. Governments were unable to move beyond their comfort zone of discussing the "what?" of policy and commit to the "who?", "where?" and "when?" of action. The negotiated outcome on water and sanitation reads more like a list of good practice actions, without any back-up.

At the Millennium Summit, governments must acknowledge that most developing countries are not on target to meet their water and sanitation MDGs, to halve the number of people without access to clean water and adequate sanitation.

In June G8 finance ministers wrote off debts owed by 18 of the world's poorest countries to the World Bank, African Development Bank and International Monetary Fund. Although a step in the right direction, problems in the poorest countries run too deep to solve with debt relief alone. After the Second World War a new economic order favouring the richest countries and supported by the IMF, World Bank and WTO was established; it is this that should be addressed.

"If poverty is to be made history, the exploitative nature of the world economic order must be dismantled".
Baffour Ankomah
(NewAfrican, July 2005)

Civil Society must be active in lobbying for change in 2005. FAN and many of our members are part of the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) campaign,

joining NGOs, Trade Unions, Religious & Faith groups, Community Groups and Activists from around the world to ask governments to 'Make Poverty History'. Case studies of FAN member campaigns can be read on p6-8.

The Global Call to Action is being played out in autonomous national platforms coordinating local activities and feeding into the international facilitation group.

FAN member Ethiopian Kale Heywet Church (EKHC) is part of Ethiopia's 'Enough with Poverty' campaign which has over 100 members. Desta Demessie from EKHC says that the Ethiopian campaign has enabled them to "join with others and bring messages Ethiopians see as a priority to be addressed".

During 2005 these local campaigns are joining together for GCAP's 3 global 'White Band Days'. The first of these was held before the G8 meeting (2nd July) and the next two will highlight the MRS and WTO meetings on 10th September and 10th December respectively. The white band is the symbol of the campaign; make it out of anything, write you message to government on it and wear it round your arm or leg.

To find out if there is a national platform in your country visit

www.whiteband.org

3 key messages of the GCAP campaign



Drop the debt

Highly indebted poor countries pay US\$8 billion per year in debt servicing, (together with their debt this grows every year). Debt servicing costs reduce the amount of money poor countries are able to spend on essential services such as providing access to water and sanitation.

Trade Justice

At present more than 40% of the world's population live in low-income countries yet exports from these nations account for just 3% of world trade. Global inequity in trade means that governments in developing countries are unable to invest in essential services like water and sanitation.

More and better aid

Poverty will not be eradicated without an immediate and major increase in international aid. In 1970 developed countries promised to provide 0.7% of their national income in aid and they must now start providing it. More and better finance needs to be spent on water and sanitation for the world's poorest people.



Reflections on the UN

Visiting the UN is daunting and exciting. For some FAN members CSD was their first time at the UN's intergovernmental negotiations.

To help people through the maze FAN, ANPED and Tearfund organised two events before CSD to explain the process, teach lobbying skills and discuss some of civil society's key messages to governments. R. Murali, from Modern Architects for Rural India (MARI) reflected "[it was] a wonderful opportunity to understand the historical perspective of CSD 13, its political importance and how it connected to the MDGs...I could also get well familiarised with the UN building, particularly strategic points like the Vienna Café".

Days filled quickly with NGO briefing meetings, side events, networking, listening to negotiations, contributing and lobbying. For Alejandra Salazar, FAN Mexico, her first time at the UN "was an important learning experience on lobbying and advocacy processes that NGOs have been developing at the heart of the UN to raise vital issues such as the human right to water".

FAN members Malick Gaye (ENDA, Senegal) and R. Murali both delivered NGO statements during the main negotiations. R. Murali said afterwards "this is certainly a most memorable joyful moment of my life".

We hope that all civil society experiences at future UN meetings are as positive as his.

Read Alejandra and R. Murali's accounts www.freshwateraction.net/conferences/csd/csd13.asp

Update on Planning for the 4th World Water Forum



FAN Coordinator, Danielle Morley, has made several trips to Mexico City to meet the Government department responsible for hosting the event in March 2006. In March she joined Jorge Mora, FANCA coordinator, at the Preparatory Beacon meeting.

At this time we remain concerned about the lack of progress for the 4th Water Forum 'Local Actions for a Global Challenge'. Since March 2004, FAN and other NGOs have presented practical recommendations on civil society involvement, funding and strategy. We have made progress for the Americas, where FANCA and others have a role (see p4&5), but if action is not taken soon in the rest of the world, planning will be too late to allow for participation by many different local actors from other continents and regions.

