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# WATER FOR AFRICA THROUGH LEADERSHIP AND INSITUTIONAL SUPPORT (WALIS)

**TRIP REPORT: PIERS CROSS USA VISIT APRIL 19-22, 2016**

**MAY 2016**

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# ABBREVIATIONS

AMCOW	African Ministers' Council on Water
AfWA	Africa Water Association
ASA	African Sanitation Academy
AWW	Africa Water Week
BAT	Bottleneck Analysis Tool
BMGF	Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
COP	Chief of Party
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
EOI	Expression of Interest
GLAAS	Global Analysis and Assessment of Sanitation and Drinking-Water
IDIQ	Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity
JSR	Joint Sector Review
RWSN	Rural Water Supply Network
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SWA	Sanitation and Water for All
TAMIS	Technical and Administrative Management Information System
UNESCO WWAP	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization World Water Assessment Programme
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WALIS	Water for Africa through Leadership and Institutional Support
WASH	Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene

# TRIP REPORT USA VISIT

## TRIP OBJECTIVE

This trip was undertaken as part of team building and the continuation of the WALIS roadshow briefing. The objective was for Piers Cross (Senior Institutional Development and Program Implementation Advisor based in Johannesburg) to meet with the WALIS team and work with them on WALIS work plan activities and meet with the USAID colleagues. Piers Cross and Richard Pollard (Chief of Party) also met with other WALIS partners and WASH agencies in Washington D.C.; and were joined by Anahit Gevorgyan (Activity Manager) on a trip to New York to meet with key WASH agencies, including UNICEF, SWA and UN-DESA.

## TASKS

- WALIS team meetings;
- Meeting with USAID;
- Meeting with Washington D.C. agencies/individuals (TAOTI, John Sitton, Eddie Perez and Plan International); and
- Meeting with New York agencies (UNICEF, SWA, UN-DESA).

## OUTCOMES

### GENERAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Held face-to-face meetings with all WALIS team members who clarified their roles and responsibilities. The meetings were important for building personal trust and appreciation of team capabilities.
- Held face-to-face meetings with USAID colleagues who presented USAID priorities and modes of operation, and had an opportunity to discuss work plan activities.
- Piers Cross and Rachel Tkachuk worked on the Africa Water Week (AWW) agenda and prepared the session design and strategy.
- Piers Cross and Anahit Gevorgyan worked on the next steps in designing the call for Expression of Interests (EOI).
- The WALIS team shared ideas on the African Sanitation Academy (ASA), which added greatly to the draft concept note.
- Meetings in Washington D.C. and New York all gave positive feedback to WALIS, both on the process of consultation and confirming that WALIS was focusing on important and strategic areas. In all meetings we received strong indication of support and interviewed agencies expressed interest in collaborating with WALIS .

### MEETING SPECIFIC NOTES

#### Meetings with WALIS Team

- **Africa Water Week (AWW)** Activity leads are Rachel Tkachuk (activity management) and Piers Cross (technical lead). We discussed the details of draft program agenda and developed a schedule of activities leading up to the meeting. The updated program agenda (in the AMCOW format) is attached as ANNEX C.

- **Expressions of Interest (EOI)** Activity leads are Anahit Gevorgyan (activity management) and Piers Cross (technical lead). We reviewed the EOI activity plan and agreed on specific action items and a timeline of milestones for implementation (see ANNEX D).
- **African Sanitation Academy (ASA)** Activity lead is Piers Cross. During this visit he discussed the ASA with Richard Pollard, USAD COR and other colleagues. Following these discussions Piers has developed a draft concept proposal.

### **Meeting with TAOTI**

- Together with Richard Pollard we met with WALIS sub-contractor TAOTI senior staff to review the WALIS work plan and the findings of the roadshow. We specifically discussed potential areas for TAOTI support going forward. We suggested that TAOTI send a representative to AWW to familiarize with AMCOW staff and discuss website needs. We also agreed to develop a small task order for TAOTI for the AWW participation and AMCOW dialogue.

