



REGIONAL PROCESS SESSION DESCRIPTION FORM 2.

10TH WORLD WATER FORUM

This Regional Session Description Form 2 is for the specified program of the session. Please complete this form no later than 10th of March 2024.

**The Regional session description 1 (online form) is separately requested for the Regional session coordinators to deliver a concise session outline with the contact info and the logistical requests.*

Regional Session Code and Title:

Strengthening governance and institutions for enhanced cooperation in managing shared water resources

Regional Session Coordinators (Name, Position, Organization, email, mobile number):

William Reidhead
UN Water
william.reidhead@unwater.org

Alex Manyasi
APHRC
amanyasi@aphrc.org

Session co-coordinator: African RLBO (TBD)

Regional Session Description including objectives and expected outcomes (500 words maximum):

There are 63 transboundary river and lake basins in Africa shared by at least two or more countries covering almost 64 percent of the continent's land area. Collectively, these shared watercourse create interdependencies catalysing cooperation and play a crucial role in supporting livelihoods, ecosystems, and economic activities across the continent. Yet, water resources on the continent are characterised by spatial and temporal variability and are unevenly developed. This has implications for the management of the resource.

Effective transboundary water governance through consensual and joint establishment – at regional level – of transboundary water institutions is key to realise the benefit of transboundary water resources. In addition, the principles of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) provide a guiding philosophy to maximise the benefits of water, land and related resources. These principles are exemplified by the formulation of policies; management instruments; and measures for financing transboundary cooperation; as well as ensuring broad stakeholder participation at all levels. The promise, therefore, is high for assuring water security. However, challenges exist with respect of operationalising and or implementing the management instruments and institutions. Thus, ineffective water governance systems and management structures allude to missed opportunities to release water's full social transformative and economic development potential.

OBJECTIVE: The session will discuss the following:

- The role of transboundary institutions is assuring shared benefits for all
- Discuss the role of 'State of the Basin Reports' in building trust and promoting cooperation



- Strengthen information systems for generating knowledge and supporting decision-making on transboundary water resources development, utilisation and management

EXPECTED OUTCOMES:

- Leverage partnerships and other transboundary cooperation arrangements to support management of shared water resources
- Enhance transboundary cooperation, joint planning and development

THIS TO BE DEVELOPED FURTHER

FORMAT: Setting the Scene -Keynote, Panel discussion, followed by discussion and closing and way forward

Detailed Regional Session Plan:

ESTIMATED TIMING	ITEM DESCRIPTION / ROLE	SPEAKERS	SPEAKERS STATUS (OK OR TBC)
	Session Chair: RLBO		TBC
10 Minutes	Setting the Scene	- Presenter TBC	TBC
10 Minutes	Case study	- TBC	TBC
30 Minutes	Panel discussion	All participants	
20 Minutes	Closing and highlighting main outcomes and way forward	TBC	TBC