



ASSOCIATION DES FEMMES  
PROFESSIONNELLES DE L'EAU  
ET DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT DU  
CAMEROUN



23<sup>rd</sup> AfWASA ICE  
23<sup>ème</sup> CIE AAEA  
Yaoundé 2026



# 6<sup>th</sup> FORUM OF THE AfWASA PROFESSIONAL WOMEN NETWORK

## *MEDIA ADVISORY FOR THE 6<sup>th</sup> WOMEN'S FORUM*

**EVENT:** 6<sup>th</sup> Forum of the AfWASA Professional Women Network

**THEME:** *A Decade of Bold Leadership and Impact: Women at the Heart of Africa's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Sector Transformation*

**DATE:** 10 February 2026

**VENUE:** Yaounde Conference Centre

### **ORGANISERS**

- African Water and Sanitation Association (AfWASA)
- AfWASA Professional Women Network
- Association des Femmes Professionnelles de l'Eau et de l'Environnement du Cameroun (AFPEEC)

### **KEY SPEAKERS AT THE OPENING CEREMONY**

- **Prof. Marie Thérèse ABENA ONDOA**, Minister of Women's Empowerment and the Family
- **Dr Blaise MOUSSA**, General Manager of Cameroon Water Utilities Corporation (CAMWATER) and President of the African Water and Sanitation Association
- **Mr GOSSO François Olivier**, AfWASA Executive Director
- **Dr TOBO LOBE Florence**, Keynote Speaker
- **Mrs MPOUMA LOGMO Géraldine**, President of the Association des Femmes Professionnelles de l'Eau et de l'Environnement du Cameroun
- **Mrs TCHAPOYA Arlette Laure**, President of the Organising Committee for the 6<sup>th</sup> Forum of AfWASA Professional Women Network
- **Mr TSOBNGNI FOFE Leonel Romaric**, President of the Association des Jeunes Professionnels de l'Eau et de l'Assainissement du Cameroun (AJPEAC)

### **BACKGROUND**

This year, the AfWASA Professional Women Network celebrates its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Established in 2016 following recommendations by AfWASA, the Network was subsequently strengthened through the creation of national chapters. Its



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core mission is to advocate for gender equality within water, sanitation and environmental utilities in their respective countries.

The Network was created to address the persistent under-representation and limited visibility of women in strategic governance bodies within these utilities, which has long hindered women's career advancement. Its key areas: promotion of female leadership, capacity building, mentoring and resource mobilisation.

The 6th Women's Forum provides a timely opportunity to discuss and formalise the project for institutionalising the Network at a continental level, thus enhancing its sustainability and coherence of actions while increasing its influence within regional and continental decision-making platforms in the WASH sector. More specifically, the Forum aims to:

- Present and highlight key projects implemented by AFPEEC over the past ten years (Fishbowl format).
- Identify actionable strategies for mobilising financing, partnerships, and resources to ensure the sustainability of projects (World Café).
- Strengthen the practical skills of young women in communication and project advocacy.
- Launch sponsorship and mentoring programmes connecting young professionals with experienced female leaders in the sector (mentorship ceremony).

## **EXPECTED PARTICIPANTS**

The Women's Forum is a strategic platform for reflection, networking, sharing experiences, and best practices, designed for and by women. Approximately 300 participants are expected, including women experts in water and sanitation, as well as institutional and development stakeholders whose decisions significantly influence public action in the WASH sector, notably:

- Women members of the Network, community leaders, entrepreneurs, researchers and sector professionals;
- Young women in training or already active in the WASH sector;
- Policy-makers, representatives of international institutions, and technical and financial partners;
- Civil society organisations and other key stakeholders in the water and sanitation sectors.

## **PROGRAMME**

The Forum will take place over a full day and will be structured around three main segments: a formal opening ceremony, participatory sessions through rotating thematic tables, and symbolic events: commemorating the 10th anniversary of the women's professional networks in water and sanitation, sponsorship and mentoring activities, and an awards ceremony.



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## **MEDIA ACCREDITATION AND EQUIPMENT INSTALLATION**

Access to the Forum venue will only be open to accredited journalists and authorised media professionals (technicians, film crews and photographers).

Press badges will be shared exclusively to accredited journalists.

## **MEDIA COVERAGE AND INTERVIEW REQUESTS**

- **Only the opening and closing ceremonies of the Women's Forum will be open to accredited media.**
- These ceremonies will be live-streamed on AfWASA's Facebook page.
- All interview requests should be coordinated with the Forum's Communication Team (contact details below).

## **CONTACTS:**

For Further Information, Please Contact:

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