



MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND WATER RESOURCES
THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF SOMALIA

NATIONAL WATER SECTOR COORDINATION FACILITY

Water Sector INVESTEMENT WORKING GROUP MEETING

SEPT. 13TH,
2023

World Bank Office,
Nairobi

Roadmap Towards Improved Water

Sector Governance and Coordination



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Background

The National Water Sector Coordination Facility organized the **1st Water Sector Investment Coordination Group Meeting (WSICG)** convened by **H.E Jama Taqal Abbas**, the Minister of Energy and Water Resources, along with **Ms. Kristina Svensson**, the World Bank Country Manager and **Mr. George Conway**, the UN Resident Coordinator and DSRSG. Officials from the relevant government sectors, Donors and International Development Partners joined the meeting.

The Water Sector Investment Coordination Group (WSICG) aims to coordinate the efforts of all the Donors, International Cooperating Partners (ICPs) and Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) active in the water sector in Somalia to foster the development of the sector and ultimately to the benefit of all Somalis. This will enable International Development Partners and Government Institutions involved in the water sector to come together and create a common platform for discussion and aligning their efforts on various issues related to the development of the water sector in the country. The WSICG functions under the Water Sector Coordination Facility and is collaborating with the four thematic technical working groups under the facility. The TOR of the The Water Sector Investment Coordination Group (WSICG) is attached as Annex 1.

Objective of the meeting

This introductory meeting represents a significant milestone in advancing the discussions on the water sector development. It provided a valuable platform for key government intuitions, donors and development partners to address pivotal issues related to the water sector's progress in Somalia. The coordination aims to achieve the following:

- Coordinate and facilitate discussions with donors, ICPs, DFIs, government institutions and other key players on water sector development investments.
- Provide guidance on future strategic interventions and assist with prioritization of projects and funding.
- Promote cooperative approaches and outcomes between sectors, between Ministries and the layers of Government, as well as between the various ICPs and DFIs.

The meeting focused on enhancing the following key core areas:

Cooperation on Sector Financing: The meeting sought to foster collaboration and cooperation among the government institutions, donors and the UN Agencies on the water sector financing.

Strategic Planning: The WSICG meeting facilitated strategic planning discussions to identify key priorities, challenges, and opportunities in the water sector. Participants engaged in

productive dialogues to devise strategies and interventions that will drive sustainable development and optimal utilization of resources.

Coordination and Alignment: The meeting served as a platform to enhance coordination and alignment among the government institutions, donors and the UN Agencies by establishing a common understanding and shared vision, participants worked towards a harmonized approach to water sector development, ensuring synergies and minimizing duplication of efforts. The meeting provided an invaluable opportunity to share projects intervention and share experiences, insights, and best practices for the collective advancement of the sector.

Participants

The agencies participated the meeting were Ministry of Energy and Water Resources (MoEWR), Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MoAI), Somalia Disaster Management Agency (SODMA), Office of the Prime Minister, AFDB, GIZ, World Bank, European Union, USAID, FCDO, UNEP, UNDP, UNICEF, FAO, UNESCO, and WFP. The list of participants is attached in Annex 3.



Participants of Water Sector Investment Working Group Meeting at WB office Nairobi, Kenya on Sept 13, 2023.

Agenda

The meeting consisted of two sessions. The first session focused on an update from the Water Sector Coordination Facility, progress towards the implementation of the National Water Resource Management Strategy (NWRS), and the Water Sector Projects Dashboard, a

platform to consolidate the project interventions on the water sector. The session also included an update on the El Nino situation from SoDMA and SWALIM and an update on the current Hydromet System setup from MOEWR. The second session focused on presentation from the different development partners on key ongoing developmental projects and concepts on projects under the design stage. The detailed agenda is attached in Annex 2.

The Opening Session



Ms. Kristina Svensson and H.E. Jama Taqal Abbas.



Mr. George Conway, the UN Resident Coordinator and DSRSG participating the meeting virtually.

During the opening of the meeting, H.E. Jama Taqal Abbas, the Minister of Energy and Water Resource, acknowledged the importance of the presence of officials representing the Donors, International Cooperating Partners (ICPs), Development Finance Institutions (DFIs) actively engaged in the water sector in Somalia for enhancing collaboration and coordination in the sector. The Minister emphasized in his opening remarks that the coordination group's role is to provide strategic guidance to the sector's development. By aligning the national priorities with the priorities of donors and development partners, the group can leverage resources effectively and implement projects that address the most critical needs in the water sector.

