



REPUBLIC OF BOTSWANA

SDG 6.5.1

Stakeholder

Consultation Report

Botswana

27.10.2023

Executive summary

Botswana reports on Sustainable Development Goal 6.5.1 after every 3 years. The first reporting was in 2017 and the second reporting was successfully done in 2020. This year 2023 is the the third cycle of reporting. All these reportings were held through multi-stakeholder consultative workshops.

The Ministry of Lands and Water Affairs (MLWA) through the Department of Water and Sanitation (DWS) is the custodian to the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 6 that calls for "Clean water and Sanitation" and its target 6.5 states that "all countries should implement the Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) at all levels, including through trans-boundary cooperation as appropriate by 2030". This target supports equitable and efficient use of water resources, which is essential for social and economic development as well as environmental sustainability.

The progress of SDG 6.5 is monitored through SDG 6.5.1 to indicate the "degree of IWRM implementation on the scale of 0-100" in each country. The Monitoring and reporting on SDG indicator 6.5.1 is based on a self-assessment survey that is sent out to all UN Member States every three years.

The Ministry through the Department of Water and Sanitation with the support from United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and Global Water Partnership convened a series of consultative stakeholder workshops. During the workshops, the discussions and contributions from the stakeholders were used to reach a consensus in scoring, status and way forward/recommendations.

The 2023 reporting cycle shows that there has been an improvement in total scoring for 2023 which is an average of 56 compared to an average of 48 scored in 2020. All the four components of the report shows an improvement in terms of total scores. This indicate that Botswana as a Country is making progress though its slow. There are also challenges noted

Consultation Process

Three stakeholder engagement workshops were held. The first workshop was held on the 4th August 2023 in Gaborone, Botswana to sensitise all stakeholders about the SDG 6.5.1 questionnaire. The Chief Water Engineer on behalf of the Director of Water and Sanitation gave the opening remarks and the objective of the workshop. Presentations were made outlining SDG 6.5.1 2023 Global Reporting Process by GWP-BW, Presentation by the facilitators on Overview of the previous SDG 6.5.1 Report progress and the four categories of the questionnaire were thoroughly explained. The survey questionnaire was then shared with all stakeholders through emails for them to go and study it and be able to collate data that is required from them at the end of the workshop. A total of 37 participants of which 22 were male and 15 were female attended the workshop. A variety of stakeholders were present including:

- Mostly Government departments
- National Water agency

- Private sector
- Civil Society organisation
- Transboundary expertise
- Gender expertise

A second phase of data collection was held from the 6th -7th September 2023 at Lions Park Resort , Gaborone, Botswana. Invitation letters were sent to all stakeholders and follow-ups made through emails and calls to remind stakeholders. Half of the stakeholders from the sensitisation workshop attended the workshop despite all efforts made to remind them. This was because during the time majority of stakeholders especially from the government were engaged country wide on the mindset change trainings.

The third last phase was held from the 17th -18th October 2023 to analyse and validate data that has been collected. The workshop was also successful as the intended objectives were achieved .The stakeholder composition was better than during data collection.

Main Findings or areas of consensus

From the presentations made during the sensitisation workshop of previous reports stakeholders were concerned about the low ratings and even concerned if Botswana as a country will be on track to achieve the SDG 6.5 target . They also wanted to understand why in 2020 there was a high rating in financing.Discussions were held indicating that the cause for low rating for Botswana in 2017 may be due to the fact that the first survey for Botswana was a desktop exercise, hence why poor rating. For the second survey there were consultations and the questions also had been improved resulting in a better rating for 2020.As for the high score for financing the reason was because of the world bank loan for Botswana Emergency Water Security Project. The World Bank loan made it possible to finance projects which mainly came from the IWRM-WE Plan of 2013 and these include; Demarcation of Catchment Management Areas,Water Conservation and Demand Management strategy and review of water related legislation. Mega water and sanitation projects were also covered such as the Kanye Sanitation and Molepolole Sanitation.

It will be very good for the country to set national Interim targets to achieve SDG 6.5 target by 2030.

