

Outcome document from meeting of the Lake zone WASH forum Working Group -18 September 2014

1.0 Background

The Water Supply and Sanitation Collaborative Council (WSSCC) team in Tanzania completed an engagement plan in the middle of 2014 and shared the perspectives with Tanzania Water and Sanitation Network (TAWASANET). A key convergence point in the WSSCC engagement plan and TAWASANET strategy was identified to be the establishment of zonal Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) forums. The Lake zone, constituted by six administrative regions of Geita, Kagera, Mwanza, Shinyanga and Simiyu was selected to be a forerunner zone. It was decided to inaugurate the forum with existing TAWASANET members in the zone and subsequently expanding through recruitment of other interested members in the sector. The Lake zone WASH Forum was inaugurated at a stakeholder meeting jointly organised by WSSCC and TAWASANET in Mwanza on 15th September 2014. Participants to the inaugural meeting included National WSSCC Co-ordination team, TAWASANET Secretariat, TAWASANET members in the Lake zone, Mwanza Urban Water Supply and Sanitation (MWAUWASA) and WASH sector Capacity Building institutions in the Lake zone. The Lake zone WASH Forum Working Group was elected at the end of the meeting to take the process of formalizing the zonal forum as a learning point for subsequent establishment of other zonal forums in Tanzania.

2.0 The Working Group

The Working group was assigned to initiate planning for the functioning of the forum while maintaining clear strategic linkages with TAWASANET. The following members were elected to form the working group :

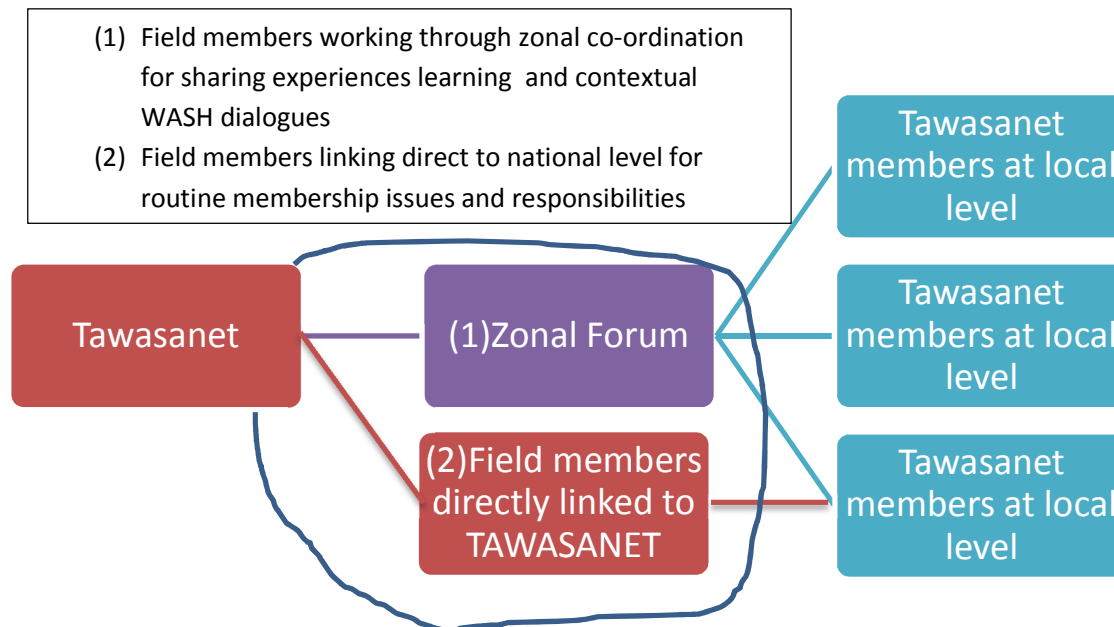
- Editruda Lukanga-EMEDO
- Josephine Lemoyan-AFORD /WASAFI Consortium
- Donald Kasongi-Governance Links Tanzania

3.0 Terms of Reference

3.1 The Working Group was assigned to focus on the following:

1. Use presentations from group work on the roles and responsibilities of the forum to shape the functional roles and communication between the forum and TAWASANET at national level
2. Ensure that proposed operational options avoid establishment of bureaucratic structures in communication with TAWASANET at national level ,referring to the illustration provided by Donald Kasongi during the inaugural meeting
3. Working group to submit a draft proposal within 10 days (by 25th September)
4. Circulate draft proposal to all members who participated at the inaugural meeting within 5 days
5. Propose next steps in the process

3.2 The Operational and communication structure



4.0 Functional Roles of the zonal WASH forum

The working group identified the following potential functional roles of the zonal WASH forum:

1. A platform for sharing and joint learning through structuring and synthesis of lessons and experiences in the sector acquired through both horizontal and vertical knowledge management
2. Systematic documentation of practices and case studies from experiences in the Lake zone
3. Identification and prioritization of zonal specific issues for submission to national level policy and practice influencing processes
4. Co-ordination of joint interventions and communication amongst forum members within the zone
5. Ensure consistent and timely communication from the zonal constituency through the focal group and zonal convener to TAWASANET secretariat and backward.
6. Stimulate, nurture and document context specific perspectives on WASH in the zone

5.0 Co-ordination

A consensus reached during the forum launch recommended the establishment of a zonal co-ordination group with two representatives from each region and a zonal convener. Considering that there are six regions in the Lake zone, the co-ordination group will be formed by 12 members, each region represented by two. Governance Links Tanzania was assigned the to be the zonal convener.

6.0 Communication

It was recommended that an e-mail group be established linking all members in the zone

7.0 Costs for co-ordination

It was acknowledged that the initiative is just beginning, and therefore members taking up various responsibilities will be expected to cover emerging costs through their own institutions

8.0 Mapping of actors at regional level

Regional groups will be required to map actors within their regions to enable the co-ordination group and convener establishing a zonal database

9.0 Next steps

1. Draft and share document from the working group meeting with all members who attended the forum launch
2. Final working document to zone members (copy to WSSCC and TAWASANET)
3. Once the final document is approved through consultations, a formal forum launch meeting will be organised to approve the working modalities and complete the election of regional representatives
4. Governance Links Tanzania to continue being the convener of the Lake zone forum until the formal launch