

PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION**

**USAID : OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF THE THIRD EDITION OF THE HIGH LEVEL FORUM ON WATER AND SANITATION FOR ALL IN AFRICA**

(Ouagadougou) November 14, 2013 - The Pan African Intergovernmental Agency Water and Sanitation for Africa (WSA), is organizing from November 21 to 23, 2013, the third edition of the High Level Forum on Water and Sanitation for all. This forum will be held at Sofitel Abidjan-Hotel Ivoire in Abidjan (Côte d'Ivoire). The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) is an official sponsor of this forum.

After Ouagadougou in 2011 and Dakar in 2012, Abidjan hosts from November 21 to 23, 2013 the third edition of the High Level Forum on water and sanitation in Africa. The theme of the forum is *"promoting a vibrant and effective cooperation between the countries of the South to accelerate access to hygiene, sanitation and water for all in Africa."*

Access to water and sanitation remains a major development issue in Africa. For several years, USAID, with funding from the American people, has worked with African governments and the private sector to improve populations' sustainable access to water and sanitation.

The forum's overall objective is to promote a vibrant and effective cooperation between the countries of the South to accelerate access to water and sanitation for all in Africa. It is a framework for exchanges between all stakeholders. It aligns with the USAID assistance objective to strengthen resilience of natural resources to climate change in target areas.

USAID is a partner in this high level forum. The partnership takes the form of a \$100,000 sponsorship. In addition to this sponsorship, USAID will take an role part in all the activities of this forum through:

- Presentations made by five members of the delegation with a presentation of the General Director of National Lottery of Burkina Faso, a partner of USAID WA- WASH
- Meetings with ministers in charge of issues of water and sanitation in Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger
- An exhibition stand.
- Moderation of two sessions.

It should be noted that in addition to its strong delegation of 10 people, USAID is also sponsoring ten participants from Burkina Faso, Ghana and Niger.

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