Funding is a major constraint to participation. The World Water Council and Government of Mexico are jointly responsible for the Forum, and should allocate part of the budget for Southern participation. We hope this will be announced this month at the Stockholm Water Week.

FAN has conducted a small survey of members who attended the 3rd World Water Forum in Kyoto. Feedback suggests that they would like FAN to play a coordination and information sharing role at the Forum. Subject to funds, we propose to organise a joint NGO session, host an exhibition space and to continue to lobby for improved participation of civil society.

www.freshwateraction.net/conferences/wwf4.asp
www.worldwaterforum4.org.mx

The Commission on Sustainable Development moves on but is it too soon?

After 5 weeks of negotiations, spread over two years, water, sanitation and human settlements are no longer the focus of the UN-CSD. The process, which works in 2 year cycles, has turned its attention to energy; industrial development; air pollution/atmosphere and climate change.

Progress is still needed on water and sanitation. The outcomes of CSD 13, which built on the outcomes of CSD 12 in 2004, did not include many commitments. It is a negotiated inter-governmental document; this means that it is 'soft law' and non-binding.

We should be pleased that the outcomes do reflect a higher standard of actions than are currently being practised in most places around the world. The challenge now is taking the UN recommendations forward towards influencing policy and practice of national governments.

The CSD will be responsible for monitoring progress on water and sanitation, reporting in 2008 and 2012. UN Water will coordinate actions across the UN system on water and sanitation, although it is unclear where Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) sits. For human settlements, UN-HABITAT will be the focal agency.

During CSD 14 water for energy, including dams will be discussed. FAN will be following the process.

The Freshwater Action Network is a global network of environmental and developmental Non-governmental and Community Based Organisations working to strengthen civil society's participation in international water policy formulation.

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FAN Advisory Group Meeting 2005

This 2 day meeting reviewed the progress of FAN work from April 2004 – April 2005, shared highlights and discussed any problems in an open and informal atmosphere.



Members of FAN's 2005 Advisory Group

The FAN secretariat was joined by Jorge Mora Portuguez (FANCA Coordinator), Alejandra Salazar (FAN Mexico), Juliette Malenge (ANEW Coordinator), Malick Gaye (ANEW Task Force Member for West Africa), Hope Ogbeide (NEWSAN Coordinator), R. Murali (MARI India), Danielle Hirsch (BothEnds) and Stephen Turner (WaterAid).

We did a SWOT analysis (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats) of FAN activities which led into a discussion on improving governance, use of different communication tools, capacity building needs, fundraising strategy and future activities.

Presentations and discussions on FANCA, ANEW and FAN's activities in South Asia were also useful.

To read the final report and list of actions for 2005 email: fan@freshwateraction.net

Update on Right to Water

Since we highlighted the Right to Water in the last edition of Freshwater News, the governments of Belgium and Uruguay have taken steps to include it in their Constitutions.

They join South Africa, Gambia, Uganda, Ethiopia and Zambia who already have

the Right to Water in their national legislation.

In May Mikhail Gorbachev, former President of the Soviet Union, addressed the UN to show support for an international commitment to the Right to Water.

Mr. Gorbachev's NGO GreenCross International have prepared a framework treaty on the Right with International Secretariat for Water (ISW) and Maghreb-Machreq Alliance for Water (ALMAE).

Their goal is to urge governments to negotiate and adopt a Framework Convention on the Right to Water. If ratified by the member states of the United Nations, it would specify the rights and duties of key stakeholders in national and international water management, and will give people a legal instrument to claim their right to safe water and sanitation.

For more information
www.watertreaty.org

Governments to Review Progress on the MDGs

Since the adoption of the Millennium Declaration in 2000, CSOs have been trying to contribute to and influence the process surrounding the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

At the Millennium Review Summit (MRS) in September governments will take stock of progress and identify the areas where more effort (and money) is needed. In 2004 UNICEF and WHO published, through their Joint Monitoring Programme (JMP), a mid-term assessment of progress being made to achieve the water and sanitation MDGs; halving the proportion of people without access to water and sanitation by 2015.

According to the report 83% of the world's population can now access improved drinking water. However, the figure for Sub-Saharan Africa is only 42% - not sufficient to meet the MDG. Governments need to commit to making changes that help the poorest at the MRS.

Sanitation is further from its target. Over 2.6 billion people still live without adequate sanitation.