1. Conclusions from facilitated discussions on Section 1: 'Enabling Environment'

Drawing from the discussions held section 1 had an average total score of 54 which indicates that Botswana still needs to put a lot of effort in trying to improve its enabling environment for the implementation of IWRM.

- Section 1.1(a) scored a 50 because even though the water policy is based on IWRM it has not been communicated to the public for their consumption. There was a contradiction in scoring as other departments /ministries like the ministry of local government felt that they are implementing issues of IWRM in terms of improving

livelihoods and provision of water infrastructure to rural areas. They are currently reviewing their National Policy on Rural development to cover issues of IWRM which were not covered by the policy.

- **The Ministry of Minerals and Energy ;Department of Energy:** Have a Solar Renewable Energy Strategy of 2018 which promotes the use of renewable energy (solar water pumps). Currently they are developing plans on how to help farmers to use the solar water pumps. The **strategy** is to be reviewed in 2025
- Department of Town and Country planning have Development Plans which guides on land Development and land use and conservation. The development recommends green infrastructures i.e. stormwater conservation
- 1.1(b) A consensus was reached of the lowest score of 30 and the main argument from all stakeholders is that almost all the related water acts that are still being used are not based on IWRM: The Water Act of 1968, Borehole Act of 1956, Aquatic Weeds Control Act of 1971, Water Utilities Corporation Act 1970 (Revised in 2011) and the Water Works Act of 1962. The review of water related legislation based on IWRM by the department of Water and Sanitation was completed in May 2023 but not yet approved by Parliament. The proposed legislation of water regulatory authority is also complete but not yet approved by Parliament. Regulations are being developed to operationalise the act framework after approval and the project is expected to be completed by November 2024.
- 1.2 (b) There is need to develop management plans for other basins and implementation of the CMA study which will allow catchment management approach and ultimately catchment management plans to close the gap.

a. What are the main challenges to progress in the country?

- Most of the acts are not IWRM based .
- The Botswana Laws and Policies have a blanket approach and do not explicitly speak to specific groups as Vulnerable groups, Private sector, public sector and have not mainstreamed gender issues
- There are no mechanisms in place for M & E and collaboration in the water and sanitation sector
- There is no budget dedicated to IWRM implementation

b. How can the main challenges be addressed?

- The acts need to be reviewed to include IWRM principles The water related legislation has been reviewed and the subsequent model law option has been completed which is based on IWRM . However this has to be taken through parliament for approval with the set of regulations that are to be developed to operationalize the act. The development of the regulations project is expected to be completed towards end of November 2024 and this may delay progress if the parliament does not approve the law
- To develop policies and laws that are specific to the vulnerable groups, private sector and public participation in planning and management of water resources (Implementation of the CMA study)

- To develop an M& E mechanism for IWRM-WE Plan implementation
- To allocate budget for IWRM implementation and capacity building

d. What are the major points stakeholders do not agree on and why?

There were no measure points stakeholders did not agree on

e. Other interesting points of note from the discussion?]

There were no interesting points from the discussion

2. **Section 2: 'Institutions and Participation'**

Section 2 had an average score of 55, barely moved in terms of implementation, Studies have been done but not implemented on the ground. The IWRM advocates Catchment management, public engagements e.g water pitso but they are no longer done. The water and sanitation policies are not stakeholder specific when it comes to inclusivity. They cover everyone in the country as it has been stated in IWRM -WE Plan of 2013 and the Water and Sanitation Policy of 2016.

a. What are the main challenges to progress in the country?

- Section 2.d was scored 20% as there is no communication between Government and private sector. The Government usually engages the private sector and the public in the development of the water resources, however their involvement in the water resources planning and management is minimal. Only communication is through tenders

b. How can the main challenges be addressed?

- To enhance public participation through development of laws and policies that speaks to public participation and proper stakeholder analysis for engagement

3. **Section 3: 'Management Instruments'**

- Section 3 had a total average score of 50 which shows that Botswana is surely making efforts but the progress is slow. Water Resources management is hindered by lack of resources such as transport and also absolute equipment which means monitoring is limited. Not much investment is directed towards water resources management but rather in infrastructure development. Botswana has reviewed water related legislation as a way of improving its governance which will aid in improving water resources management in terms aligning to new emerging issues. She has also assessed the establishment of an independent regulator which will assist in issue of tariff setting and regulation of the water industry. There are no monitoring and evaluation mechanisms in place and no data sharing platforms except for transboundary waters.

a. What are the main challenges to progress in the country?

