This water investment forum is held alongside the 2013 Zimbabwe International Trade Fair.
SUMMIT RATIONALE

OVERVIEW: Water is essential for all forms of life; it is the most important resource necessary for human well-being and ecosystem functioning. Due to increasing demand for water, global climate and environmental change; water as a resource is under considerable pressure. And despite the relevance of water to social and economic survival, the water sector is often fragmented. There is an overbearing need for policy-makers to adopt an integrated and holistic view of water in relation to issues such as population growth, planning and development, land use, valuation and climate change.

The overall objective of this summit is to facilitate a comprehensive platform that brings together key stakeholders in the Zimbabwe water resources sector to discuss framework for promoting capital investment, human capital, integrated development and management of water resources in Zimbabwe.

The Zimbabwe Water Resources Investment Summit (ZWRIS) brings together policy-makers, regulators, water service providers, utility asset managers, non-governmental organizations, water resource managers, development partners, financiers and institutional investors to explore mechanisms for aiding the delivery of integrated solutions including, integrated catchment management, water cycle planning, partnership working, and the consideration of ecosystem services. The summit will aid the preparation of a report that will help identify priorities and mechanisms for more effective water resource integration.

WHY NOW?: Zimbabwe is due for a sector-wide comprehensive policy reform framework; and this summit is designed to explore and identify what it would take to make significant advances in the future reform of the Zimbabwe water and sanitation sector. The summit participants will discuss sector governance, leadership development, effective responsibility allocation, integrated capacity building, sector progress reporting and monitoring framework, aligning government objectives with that of the development partners, and sustainable sector financing mechanisms. Focus will be on sectorwide issues, rural & urban water supply and sanitation & hygiene.

BY ATTENDING YOU WILL: EVALUATE the current state and challenges and opportunities in the Zimbabwe water sector, EXPLORE current and emerging views in Zimbabwe on integrated water management and priorities, REVIEW benefits and costs, barriers and other issues relating to integrated water management and priorities, NETWORK, meet and discuss the national water resource policy plan with key policy-makers and industry professionals, LEARN new ways of working in a more integrated manner that would offer clear benefits and address particular priorities.

WHO ATTENDS: Government officials, regulators, directors, senior executives from water companies, management consultants, analysts, Non-governmental Organizations (NGO’s), Development Partners, indigenous, regional and international water services providers, Institutional investors, Development Finance Institutions (DFIs), Investment and commercial banks.

ABOUT THE EVENT ORGANISERS

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SUMMIT KEY TOPICS

STATE OF THE NATION ADDRESS: WATER SITUATION IN ZIMBABWE | GLOBAL WATER SECURITY AND INTERACTIONS WITH ENERGY, FOOD AND CARBON | National perspective: achieving sustainable national water resources.
The session looks at the global and national trend in water resource management, focusing on the importance of water for domestic use, agriculture, livestock keeping, mining, energy, fisheries, environment, human health, wildlife and tourism, and forestry. Participants will gain insight into the landscape of water resource at federal and state level; and its immediate contribution to the national economy.

POLICY FRAMEWORK | ACHIEVING AN INTEGRATED, SUSTAINABLE NATIONAL WATER RESOURCE POLICY
This session explores the capacity of the Zimbabwe National Water Policy in facilitating a comprehensive framework for sustainable development and management of the nation’s water resources and putting in place an effective legal and institutional framework for its implementation. Panelists will discuss the policy framework for ensuring that beneficiaries participate fully in all stages of water resource development, linkages between water and socio-economic development, including environmental requirements.

FINANCE AND INVESTMENT | INNOVATIVE FINANCING MECHANISMS FOR THE WATER SECTOR
This session examines innovative mechanisms that can help attract new financial resource into water and sanitation services. It focuses on mobilising market-based repayable financing (such as loans, bonds and equity) as a way of bridging the financial gap to meet the water-related Millennium Development Goals and other crucial sector objectives. Panelists will look at the rapid evolving global financial and economic landscape, and considers how innovation in financing for the water sector may need to adapt.

SECTOR REGENERATION | BEST PRACTICE STRATEGIES FOR THE ZIMBABWE WATER RESOURCE INDUSTRY
Implementing innovative and solution based policy framework | Pursuing international standard and best practice for Zimbabwe water service
How to design, develop and implement solutions that work for Zimbabwe’s needs | Sustainability: a greater focus for the future of capacity management
Identifying new water sources and technologies to increase capacity

DEVELOPING AN INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
Policy Drivers forcing integration: The current situation, priorities, mechanisms and challenges | Addressing the conflicts between urban growth, water infrastructure and environmental quality | Key element of catchment management and integrated catchment management
Integration flood risk into the national water management strategy | Easing water stress through the adoption of emerging water technologies.

INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING | DELIVERING WATER INFRASTRUCTURE USING PRIVATE FINANCE
Beyond the obvious issues related to scarcity, water infrastructure requires high levels of capital expenditure. In fact, to meet the growing demand from increasingly thirsty population, governments around the world will need to invest some US$6 trillion in water infrastructure over the next 20 years. This session examines the risk and rewards of evolving private finance in the delivery of a national water infrastructure blueprint. And further reviews how the Zimbabwe governments can deliver water infrastructure that focuses on systems and networks include flood risks, water and waste.

ASSET MANAGEMENT | UTILITIES ASSET MANAGEMENT: DEVELOPMENT, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
Water infrastructure is often neglected due to lack of investment for rehabilitation and lack of resources to develop the technical and managerial capacity within the organisations responsible for managing water and wastewater assets. At present there is an imperative need in Zimbabwe to focus on the operational and maintenance requirements of water and sanitation infrastructure in order to improve service delivery on a sustainable basis. This sessions draws on expert knowledge to discuss best practices in asset management.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES | WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES
The increasing demands placed on a file global water supply threaten biodiversity and the supply of water for food production and other vital human needs. Water shortages already exist in many regions, with more that one billion people without adequate drinking water. This session reviews human use and influence on water. What factors influence water quality, droughts, floods, and waterborne diseases? What are the potential effects of climate change on the world’s water resource? These questions and more are discussed in this interactive session involving leading experts in water resource management.
On the 23rd of April, 2013, the final day of the Zimbabwe Water Resources and Infrastructure Investment Summit, the City of Bulawayo (Host City and official Summit Partner) will host a special tour which will see delegates being ferried to some of the most water affected areas in and around the city. Details will be made available at the venue.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2013 ZIMBABWE PENSION FUNDS INVESTMENT FORUM


APRIL 29 - 30, 2013 | THE RAINBOW TOWERS HOTEL, HARARE

Join local, regional and international delegates as they converge in the Zimbabwe’s capital city to explore and identify what it would take to make significant advances in understanding, integration and implementation country specific best practices in the management, implementation and investment of pensions, retirement and social security funds.

FOR MORE INFO. CONTACT

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