In May UN Secretary General, Kofi Annan, launched his 'In Larger Freedom' report. It calls on the governments to agree to a package of action on poverty reduction, peace & security and UN reform at the MRS. Mr. Annan does not want governments to pick and choose from the agenda and hopes civil society will support the whole-package approach.

Civil society has participated via the General Assembly Hearings held in June. There will be a white band day on the 10th September when we can join together and show our support for change and a positive outcome.

www.un-ngls.org

Stockholm Water Week 22-26 August

Stockholm has become a key date in the calendar for business, civil society, governmental, inter-governmental, science and management sectors working in water.

During Water Week the EU Water Initiative is holding a multi stakeholder meeting which will be attended by the FAN Coordinator and members from EECCA, Central America and Africa.

www.worldwaterweek.org

Join FAN

FAN currently has 370 members from all over the world. Our members are kept up to date with what is happening in water policy and international Forums. They also have the opportunity to share their requests and news via our monthly e-bulletins and bi-yearly newsletter. Members can search the database for others working in their region or expertise.

The membership form is available in Spanish and English. Applicants will have the opportunity to join FANCA and ANEW when they fill in the form.

www.freshwateraction.net/join/register.asp

FANCA, created two years ago by civil society groups in Central America who saw the potential in working together as a network, continues to go from strength-to-strength. Members are from Panama, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Mexico, Dominican Republic and Belize.

Taking a lead role in preparations for the 4th World Water Forum

FANCA is part of the Organising Committee for the Americas (COA), a group of organisations responsible for coordinating the preparatory process in their region for the Forum. The COA will facilitate local workshops and regional meetings to develop inputs including the regional proposal.



COA meeting in New York, April 2005

The COA is made up of multi-lateral donor organisations, international and regional technical aid agencies, inter-governmental regional bodies, NGOs, private sector, professional associations and user organisations. All have a regional scope and have contributed with actions and/or contributions to the management of water resources in the Americas.

Its most important role is supporting the 4WWF Secretariat as they organise the regional preparatory process. FANCA will push for maximum involvement of local stakeholders and selection of local initiatives by securing resources for civil society participation, facilitating dialogue between the different regional stakeholders and bringing in regional activities and local projects.

The Committee last met in June during the International Water Conference in Tabasco, Mexico. FANCA Coordinator

Jorge Mora reported afterwards that they are making progress towards having successful civil society participation from the Americas at the Forum.

FANCA and other civil society representatives in the COA are hoping to organise 3 regional events in South, North and Central America & Caribbean and a continent wide conference in Jamaica in October. These will further prepare civil society for the 4WWF.

Pre Forum events to look out for in Latin America

The Central American Indigenous and Peasant Coordinator of Communal Agroforestry (ACICAFOC) will co-host a Regional Civil Society Preparatory Meeting for the 4WWF in November 2005 in Guatemala.

The Latin American Centre for Water Studies (CLAEH), are co-organising a traveling exhibition on water and gender in partnership with REDICA, GEF/IPANEMA, CARE, CINARA, CWWA, CATHALAC, GWA, and Cop II. The show was launched on 21st June and will travel through Latin America to Mexico in time for the Forum in March 2006.

Central American Water Management Strategy Research

The Central American Water Users Association Research Project kicked off in June. The research Project will have inputs from all of FANCA's focal points and will promote integrated water resource management (IWRM) as a solution to drinking water and sanitation problems and instrument for sustainable development.



FANCA meeting with water users in El Salvador

It is the first time a technical group has been established from FANCA members. The network is using it to show the capacity of members by not having to recruit external consultants.

The project should show that local communities are capable of applying an economically efficient IWRM approach by reducing costs, maximising the use of available resources and developing innovative and functional instruments for economic valuing.

The project will highlight the contributions that water user associations can make towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

FANCA will advocate for this approach to be included in water laws and policy as well as a priority for international aid.

Workshops will be held within the framework of the Central American Water Management Strategy, promoted by Central American Ministers of Environment, Health and Agriculture with the support of a technical team which includes FANCA.

For more information contact:
rcastro@cedarena.org

Activity feedback...