Kristina Svensson, World Bank Country Manager for Somalia, joined the opening session and congratulated the Ministry and meeting participants for actively achieving Aid Architecture in Action, stating that the investment group meeting is a good example of collaborative governance. Ms Kristina highlighted the World Bank's long-term commitment to support Somalia government's plan to develop Somalia's water sector. She emphasized the importance of building country systems and reiterated the World Bank's commitment to the coordination functions set up by the Government of Somalia.

Mr. George Conway from DSRSG emphasized during the meeting opening that addressing water issues is crucial for reducing humanitarian needs, supporting economic growth, and contributing to peace and security in Somalia. He also highlighted the importance of key water interventions for reducing the impact of climate change given that climate and water availability future projections are unfavorable. Mr. George reaffirmed the UN's commitment to supporting Somalia's water sector through mobilizing funding for key strategic investments.

Thematic Areas and Discussions

Thematic area	Deliberation Points
<p>Progress towards the implementation of the NWRS, Project Priorities, and Key Project Concept <i>(All presentation are available in Annex 5)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● MoEWR presented the water sector development journey, water project dashboard and state of the hydromet system establishment. The Ministry shared the progress of the water sector coordination facility and the status of the implementation of the key flagship projects aimed to support the governance issues, increase capacity, and strengthen the government systems. The ministry highlighted that the main challenge in Somalia's water sector is centred on governance hence the importance of the establishment of a functional water sector governance framework. ● During the presentation the Ministry highlighted that the different work groups are fully functional and emphasized the importance of cross ministerial collaboration to advance developmental solutions to end flood and drought emergencies and ensure the sustainable development and management of Somalia's Water resources. ● The Ministry emphasized the role of the WSICG in facilitating discussion on designing strategic interventions and assisting the government with prioritization of funds, coordination of investments and alignment of projects implemented by actors in the water sector. ● MoEWR concluded the presentation with a dashboard consolidating the different projects that are being implemented by different donors across Somalia. The participants appreciated the work went into the dashboard.
<p>Situation Update- El Niño, Drought, and Flood Projections <i>(The presentation is available in Annex 5)</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SoDMA highlighted that the current predictions support a probability of a strong El Nino occurrence (greater than 85% chance) and this will probably mean extreme wet for Somalia between October and December. ● Preparations to mitigate the severity of El Nino have been put in place by the SODMA. This includes implementing a national flood anticipatory action framework that entails various steps such as taking predefined actions, seasonal forecasts, and close monitoring of the rainfall and river water level. ● FAO/SWALIM highlighted the risks of the flooding due to El Nino (both riverine and flash floods) and the possible opportunities to indulge in agricultural activities if the flooding is managed properly, leading to bounty harvest hence improving food security.

Update presentations from the donors and development partners–country portfolio/ programs

- The World Bank presented the multi-sectoral water projects implemented by the Government Agencies. The projects include the WALP pilot project where 8 sand dams were constructed, the Biyoole project where 49 water points were constructed, the Barwaaqo project which focuses on environmental catchment management, and the Groundwater project which focuses on increasing sustainable access and management of ground water as a key contribution to strengthening the resilience to climate change. The projects are laying the foundation for government led implementation by building the capacity of government agencies to design, implement and monitor projects. The World Bank emphasized during the presentation the importance of building country systems and acknowledged the ability of the Somali government to receive funding, implement it, and provide accountability. The presentation is included in the consolidate presentations document available as Annex 5.
- FCDO highlighted that their country strategy is focused on Natural Resource Management, Green Urban Growth and Building Community Resilience. They highlighted that the water components are part of the different intervention implemented by their partners FAO, IOM, and Building Resilient Communities in Somalia (BRCiS). The key pipeline projects shared include the Jowhar Off Stream Project, the Green Urban Growth Program, and the continuation of the Danwaadag Durable Solutions Program.
- USAID shared that their Economic Growth Sector is focusing on water interventions and are very much concerned about the water governance, particularly when water infrastructures are built/rehabilitated without having clarity on governance. They also highlighted that their focus shifted to Stabilization and Resilience Programs and are now implementing Agricultural focused interventions supporting small-scale farmers implemented through their partners FAO and IRIS.
- The GIZ highlighted that they have worked on the Shabelle River basin and their planned project focus on the sustainable management of water resources and transboundary water.
- African Development Bank highlighted that they are currently developing the country strategic paper. The paper will be presented to the Somalia government in 2024. The bank has an ongoing project in Kismayo and Baidoa focused on Urban Water Supply. The Bank is also conducting a feasibility study focused on Qardho, Dollow and Galkacyo to designing a new water

