



***Accounting for Water:  
From Global to Local  
Initiatives***

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# *Agenda*

- *To highlight global functions of Accounting Professionals in local initiatives;*
- *Linking accounting professionals to accountability of water;*
- *Share cases and developments of accountability of water in SADC.*

# *Acknowledgement*

*“Physical flow Accounting of water resources in organisations and companies is an emerging practice in corporate disclosure in SADC”*

# ***Global Functions:***

- ***Financial Accounting - Recognition, measurement and disclosure of economic activities and flow of capitals through the business model;***
- ***Management Accounting – production of information for decision making (Cost Accounting, Valuation, full cost accounting and mgt accounting information systems)***
- ***Assurance - Reliability of systems of accountability and information;***

# ***Global Accounting Instruments***

## ***1. International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS):***

***(Available for use by private sector companies and organizations);***

## ***2. International Public Sectors Accounting Standards (IPSAS) ;***

***(Available for use by public sector institutions)***

## ***3. Sustainability Reporting Guidelines***

***(Available for use by all organizations including Public sector Institutions);***

# *The Bridge? .....to natural capital accounting*

*Global Reporting Initiatives (GRI) - Sustainability Reporting Framework*

## *Key Principles*

- *Stakeholder Engagement;*
- *Materiality;*
- *Performance Indicators (Economic, Social, Environmental and Governance)*

## **GRI – G4 - Water Indicators:**

- 1. G4 - EN8** – *Total Water Withdrawal by Source*  
(*Surface water, groundwater, rain, municipal water, waste water from the company*)
- 2. G4 – EN9** - *Water sources significantly affected by withdrawal of water;*
- 3. G4 – EN10-** *Percentages and total volume of water recycled and reused;*

## ***Public Sectors Cases from SADC ...***

- Water accounts are being produced at a national level in countries like South Africa, Botswana and Namibia;***
- Progress has been noted in Tanzania and Mozambique in water accounts;***

***These cases have been driven by national governments and local authorities in attempts to consider water as capital.***



# ***Private Sector Cases in SADC***

- ***5% of Global GRI Sustainability Reports are from Africa (Economic, Environmental, Social and governance);***
- ***98% of Africa reports are from SADC (South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mauritius)***
- ***Mainly driven by Stock Exchanges (South Africa, Zimbabwe..);***
- ***Initiatives being influenced by the profession;***

# *Emerging Drivers in SADC...*

- *The rising influence of stakeholders like Civil Society Organisations (CSO) demanding accountability on natural resources including water;*
- *Scarcity of water sources;*
- *Influence of capital markets in SADC (JSE & ZSE);*
- *GRI established Focal Point office in SADC*

# *In Closing.....*

- *Integration of economic and physical flow accounting in accountability of water;*
- *Public Sector Accounting leadership role in accounting for water resources;*
- *Sustainability leadership development on natural capitals management (including groundwater and aquifers);*
- *Considering of water as capital? By who and at what stage?*

# *Our Vision*

*‘Advancing Sustainability  
Initiatives for Africa’*

***Thank you!!!***



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