FANCA is involved in processes leading to the development of water policies at national and international level:

Water as a Human Right

The Latin American Centre for Water Studies (CLAEH) is supporting actions and processes being developed by social organisations in the region. FANCA and CLAEH are developing a vision of water as a human right that emerges from organisations and communities themselves.

www.claeh.co.nr

Water Laws

FANCA co-organised national workshops in its focal points promoting dialogue among local, national and regional stakeholders to share experiences of

developing water laws in Central America. The results fed into the Regional Water Management Strategy.

www.coreca.org/vulsac/Recurso-s-Hidricos

www.freshwateraction.net/fan-ca/estrategia.asp

www.ccad.ws/documentos/actividades_varias/foroagua/foro_agua.html

The Comprehensive Assessment of Water Management in Agriculture

This is a publication on worldwide experiences that reflects both the relationship between water, agriculture and the environment and the need to reach agreements between these sectors. FANCA shared several experiences and led an on-line discussion to feed into the process.

Central America Civil Society Forum (Nicaragua)

Hosted by Action by Churches Together (ACT), the National Consumer Defense

Network and the Alliance for Non-Privatisation and the Right to Water Access, of which the FANCA Nicaragua is a member. Participants discussed different water privatisation experiences in Central America, the processes leading to the development of Water Laws in the region and opportunities for the involvement of social organisations in the 4WWF.

JOIN FANCA

A membership application form is now available in Spanish on the FAN website.

www.freshwateraction.net/join/sp/register.asp

Future Events

FANCA will participate in:

- Stockholm Water Week, Sweden, August 2005
- 58th Annual Conference of the UN Department of Public Information Committee on NGOs, Our Challenge: Voices for Peace, Partnerships and Renewal, New York, September 2005
- Summit of the Americas, Mar del Plata, Argentina, November 2005
- 5th Inter-American Dialogue on Water Management, Jamaica, November 2005
- Forum on A New Water Culture, Brazil, December 2005

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What's happening in...

Nicaragua

FANCA's Nicaraguan focal point is hosting activities, assisting with drafting and leading discussions on Nicaragua's Water Law, working with Popular Aid Norway to find funds so that they can present case studies at the 4th World Water Forum and co-organising a Central America Civil Society Forum.

www.freshwateraction.net/fan-ca/fanca11.asp

Panama

The Panama focal point is organising training for 800 agricultural producers

on the west margin of the Panama Canal. They will explain local positioning and the role of community leaders in the expansion of the Panama Canal which would include three new dams being built.

www.freshwateraction.net/fan-ca/fanca12.asp

Costa Rica

FANCA Costa Rica is pleased to have been part of the Water Law process in Costa Rica. It comes after years of hard work including the widest consultation process and negotiations to be conducted on any law-making process in the country. They have also initiated the Water Associations project and are

looking for case studies and continue to welcome new members, most recently from Los Santos.

www.freshwateraction.net/fan-ca/fanca7.asp

Mexico

FANMex is nearly a year old and continues to play an important role linking FANCA and FAN into the 4th World Water Forum process. Members met with FANCA Coordinator Jorge Mora in June and reinforced their commitment to building a strong network in Mexico and working with FANCA to ensure good civil society participation at the Forum.

FAN members meet to plan activities in South Asia

It was a great pleasure for FAN to work with CapNet in Hyderabad and CORE in Assam who helped organise two successful meetings in South Asia earlier this year.



Participants at the Assam meeting/CORE

The meetings facilitated network-network links by bringing together IWRM, Water & Sanitation groups and 'activist movements' and 'institutional NGOs'.

The first, in Hyderabad, was for Indian NGOs and CSOs and produced a set of actions for networking in India. It also fed into the second in Assam, which included representatives from Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Burma (in exile).

A highlight in Assam was the attendance of Medha Patkar; a well known anti-dam campaigner. "Medha Patkar's emphasis on reaching out for the common concern, committing to making sure that peoples'



Medha Patkar addresses the participants at Assam/CORE

rights to water are respected, developing strategies and cooperating with each other is still ringing fresh and clear in my ear."(Rita Boro CORE)

Over the next year FAN will provide partnership and modest financial support to develop a database of water and sanitation research and documentation centres, and to support events for network-network linking and advocacy capacity building activities for grass-roots NGOs in South Asia.

Full reports on our website

www.freshwateraction.net/southAsia/index.asp,

for hard copies email

fan@freshwateraction.net

Pakistan answers the Global Call to end Poverty

ActionAid-Pakistan has responded to the Global Call to Action against Poverty (GCAP) under the slogan 'No More Excuses'. As part of the Pakistani campaign they surveyed 300 villages, collecting data on education, health & sanitation, livelihoods and government infrastructure.