	<p>project interventions with infrastructure support and enhancement of the government capacity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU shared the pipeline projects focused on the riverine areas to improve the irrigation systems.
<p>Presentations on the ongoing water sector development projects and the key concepts in design stage <i>(All presentation are available in Annex 5)</i></p>	<p>Mobilizing investment pipelines for water sector development (2023-2028)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDP in collaboration with MoEWR presented the Joint water sector governance reform where the project design recognizes the importance of undertaking both top-down and bottom-up processes so that climate resilience is progressively developed while sector reform takes place. The Ministry presented the water sector governance approach. The project concept is focused on addressing the lack of proper institutional framework, developing the water financing framework and investment plans, establishing alignment, ownership, and providing strategic direction for the Somali water sector, developing an appropriate institutional system and the capacity to operationalize improved approaches to water sector management. <p>Deep Groundwater Discussions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The exploration of the deep groundwater was discussed. MoEWR shared the plans to produce the final technical data before the end of the year. The additional feasibility study on social and environmental risk analysis will be conducted by FAO and UNDP. The Norwegian Embassy will provide the funds through the Somalia Joint Fund. MoEWR is also developing a concept note on the deep ground water exploration for resource mobilization. <p>Horn of Africa (HOA) Groundwater for Resilience Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The main goal of the program is to increase sustainable access and management of groundwater as a key contribution to strengthening the climate resilience of targeted communities in the Horn of Africa region. The Abaar-Tir project is aligned with the FGS National Development Plan 9, the Rural Resilience Framework, the National Water Resources Strategy, and the World Bank Country Partnership Framework. <p>Somalia Food Systems Resilience Project (S-FSRP)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The S-FSRP project run by the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation aims to increase preparedness against food insecurity and improve the resilience of food systems in targeted project areas of Somalia. The six components guiding the project include: Rebuilding Resilient Agricultural Production Capacity, Supporting the sustainable development of natural resources for

resilient agricultural landscapes, Getting to Markets, Promoting greater focus on Food Systems Resilience in policymaking, Contingency Emergency Response, and Project Coordination and Management.

Johwar Off Stream Project (JOSP)

- The JOSP project in Middle Shabelle aims to sustainably reduce flood risk, mitigate drought impact, and provide sustainable access to water to boost local production and food insecurity, ensure all works apply ecosystem approaches for the sustainable and inclusive exploitation of the natural resources, get people back into production, ensure effective and accountable governance.

The Regional WASH Program by UNICEF

- The RWASH programme in Dollow aims to develop effective and efficient water utility-based models, serving displaced and host communities, following government standards and norms in Kabasa and Qasaxley IDP camps and Dollow town, Gedo Region, Somalia.
- Key elements of the project include Strengthening utility capacities for sustainable and equitable WASH services, ensuring the development and implementation of environmental and social safeguards, enhancing social cohesion and supporting government-led Durable Solutions and HDP nexus agendas, promoting Self-Reliance and Resilience for IDPs and host communities through a HDP approach.

Kobciye Project by WFP

- Kobciye Project aims to Improve the food security and nutrition of smallholder farmers through strengthened resilience to shocks, with a focus on internally displaced persons, women, and youth in Puntland, Jubaland, and Galmudug. The Project is working hand in hand with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, and the Ministry of Energy and Water Resources.

Climate-resilient water resources management in Somalia by GIZ

- The Climate resilient water resources management project being implemented by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and Co-funded by the EU-Delegation Somalia aims to improve prevention of and preparedness for food crises in communities in vulnerable situation.
- The project is running from 2023-2026 in which the direct target group water authorities and further sectoral institutions at federal state and national levels, and the indirect target groups consist of actors in other federal states who will benefit in the future from

	the results as well as the population living in the Juba and Shabelle basins.
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Key Take Aways