### **Meeting with NPPWSP**

- Based on USAID recommendation we met with Non-Profit Public Water Sanitation Partnerships (NPPWSP), a nonprofit aiming to: 1) improve the provision of safe water and adequate sanitation in small and medium-sized cities in low income countries, and 2) provide global water and sanitation disaster relief support assistance. We briefed them on the WALIS strategic objectives and work plan, and agreed to maintain contact to explore opportunities to collaborate going forward.

### **Meeting with Emory University**

- We discussed the concept of ASA. They were enthusiastic about the concept and expressed some concern about its level of ambition. They stressed the importance of linking the ASA to the other similar initiatives, including the World Bank's much increased investment portfolio. They noted that the curricula in many African universities need substantial improvement to incorporate current thinking about sanitation. A decision-making tool for sanitation developed by WB might be useful for ASA. They noted that the focus on utility sanitation leadership seems unique and important.

### **Meeting with USAID**

- **Comments on ASA:** key is to establish demand (is there sufficient interest amongst utilities and local governments for the ASA's services?); how ASA will be sustained after the 5 years of WALIS needs to be thought through; the real need is for engineers in African utilities to have their technical skills improved from their rather traditional approach to include latest technical options and new research findings.
- **SWA WASH financing and monitoring working group:** There is an ongoing effort to standardize and harmonize sector processes for key WASH parameters. They noted that a detailed outline has been drafted for the water point functionality which needs to be finalized and field tested. They will share the terms of reference with the team as WALIS might be well positioned to help with finalizing the work and helping with field testing.

### **Meeting with Plan International**

- Plan has a strong network of offices in Africa. They focus on project implementation, have little in-house analytical capacity, and are not working at the policy level. Their intention however is to build this capacity for the future.

### Meeting with UNICEF

- UNICEF is keen to collaborate with WALIS in improving data collection and monitoring.
- **Comments on EOI:** They suggested to link EOIs to WASH- Bottleneck analysis tools (BATs). Since UNICEF has an office in virtually every country the EOIs are likely to come from, they could be an efficient and strategic partner.
- **Map WASH-BATs and JSRs:** Building on the JSR study, it will be useful to develop and promote a model country level sector planning and review processes which incorporate JSRs, BATs and other analytical approaches.
- **Comments on ASA:** How would utilities retain staff trained up by ASA? Would ASA also include rural sanitation? UNICEF could be an important collaborator in helping to finance participants and undertake follow up.

### UN-Water

- They gave us a briefing on the High Level Panel (<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/topics/waterandsanitation/hlpw>) . Note that the dates of the first HL Panel meeting are 11-20 July and clash with AWW.
- Plans are far advanced for announcing another UN decade for water, and a year for Women and Water (2018).
- Information on the World Youth Parliament for Water
- Information on integrated monitoring of water and sanitation / SDG 6: (GEMI): <http://www.unwater.org/gemi>.
- Colleagues at UNESCO/WWAP who are involved in gender-disaggregated data that is being piloted by
- UN University, in addition to having “twin” institutes in Global North/South countries including several in Africa, is also running a project with UN-DESA on supporting countries with evidence-based decision-making for SDG 6.

### Meeting with SWA

- USAID is a strong contributor to SWA and SWA welcomes close collaboration with WALIS. Many SWA aims (such as improving evidence based decision-making) are very similar to those of WALIS. They emphasized the need for global monitoring harmonization.
- The CPTT is preparing a toolkit (building on UNICEF's initial suggestions) for sector processes countries can use to develop SDG plans. WALIS could play a useful role in adding to these and disseminating the tool kits. A web-site also needs to be managed giving access to the toolkit.

## **NEXT STEPS**

Key actions are:

- Internal and selected comments on the ASA concept to move to a further draft.
- Develop criteria for selection of EOI countries and begin the dialogue with key stakeholders on the country selection: USAID, AMCOW, UNICEF, GLAAS.
- Develop and submit detailed AWW Track I agenda.
- Update the WALIS work plan activity tasks with the outcomes of the visit.

