

TRAINING COURSE OFFERED BY THE SADC GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE



NAME OF THE COURSE:

SHORT COURSE: Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) and Environmental and Social Management (ESM) Integration in Transboundary Groundwater Governance and Management

DATE

18 - 21 OCTOBER 2023

PLATFORM

Virtual

**Prepared and Facilitated by: Batanayi Gwangwawa:
Regional Environmental and Social Management
Consultant**



Context and Justification

Gender equality and social inclusion (GESI) integration in transboundary water management and governance is crucial in Southern Africa for several reasons. GESI integration promotes inclusive decision-making processes. Women, youth, ethnic minorities, and other marginalized groups are often excluded from water management and governance discussions and decision-making processes. Their voices and perspectives are not adequately considered, leading to inefficient and ineffective water management practices. By integrating GESI, all stakeholders can participate fully in decision-making, ensuring that the diverse needs and priorities of different groups are taken into account. This inclusive approach enhances the legitimacy and effectiveness of water management and governance efforts.

To this end GESI integration addresses gender disparities in access to water resources and services. In many Southern African countries, women are primarily responsible for water collection, management, and use. They often bear the burden of water scarcity and poor water quality, impacting their health, well-being, and productivity. By recognizing and addressing these gender disparities, GESI integration can help ensure that women have equal access to water resources and services. This not only promotes gender equality but also contributes to poverty reduction, as improved access to water can enhance women's economic opportunities. Furthermore, GESI integration enhances the resilience and sustainability of transboundary water management. Climate change, population growth, and competing demands for water resources pose significant challenges to water management in Southern Africa. By integrating GESI, water management and governance strategies can be more adaptive and responsive to changing conditions. Women, as critical users and managers of water, possess valuable traditional knowledge and coping strategies for water scarcity. By incorporating these perspectives, GESI integration can contribute to more sustainable and resilient water management practices.

Lastly, GESI integration facilitates the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs encompass various targets related to water management, gender equality, and social inclusion. By mainstreaming GESI, countries in Southern Africa can align their water management and governance efforts with the SDGs, ensuring progress towards multiple development objectives. Therefore GESI integration in transboundary water management and governance in Southern Africa is necessary to promote inclusive decision-making, address gender disparities, enhance resilience, and achieve sustainable development objectives. By recognizing the value of gender equality and social inclusion, Southern African countries can ensure that their water management practices are equitable, efficient, and sustainable.

Similarly, transboundary water resources management and governance in Southern Africa is crucial for ensuring the sustainable use and preservation of water resources that cross national boundaries. Environmental and social management plays an integral role in this process. From an environmental perspective, transboundary water resources are often delicate ecosystems that support a wide array of flora and fauna. Any mismanagement or overuse of these resources can lead to irreversible damage to the environment. Environmental and social management aims to minimize the negative impacts on these ecosystems by promoting sustainable practices, such as the implementation of water conservation measures, the protection of wetlands and riparian areas, and the prevention of pollution and contamination.

Additionally, transboundary water resources management has significant social implications. Water is a vital resource for human well-being, economic development, and social stability. Unequitable access to water resources can lead to conflicts and disputes among riparian states. By incorporating environmental and social management into governance structures, decision-makers can ensure that water resources are allocated fairly and equitably, taking into consideration the diverse needs of different stakeholders such as communities, farmers, industries, and ecosystems.

Environmental and social management is essential in transboundary water resources management and governance in Southern Africa. It helps protect the fragile ecosystems, ensures equitable access to water resources, and fosters regional cooperation. By prioritizing environmental sustainability and social inclusivity, Southern African countries can better manage and protect their transboundary water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

It is against this background that groundwater professionals build their capacity in GESI and ESM integration. The two components are fast becoming eligibility criteria for many funding and donor agencies and in order for many organizations to survive, compliance is critical.



Language Instruction

This proposed course will be delivered in English, with translation into Portuguese and French as necessary.

Course Material

The course will significantly draw from case studies on transboundary governance initiatives implemented in Southern Africa and other parts of the world. In addition to case studies, the course will rely on lessons learnt and best practices documented in the region and globally on GESI integration and ESM.

Objectives

To build the capacity of target participants in GESI integration and Environmental and Social Management in Transboundary Water Resources Management and Governance in the Southern Africa Region.

Target Group

Groundwater personnel, Resource Mobilisation Personnel, Gender Focal Persons, Environmental Practitioners, Business Development Personnel, Programme Managers, implementers, River Basin Representatives, SADC Member States, Regional institutions, funders, project implementers in the water-food-energy-nexus, Consultants, Research and Academic Institutions and other stakeholders and key groundwater management staff.

Participants

A maximum of 30 participants will be admitted. All participants are requested to register by 30 September 2023 using the registration link provided below.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of the course, participants would have learned the following aspects of transboundary groundwater management;

- Integration of GESI and ESG in project proposals, budgets and results framework.
- Integrate GESI and ESG in the transboundary groundwater management and governance projects.
- Develop and implement Gender Action Plans.
- Develop and implement Environmental and Social Governance Frameworks and Plans.
- Understand the Transboundary groundwater policy, legal and institutional frameworks on GESI integration.
- Understand the role of stakeholder participation in transboundary groundwater management
- The role of groundwater in socio-economic development and the Water-Energy and Food nexus
- Catalyze the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through GESI integration.

Methodological Aspects/ Program Description

This is an interactive online course which will use participatory and interactive tools for maximum benefit to participants. The course will be offered online; the study material will comprise slides and literature on case studies.

Facilitation

The course will be facilitated by:

Batanayi Gwangwawa (Regional Environmental & Social Management Specialist) – GESI expert
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/batanayi-colletta-she-her-mapinde-gwangwawa-7347a293>

Course Outline

Module 1: GESI Integration Transboundary Water Resources Management and Governance.

- GESI integration fundamentals, principles and frameworks
- GESI integration in project proposal, design, and implementation
- GESI Integration policy and practice
- Stakeholder Mapping, Participation, Engagement, and Analysis for GESI integration
- Integrated Water Resources Management framework for transboundary groundwater management (IWRM principles and framework)
- GESI Outcomes, Learning and Reporting

Module 2: Environmental and Social Management (ESM) in Transboundary Water Resources Management and Governance.

- Environmental and Social Management Fundamentals
- Environmental and Social Safeguards in project implementation
- Environmental and Social Governance in project proposal, design and implementation
- Environmental and Social Management Systems for Organizations
- Stakeholder Engagement for Environmental and Social Governance

Module 3: Developing Action Plans

- Practical session to develop a Gender Action Plan
- Practical session to develop an Environmental and Social Management Plan

Training Costs

The training will cost R3000 per person. Kindly register using the link below or visit [SADC-GMI website: www.sadc-gmi.org](http://www.sadc-gmi.org)

Banking Details

Interested delegates can deposit the registration fee in the following bank account:

Name of the bank:	Standard Bank
Name of the account holder:	SADC-GMI
Account number:	421376031
Account type:	BIZLUANCH
Branch:	Brandwag
Branch code:	055534
Branch code (electronic payments):	051001
SWIFT address:	SBZA ZAJJ

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