The results, sent to the G8 embassies in Islamabad for the 1st July White Band Day, highlighted where improvements are needed in each region. They will also be included in ActionAid International's People's report which will be published in time for the Millennium Review Summit in September.

www.whiteband.org

SACOSAN meets again

Two years on from the first South Asian Ministerial Conference on Sanitation in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Pakistan has organised SACOSAN-2005 in Islamabad from 21st-23rd November 2005.

The 2003 Dhaka declaration emphasised people-centered community-led, gender-sensitive and demand-responsive approaches to address the sanitation crisis

in South Asia. Since then there has been a gap between writing the declaration and implementing the vision. South Asia is still off track from meeting its MDG targets on sanitation.

Local CSO groups hope that the meeting will bring the sanitation needs of South Asia back to the front of the development agenda of governments in the region.

We hope that there will be a big CSO presence at SACOSAN-2005 and will be circulating information on participation when we have it.

www.environment.gov.pk/sacosan-2005/

People's Partnership to Resolve Trans-boundary Conflicts

Environmental activists from Europe, South East Asia and Latin America joined colleagues from Asia at a three-day meeting of the South Asian Solidarity for Rivers and Peoples Forum (SARP) in Arunachal Pradesh, India in June.

Delegates developed a plan of action to build a people's partnership in South Asia on resolving trans-boundary conflicts.

They will urgently set up a South Asia Peoples' Commission on Water-related Conflicts and Resolutions to review existing treaties and agreements on rivers and wetlands to check that they are in line with the emerging principles of international law and human rights.

The outcomes, called 'Nirjuli Consensus on Rivers, Wetlands and Peoples', also called for water to be recognized as a human right and stated that large dams can rarely be 'good' or 'sustainable' and should only be built in the absence of better, ecologically sustainable and non-destructive alternatives in full compliance with the strategic priorities, criteria and guidelines of the World Commission on Dams.

SARP is a representative regional network of activists, indigenous and local



Discussion of the Nirjuli Consensus/Mr Phapi Rakdamrongphorn

communities, people's movements and water experts committed to pro-people and pro-environment alternative management of river and wetland resources of South Asia.

SARP has welcomed the recent decision by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh, in the North East Region, to avoid mega water projects in the state that would cause displacement and submergence of large tracts of land in the state. SARP hopes that this decision will soon extend to all other states.

Read the full outcomes

www.freshwateraction.net/southAsia/index.asp

ADB Water Policy: What works, What doesn't and What should be improved?

In 2001, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) outlined its vision for integrated water management in the region in "Water for All". 4 years on it is reviewing its policy implementation.

We can take this opportunity to assess the equity and sustainability of ADB projects while also looking at its pro-poor approach, contributions to the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the impact of the ADB loans on the debt burdened countries.

Civil society should also look at how the ADB evaluates its water and sanitation projects to suggest improvements so issues of sustainability, equity and gender are prioritised. Evidence based case studies which focus on projects developed since 1991 will be most effective.

The review is led by an 'expert panel', made up of stakeholders, who are informed by in-country and regional consultations, workshops with ADB staff and feedback obtained through other events and surveys. Ravi Narayanan, CEO of WaterAid, is on the panel in his individual capacity as a member of civil society.

In-country consultations focused on ADB's experience in implementing water policy, will take place in Cambodia (June), Fiji (August), Indonesia (August), Kazakhstan (September), India (September), People's Republic of China (October) and the Philippines (November). These will feed into a regional meeting in the Philippines in November.

Get involved by joining a regional consultation meeting or sending comments to FAN to pass onto Ravi Narayanan who can relay them to the panel.

ADB has also created a tool kit to enhance NGO understanding of the institution's mission, goals, organisational structure, operational policies, programs and procedures. Contact ngocoordinator@adb.org for a copy. www.adb.org/Water/Policy/review-draft-paper.asp

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fan@freshwateraction.net to subscribe.

SOUTH ASIA MINI SITE LAUNCHED

Following the success of the ANEW and FANCA mini sites on our website we have added a South Asia mini site. It contains feedback of the Hyderabad and Assam meetings and will be updated regularly with news from the region.

www.freshwateraction.net/southAsia/index.asp

ANEW Update

ANEW continues to work towards its vision of an Africa where everyone has safe water and adequate sanitation. The network promotes dialogue, advocacy, partnership building, awareness creation and capacity building among civil society and other stakeholders involved in policy formulation.

