African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation - ANEW

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Who we are

- ANEW is a regional networking body of African civil society organizations actively involved in the field of sustainable water management, water supply and sanitation.
- These CSOs are committed to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) and the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) targets.
ANEW - background

- The Africa Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEW) was set up to ensure that African civil society voices are represented in international and regional water policy forums.
- To ensure that the African CSO voices are heard during the increasingly political water debates.
Formation of ANEW

- ANEW was launched in December 2003, during the Africa Ministerial Conference on Water Pan-African Implementation and Partnership Conference on Water in Addis Ababa.
- This followed the inception meeting in October 2003 when over 40 representatives of African NGO’s and networks working on water issues from all over Africa
ANEW VISION

‘An Africa where water resources are managed sustainably and where everyone has access to safe water and sanitation’
ANEW Mission

‘To facilitate the co-ordination of diverse African CSO voices in water and sanitation resources development and management at all levels’
Our membership policy

ANEW membership is free and open to all registered civil society organizations working in Africa that are involved in sustainable water management, water supply and sanitation and other water issues and are committed to the aims of ANEW.
As of 2006, ANEW has a membership of over 50 WSS CSO organizations and networks from East, West, North, Central and Southern Africa. Given the fact that some of the ANEW Network members have several hundred NGO members, the overall membership of ANEW is > 200. ANEW has regional representation mirroring the 5 AMCOW regions. Its secretariat is based in Maji na Ufanisi – a Water and Sanitation NGO based in Nairobi, Kenya.
Context of ANEW

- The need for political space for CSOs to be involved and influential in water debates and planning and monitoring development of the Water and Sanitation sector
- The need to co-ordinate our inputs in ensuring sector development in line with values of transparency, equity, sustainability and local knowledge
- The critical role of water in Africa’s development and alleviation of poverty, addressing gender concerns
Planned Activities

- A communication and information system that will be accessible to all members.
- Facilitate CSO and stakeholder consultation, improved debate, increased consumer voice on matters related to water development.
- Use modern technology, such as websites, e-mail groups, e-newsletters in the region on thematic.
Planned activities continued

- Advance dialogue between government, regional bodies, financing institutions and development partners concerned with water resources management and development
- Operationalise means of collaborating with AMCOW TAC and other initiatives e.g. the EU Water Initiative
- Promote the exchange of learning and scale up positive practices between countries in Africa
What we do

- Maintaining a communication and information system accessible to all members. Website, e-mail groups, electronic forums, electronic newsletters and postal mail and occasional meetings
- Developing ANEW as a platform for advocacy in the region, through national, sub-regional and regional level networking to create coordinated advocacy platforms for CSOs in the water and sanitation sector
- Advancing dialogue between governments and CSOs
What we do - continued

- Conducting advocacy skills training workshops and activities in thematic areas
- Maintaining a functioning secretariat, supported by national and regional and national representatives
- Developing a tracking and alert mechanism, which regularly informs CSOs on the status of policy formulation in the key areas
- Participating in the United Nations Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD) policy review on water and sanitation
What we do - continued

- Participating in relevant African symposia and conferences
- Promoting the experiences and good practices of the members to a wider audience and to key decision makers
- Facilitating networking and exchange between ANEW members
Our successes

- Our potential i.e. a platform that speaks on behalf of all the African WSS CSOs recognized by key organizations in Africa e.g. AfDB + AMCOW
- ANEW invited to attend AMCOW meetings
- ANEW in the final phase of formalizing its observer status with AMCOW
- In October 2004, ANEW was involved in the organization of a regional meeting dubbed African CSO Policy Compass to CSD 13, which was attended by 40 participants from all over Africa
Our successes - continued

- The Coordinator and the Ethiopian focal point invited to the AMCOW EXCO/TAC Meetings held in Addis Ababa in June 2005
- ANEW represented at the Private Participation in Infrastructure (PPI) Conference - June 2005, Cape Town - organized by the World Bank, in partnership with the Public Private Infrastructure Advisory Facility (PPIAF) and other organizations
Our successes - continued

- ANEW participated in thirteenth session of the UN Commission for Sustainable Development (CSD 13)
- ANEW Invited to the First Regional Technical Preparatory Meeting to the 4th World Water Forum - September, 2005 in Tunisia
- During the 4 WWF, a number of local actions from Africa selected for the Kyoto Grand Water Prize
How to contact us

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