# ANNEX A: LIST OF PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED

Date	Organization name	Meeting participants	Position	Contact Info
4/19	DAI	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/19	DAI	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/19	DAI	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/19	DAI	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/19	DAI	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/19	DAI	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/20	USAID	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/20	USAID	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/20	USAID	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/20	USAID	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/20	USAID	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/21	Emory University	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/21	TAOTI	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/21	Non-Profit Public Water Sanitation Partnerships	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/21	Plan International	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/22	UNICEF	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/22	UN Water	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted
4/22	SWA	Redacted	Redacted	Redacted



# ANNEX B: MEETING SCHEDULE

	DAI	Downtown DC	Downtown DC	NYC	
	Tues, April 19	Wed, April 20	Thurs, April 21	Fri, April 22	
8:30 AM				AMTRAK DC - NY Union - Penn Station 7 - 9:46 AM	WALIS-related Meetings with Partners
9:00 AM	Africa Water Week Meeting (9 - 10 AM)		Meeting (9 - 10 AM) Kramerbooks - Du Pont		WALIS Team Meetings
9:30 AM					DAI Meetings
10:00 AM	Weekly WALIS meeting in the London Room (10 - 11 AM)	EOI Meeting (10 - 11 AM)	<b>TRAVEL TIME</b>		
10:30 AM				Meet with Taoti (10:30 AM - 12 PM) 1250 Connecticut Ave NW Suite 610	
11:00 AM	Internal DAI meeting (11 AM - 12 PM)			UNICEF (11 AM - 12 PM)	
11:30 AM					
12:00 PM	Team Lunch with Miguel & Travis (12 - 1:30 PM)	<b>TRAVEL TIME 1 HR</b>	<i>Tentative TRAVEL TIME</i>		
12:30 PM				Lunch meeting with Plan International (12:30 - 2 PM) Le Pain Quotidien - Dupont	
1:00 PM		USAID: (1 - 2 PM) Ronald Reagan Bldg		UNDP Water Group (1 - 2 PM)	
1:30 PM	Admin & TAMIS Review with Rachel (1:30 - 3:00 PM)	USAID Meet & Greet (2 - 3 PM) Ronald Reagan Bldg			
2:00 PM					
2:30 PM					
3:00 PM	<b>REST TIME</b>				
3:30 PM	Expenses Review with Sofia (3:30 - 4:30 PM)			Meet with SWA (3:30 - 5 PM) Plus time on SWA issues	
4:00 PM					
4:30 PM					
5:00 PM					