- There are no data sharing protocols between major stakeholders
- Geographic Coverage for monitoring stations and boreholes is limited to strategic areas being monitored.
- 3/5 of the basins do not have water resources management plans (Limpopo, Chobe and Molopo)

b. How can the main challenges be addressed?

- Establish multi-stakeholder data sharing protocols between major stakeholders

- Implementation of The Catchment Management Area Study for decentralisation of water resources management and planning. This will also encourage the development of management plans for each CMA.
- Implementation of TWMS will address issues of absolute equipment and also improve on real time monitoring

4 Section 4: 'Financing'

- This section recorded an average of 65 in scoring indicating that in terms of investment for infrastructure there is an improvement. The Ministry of Lands and Water Affairs has been receiving the largest share of the development budget. However, budget for maintenance is insufficient.

a. What are the main challenges to progress in the country?

- The country needs to put in more efforts in increasing the maintenance budget
- Establish a fund or trust for IWRM elements and also establish CMCs

b. How can the main challenges be addressed?

5. Next steps

- To domesticate the questionnaire so that by the time of reporting all the required data is available.
- To appoint a focal point for IWRM implementation who will keep track on IWRM implementation

6. Annexes

Annex 1: List of Participants

Annex 2: Agenda

Annex 3: Facilitator's Comments

Annex 4: Photos

Annex 5: Gender Checklist

Annex 1: List of participants

Workshop participants

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Annex 2: Agenda

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ANNEX 2B: AGENDA FOR DATA VALIDATION WORKSHOP

2020 SDG 6.5.1 NATIONAL REPORTING SURVEY FOR BOTSWANA

DATE: 17 October 2023

VENUE: DWS Main Conference Room, GABORONE

FACILITATOR: DWS

TIME	ACTIVITY	RESPONSIBLE
0900 – 0905	Opening Prayer	Volunteer
0905 – 0915	Introductions	All
0915 – 0925	Opening Remarks and Objectives	Director of Water and Sanitation
0925 - 0935	Global SDG 6.5.1 2023 Reporting Process Presentation	GWP Botswana Secretariat
0935 - 0945	Overview of the previous SDG 6.5.1 Report	Ms Ireen Madilola, DWS
0945 - 1000	Introduction to the 4 Categories: 1. Enabling Environment 2. Institutions & Participation 3. Management Instruments 4. Financing	Ms Saniso Sakuringwa, DWS
1000 – 1010	Q & A	All
1010-1030	Health Break	Health Break
1030-1300	1. Validation : Enabling Environment 2. Institutions & Participation	Focal Point
1300 - 1400	Lunch	All
1400 – 1600	3 Management Instruments	Focal Point
1600- 1605	Closing Remarks	Water Utilities Corporation
1605 -1610	Closing Prayer	Volunteer

Annex 3: Facilitator's Comments

Overall the workshops aims and objectives were met in all the three workshops. In the future, all key stakeholders are to attend all planned workshops for data collection exercise, participants understood and answered the survey without any difficulties. The process of running the workshops was clear. There is a lot of work done under both sanitation and Water resources management but there is no documentation or even websites to access work done by Botswana . Funds permitting it is wise to carry out focused group workshops in the future and interim data collection throughout the year.

Annex 4: Photos



Kick-Off workshop held at the Department of Water and Sanitation , Gaborone on the 4th of August 2023



Data collection Workshop held at Lions Park Resort,Gaborone from the 6th -7th September 2023



Participants on serious discussions during the validation workshop on the 17th October 2023



The facilitator Ms Ireen Madilola guiding the discussions during validation



Group photo taken during stakeholder validation workshop

Annex 5 Gender Checklist

Gender mainstreaming in water resources management

Voluntary checklist

2023