Thematic area	Take aways
Funding and Financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase focus on sustainable financing through climate fund windows e.g. GCF. Donors and partners to provide technical support to the government to mobilize the funds. • Focus on preparing a small investment plans and concepts focused on key districts and areas to mobilize resources. • Acknowledgment of the shift of aid focus from humanitarian interventions to development-oriented support to reduce the impact of the cyclical shocks. • Bringing Gulf State Donors on board for mobilization of a long-term investment support.
Program Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Integration of water sector governance into water related infrastructure projects to address the governance challenges at operational level. • A good focus from donors on Ground Water and Jowhar Off Stream Project(JSOP). • The facility to organize separate discussions on the Deep Groundwater Exploration with the presence of the Norwegian government to discuss timelines for sharing the technical data and next steps. • The facility to organize a co-design workshop between the Government entities and other agencies on the Jowhar Off Stream Project(JSOP).
Facilitating Cooperation and coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is good coordination but more needs to be done investment and therefore the is a greater need for the investment meeting to take more regularly (quarterly). • The importance of coordination across ministries and donors and how this coordination can fit into the new Aid Architect. • Alignment of projects and concept with country strategies and priorities. • MoEWR and other sector ministries to organize technical meetings through the working groups to facilitate cooperation between different actors in the water sector. • Mapping and capturing the different interventions funded by the different donors and implemented by non-governmental agencies in the Water Sector Dashboard and ensuring all partners have access to dashboard.

Closing Remarks

In conclusion, H.E. Jama Abbas Taqal emphasized on the importance of holding regular meetings to foster collaboration and pave the way for a more streamlined and impactful approach in achieving our shared goals. He appreciated the commitment of different donors and partners in optimizing use of resources to drive positive change in Somalia.



Closing remarks

Next Meeting

Next meeting will take place during November before COB28. The date will be announced soon.

Annex 1- Water Sector Investment Working Group (WSIWG) TOR (Attached Separately)

The Water Sector Investment Working Group TOR and SOP is attached as a separate annex.

Annex 2- Program Agenda

Time	Session
8:30-09:30 AM	Registrations
09:30-10:00 AM	Welcoming Remarks- Minister of Energy and Water Resources
	Remarks from the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and SoDMA
	Statement from International Partners- Resident Coordinator and World Bank
10:00-10:30 AM	Session 1- Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ El Niño, Drought, and Flood Projections ▪ Progress towards the implementation of the National Integrated Water Resource Management Strategy Roadmap and Flagships ▪ Project priorities and key project concepts
10:30-11:30 AM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Update presentations from the donors and development partners–current portfolio headlines and strategy for the next three years on the water sector
11:30-12:30 PM	Plenary Sessions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sustainable and coordinated financing for the development of water infrastructure ▪ WSICG Meeting calendar 2023/2024
12:30-1:30 PM	Lunch Break
01:30-3:10 PM	Session2- Presentations from the ongoing and pipeline water sector development projects (1 hour and 40 minutes) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ World Bank-funded projects – Barwaaqo, Ground Water Project and Food System Resilience Project (30 minutes) ▪ GIZ EU Project (10 minutes) ▪ FAO USAID and FCDO Funded Jowhar Project (10 minutes) ▪ UNDP and MoEWR Joint Water Sector Governance Reform Project (10 minutes) ▪ WFP Kobciye Project (10 minutes)
3:10-3:45 PM	Plenary discussions
3:45 PM	Closing

Annex 3- List of Participants

No	Name	Agency
Government Institutions		
1	Hon Jama Taqal	Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
2	Ahmed Mohamed	Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
3	Khadar Sheikh Mohamed	Somalia Disaster Management Agency
4	Mr. Abdullahi Mohamed Ahmed (Aboosto)	Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigations
5	Mohamed Omar Osman	Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
6	Ayan Said Tukale	Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
7	Sadia Yusuf Abdi	Ministry of Energy and Water Resources
8	Badra Yusuf Ali	MoEWR Consultant/ Raagsan
9	Dr. Mohamed Abdi Hassan	OPM
Donors		
10	Maureen Ntege Wasswa	AFDB
11	Ahmed Abdullahi	GIZ
12	Kristina Svensson	World Bank
13	Victor Vazquez	World Bank
14	Chantal Richey	World Bank
15	Antoine Esclatine	Echofield EU
16	Charlotte Tilli Blomhammar	EU
17	Jacob Veverka	USAID
18	Takele Tassew	USAID
19	Yolanda cha kava	FCDO UK
20	Kournie Schaefer	FCDO UK
21	Catriona Clunas	FCDO UK
UN Agencies		
22	Christopher Hodder	UNEP/UN
23	Abdul Qadir Rafiq	UNDP
24	Charles Mutai	UNICEF
25	Flavian Muthusi	FAO
26	Luff Ariane	FAO
27	Paolo Paron	FAO
28	Andrew Lanyon	FAO
29	Etienne PETERSCHMITT	FAO
30	Prestage Murima	IOM
31	Christian Berretta	UNESCO
32	Tawanda Mashonganyi	WFP

Annex 4- Photos

[Link for the participant Photo:](https://rb.gy/edv3k)

(<https://rb.gy/edv3k>)

Annex 5- Presentation *(Attached Separately)*