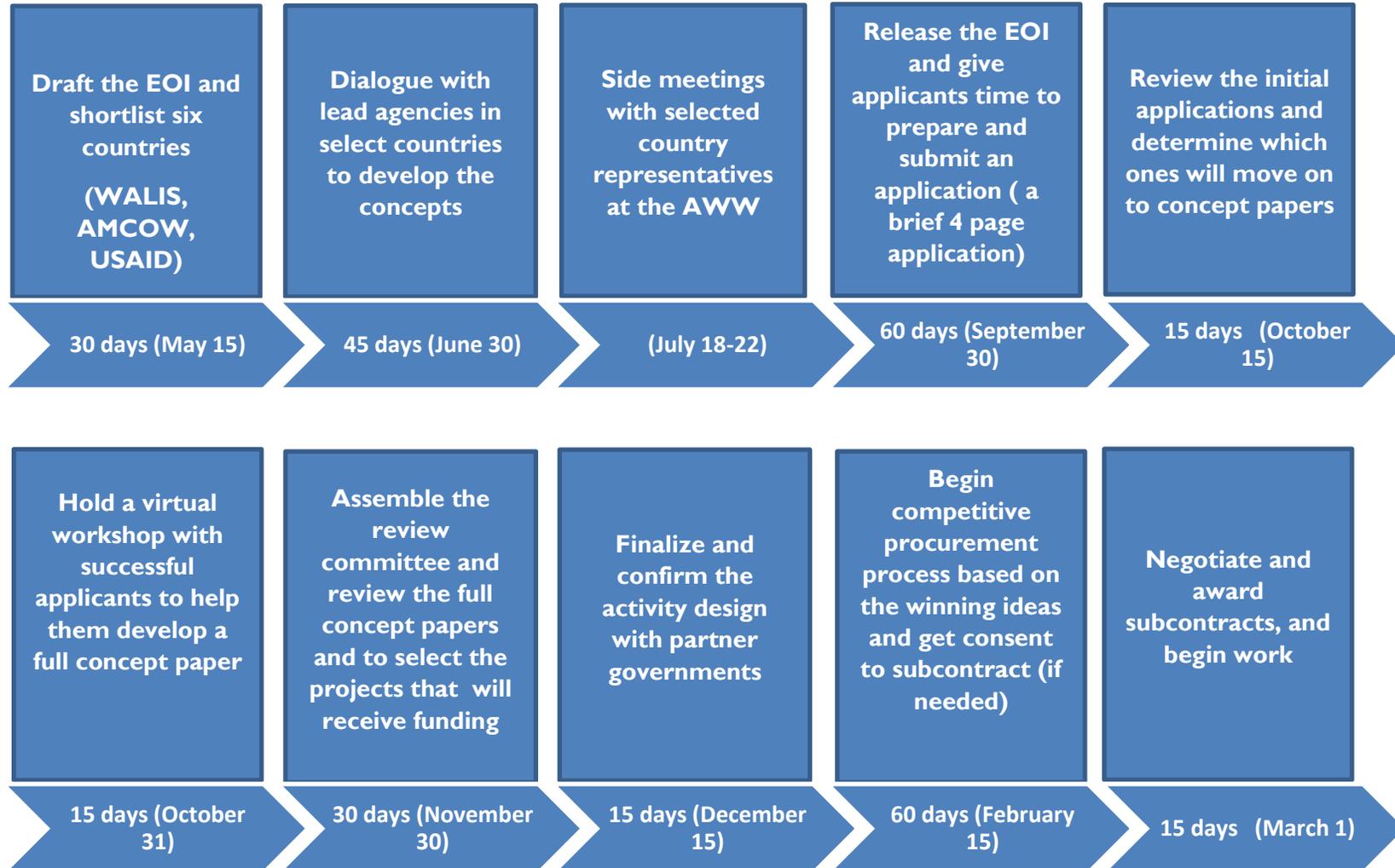
# ANNEX C: AFRICA WATER WEEK DRAFT AGENDA