During 2005 ANEW is identifying country level Focal Points to be responsible for following up country-specific progress in the water and sanitation sector, liaising with the sub-regional Taskforce Representatives to identify the needs of their countries, and map out priority strategies.

Action plans from the 2004 regional meetings continue to be implemented with members and Taskforces working with country-level water networks such as NEWSAN (Nigeria), ANEW Senegal, CONIWAS (Ghana) and UWASNET (Uganda).

ANEW is recognised by AMCOW as a reliable mechanism for CSO engagement. It will develop this and other relationships during 2005 by informing individual African governments about its programme to try to build relationships with them.

The network is still waiting to hear from the EU Water Facility about the grant proposal submitted with FAN in January 2005. If successful this would provide a significant amount of money to fund ANEW's activities. The first AGM is being organised and this should produce a more concrete activity plan for 2005/06 and review governance and funding, which are vital for the long term success of ANEW.

Country Level Networks

A number of country level networks on water have started in Africa. FAN and ANEW members have been involved in some of these profiled on page 8.

ANEW Senegal

NGOs and CSOs in Senegal met on the 1st April 2005 to establish ANEW Senegal. Task force members are; ENDA RUP (Coordinator), CODESEN, EAU VIVE, ENDA GRAAF and Crepa Senegal.

Their vision is to be a strong civil society network on water, sanitation and human settlements. As well as creating a website and membership guidelines they will organise information workshops at local, national and transnational levels and create advocacy tools and case studies. Contact: endarup@yahoo.fr

National Civil Society Network for Water and Sanitation (NEWSAN) Nigeria

NEWSAN is the ANEW and FAN focal point for Nigeria. It held a successful AGM and conference in March 2005 with participants from 91 Nigerian CSOs and representatives from the African Development Bank and UNICEF discussing policy formulation & implementation, budgeting & investment and challenges & opportunities in the water and sanitation sector in Nigeria.

NEWSAN was established in December 2003. The National Steering Committee is led by SWAPHEP, PAVE, WIDE, HBF and WaterAid Nigeria. Contact: swaphep@yahoo.com

Rwanda

Civil Society groups in Rwanda are working together to launch an ANEW coalition in their region. The group is coordinated by Rwanda Wildlife Clubs. Contact: rwc@planet-save.com

Cadre de Concertation des ONGs et Associations intervenant dans le secteur de l'Eau Potable et l'Assainissement (CCEPA) Burkina Faso

CCEPA, the Water and Sanitation NGOs and CBOs network for Burkina Faso, was established in 2004 by 25 NGOs and associations. The network is the ANEW focal point in Burkina Faso.

Members are planning activities for the next 3 years including holding a general assembly in 2005. The network hopes to establish a secretariat soon to support members and take on communication and planning. Contact: clementouedraogo@gmail.com

National Secretariat for Coalition of NGOs in Water and Sanitation (CONIWAS) Ghana

The Ministry of Works and Housing in Ghana has said that CONIWAS will enhance government-civil society dialogue in the water sector. CONIWAS have also taken a lead on the Global Call to Action Campaign in Ghana which is centered on increased access to water and sanitation services for the poor and more and better aid.

CONIWAS hosts the annual Mole conferences, Ghana's most important civil society event in the water and sanitation sector. This year discussion focused on tracking and measuring progress towards the water and sanitation MDGs in Ghana. Contact: patrickapoya@yahoo.com

The Global Call to Action in Nigeria

700 civil society organisations have joined together in Nigeria to answer the Global Call to Action against Poverty. NEWSAN, the Nigerian network on water and sanitation, hopes that their presence in the Nigerian coalition will highlight the importance of clean water and adequate sanitation in poverty reduction.



Launch of the Nigerian campaign in June 2005/Timeyin Uwejamomere

Launched on the 16th June, the African Day of the Child, the coalition is focused on activities for the global white band days. They will join campaigns from all over the world to show their solidarity against poverty.

For White Band Day I over 1 million signatures were collected in Nigeria and delivered to the G8 in Scotland. Prior to the UN Millennium Review Summit, in September they will get as many people as possible wearing the White Bands in Nigeria.

Contact: timeyinuweja@wateraidnig.org

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BECOME AN ANEW MEMBER

Contact ANEW Secretariat on: anewsecretariat@elci.org to be added to the network's email list serve or join ANEW online via the FAN website

www.freshwateraction.net/join/register.asp