

SADC-GMI Partners with Dr Alice Aureli and Ms. Gettie Mulokoshi – Shiinda as SADC-GMI Ambassadors.

As a regional Centre of Excellence in promoting equitable and sustainable groundwater management in the SADC region, it is imperative that SADC-GMI continuously raise awareness about the work they do and groundwater issues in the region. To achieve this objective, SADC-GMI has adopted various approaches including the development of Awareness, Knowledge Management and Communication strategy and the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy. These strategies have recommended a spectrum of tools to use in order to elevate the SADC-GMI brand, one of those tools is for SADC-GMI to have brand Ambassadors who will facilitate raising awareness about the SADC-GMI's work in different platforms.

To that end, SADC-GMI has partnered with Dr Alice Aureli, former Head of UNESCO IHP Groundwater Resources and Water Cooperation Department and Ms. Gettie Mulokoshi – Shiinda from the Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Land Reform Windhoek, Namibia to be SADC-GMI Ambassadors.

Both these dynamic women using different strategic platforms, will help SADC-GMI to raise awareness about SADC-GMI as the institute and the work that we do to promote the sustainable groundwater management in the region. Through their authentic passion for groundwater and extensive network, we believe that they will be both instrumental in helping SADC-GMI raise awareness about groundwater and the SADC-GMI as the Centre of Excellence through various communication platforms.



Dr Alice Aureli: former Head of UNESCO IHP Groundwater Resources and Water Cooperation Department partners with SADC-GMI as an Ambassador , she will act as SADC-GMI Senior Special Advisor.

SADC-GMI is extremely excited to partner with this maestro, considering her wealth of experience and network in the water sector.

Dr Aureli is the former Head of the UNESCO IHP Groundwater Resources and Water Cooperation department. She holds a PhD in Hydrogeology. Dr Aureli has over thirty years of experience working within the UN system, where she managed international cooperation projects in her capacity as a UNESCO official from 1992 to June 2023. In the framework of the UN-Water IMI SDG 6, she was responsible for the monitoring of the SDG 6.5.2 indicator on transboundary water in collaboration with UNECE from 2017 to June 2023.

Dr Aureli has experience in the management and governance of groundwater resources. Since 2002, she has been the coordinator of UNESCO's International Shared Aquifers Resources Management (ISARM) initiative, responsible for the first inventory of the world's transboundary aquifers. She headed the UNESCO team that assisted the United Nations International Law Commission in preparing the draft articles of the "Law of Transboundary Aquifers". She has been responsible for a large portfolio of capacity development projects. She continues to teach in master's programmes and supervise research activities and PhD students.

Laureat of several international awards, including the International Association of Hydrologists (IAH) Presidents' Prize in 2015 for her work on transboundary aquifers governance, and the Gilbert Castany Hydrogeology Prize in 2022. Ms Aureli is an honorary member of the International Water Resources Association (IWRA), a member of the French Partnership for Water, and a senior advisor to the IAH Commission on Transboundary Aquifers as other think thanks water resources management related . She is a member of the Observatory of the Sahel and Sahara (OSS) Strategic Orientation Committee. She is author of numerous scientific literature on water diplomacy and editor of international journals.



Dr Alice Aureli - SADC-GMI Ambassador (Senior Special Advisor)



As the SADC-GMI's Brand Ambassador and champion, she will play a pivotal role in advancing SADC-GMI's mandate by promoting its invaluable work through an array of channels and platforms. Her achievements include involvement in the Stampriet Transboundary Aquifer System (STAS) - Governance of Groundwater Resources in Transboundary Aquifers (GGRETA) Project Phase I-III, where her contribution was instrumental in advancing comprehension of transboundary aquifers and advocating for the effective governance of groundwater resources.

Gettie is a 2023 Mandela Washington Alumna and is keen to leverage her expertise and communication skills to further SADC-GMI's mandate and objectives. This powerful and dynamic woman is not new to SADC-GMI family. She is currently participating on the SADC-GMI Young Professionals programme which aims to develop and capacitate young professionals in the region. Gettie firmly believes that such programmes should go beyond theoretical knowledge but also strive to provide a platform for young minds to participate actively in water research, management, and conversation issues.

As the brand Ambassador, she is committed to ensure that young voices are recognized for their contribution in the sector. Her passion for nurturing the next generation of water professionals is evident in her involvement as a founding member of the UNESCO Groundwater Youth Network.



Gettie currently serves in the ORASECOM Groundwater Hydrology Committee and Namibia Hydrogeological Association where she constantly makes impactful contributions. She proudly serves on the Project Coordination Team as the Regional Lead for Africa, driving initiatives that empower young professionals and facilitate knowledge exchange.

We are delighted to announce and welcome Ms. Gettie Mulokoshi-Shiinda as the young SADC – GMI Brand Ambassador.

Gettie is a seasoned Groundwater professional with nearly a decade of hands-on experience in groundwater investigation, monitoring, and management gained while working in her home country, Namibia. She holds a master's degree in water resources management from the University of Namibia and possesses great ability to communicate to young minds.