Day/Time	Session Purpose	Session agenda
<b>Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016</b>	<b>Session 1: The Challenge of Stepping Up to the SDGs - Convener: USAID/WALIS</b>	
16:00-17:30	Participants get to know the structure of sub-theme 1, expected outputs, agenda, revisit outcomes of the Ministers HLM and learn how countries have gone about planning for the SDGs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome and opening remarks</li> <li>• Who is in the room</li> <li>• Objectives of the sub-theme</li> <li>• Key-note address (USAID)</li> <li>• Main messages from Ministers Meeting (5 building blocks and 4 behaviour changes) (SWA)</li> <li>• Introduction to WALIS (COP, WALIS)</li> <li>• Country round-table on the implications of the gear-shift to meet the SDGs</li> <li>• Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
<b>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016</b>	<b>Session 2: Joint African Sector Learning – Convener: IRC with AMCOW, Pseau, RWSN, SWA (R + L) and WSSCC</b>	
9:00 – 10:30	Participants learn of the Joint Africa Sector Learning Initiative, progress made and steps to improve knowledge exchange and learning in Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction to JASL initiative</li> <li>• Case study of UNICEF/IRC KM in West Africa</li> <li>• Case study of other knowledge exchange networks (Waternet?)</li> <li>• Country level learning: case of the Water Research Commission</li> <li>• Country dialogue on sector learning</li> <li>• Plenary dialogue</li> </ul>
10:30-11:00	Tea/coffee break	
	<b>Session 3: Tracking Country Sector Financing - Convener: WHO</b>	
11:00–12:30	Participants learn of the key challenges in financing the SDGs in Africa and what the Trackfin tool is seeking to achieve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key-note on sector financing and Trackfin (WHO)</li> <li>• Case-studies of how countries have progressed in addressing financing challenges and applied new tools.</li> <li>• Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
12:30-14 00	Lunch break	
	<b>Session 4: Rural Sanitation Shifts for the SDGs – Convener: WSSCC/Tanzania MOHSW</b>	
14 :00-15:30	.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learning from the Global Sanitation Fund</li> <li>• Case-study: the UMATA Program (Tanzania)</li> <li>• Case-study: The Uganda Sanitation Fund</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Country case-studies on implications of sanitation SDGs</li> <li>Plenary discussion on sanitation and the SDGs</li> </ul>
15:30-16:00	Tea/coffee break	
<b>Session 5: What S**t Flow Diagrams can Teach Us - Convener: SuSanna/WSP/BMGF?</b>		
16:00-17:30	Participants get to learn about SFDs and what they teach us about planning new approaches being addressed to meet the specific challenges of urban sanitation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key-note on urban sanitation</li> <li>Key-note on what SFDs are and what we have learnt in their application</li> <li>City presentations where SFDs have been undertaken (Lusaka, Durban, Mozambique?)</li> <li>Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
<b>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016</b>	<b>Session 6: Sector Coordination and JSRs – Convener: RWSN</b>	
9:00 – 10:30	Participants learn why sector coordination is important for WASH and of recent examples in progress in improving sector coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key-note on why sector co-ordination is so important</li> <li>Findings of study JSRs (RWSN)</li> <li>Case study of PEPAM</li> <li>Case Study of Ethiopia</li> <li>Plenary dialogue</li> </ul>
10:30-11:00	Tea/coffee break	Tea/coffee break
<b>Session 7: Hygiene approaches for at-scale integration with water and sanitation services- Convener: UNILEVER</b>		
11:00 – 12:30	Participants learn about innovations in hygiene improvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key-note on hygiene improvement approaches</li> <li>Case-studies of South Africa strategy for hygiene improvement</li> <li>Case-study of UNILEVER PPHW</li> <li>Vignette's of other hygiene innovations</li> <li>Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
12:30-14:00	Lunch	
<b>Session 8: Options and tools for building capacity - Convener: AfWA/SIWI?</b>		
14:00–15:30	Participants discuss challenges in building capacity and learn of progress in regional training initiatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key-note on challenges of public sector capacity for WASH</li> <li>Case-study: the experience of SALGA in WASH (SALGA)</li> <li>Opportunities for PPPs</li> <li>Progress towards regional training for utilities</li> <li>The African Sanitation Academy (WALIS)</li> <li>Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
15:30-16:00	Tea/coffee break	
<b>Session 9: Tackling rural water supply maintenance: case study of lessons learnt from Tanzania - Convener: Tanzania MWI</b>		
16:00 – 17:30	Participants learn on Tanzania's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Key-note on Tanzania's sector experience</li> </ul>

	rural water supply program, what is has achieved and how it is tackling a rural water supply maintenance..	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key-note on Tanzania’s rural water supply program</li> <li>• Q and A by a selection of countries to leading Tanzanians</li> <li>• Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
<b>Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016</b>	<b>Session 10: Building One National Monitoring System Incorporating the SDGs - Convener: <b>AMCOW</b></b>	
14:00–15:30	Participants learn of what is required to build one effective country monitoring system to track progress towards the SDGs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key-note on the N’Gor declaration</li> <li>• Key-note and what is needed to build an effective country monitoring system for the water SDGs</li> <li>• Round-table of 4 Case-studies of how countries are solving specific bottlenecks and applying new tools (Ethiopia, Senegal, Kenya and ?)</li> <li>• Plenary discussion</li> </ul>
15:30-16:00	Tea/coffee break	
	<b>Session 11: Wrap-up and Conclusions to Sub-Theme I Convener: <b>USAID/WALIS</b></b>	
16:00- 17:30	Determine the main messages and points of action from sub-theme I and propose issues to be taken forward to Ministers	<p>Main messages from sessions 1-10 of sub-theme I.</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder panel discusses main messages</p> <p>Summary of major milestones for action</p> <p>Vote of thanks</p>

# ANNEX D: TIMELINE FOR EXPRESSION OF INTERESTS



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