



Name: MARIA AMAKALI

Current Appointment: Director, Water Resources Management - Ministry of Agriculture, Water and Forestry

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Area of Research/Teaching

Integrated Water Resources Management

Biography

Maria Amakali, is a water resource manager from Namibia. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics and Chemistry from Dana College in Nebraska and Master of Engineering in Water and Environment Resources Management from IHE Delft in the Netherlands. With my experience of about 20 years in the water and sanitation sector, she has developed knowledge on research and investigations related to water resources in Namibia.

As a surface water hydrologist, she was responsible for research and investigations in the Kuiseb, Cuvelai, Zambezi, Fish and Orange River Basins. Her interest revolve around integrated water resources management at national and international level, involving different sector stakeholders to promote the development and management of water, land and related resources, in coordinated manner with view to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems (thus IWRM).

She has been of the team that developed Namibia's national water policies and legislation after independence.

Maria heads a Directorate of Water Resource Management whose main objective it to manage Namibia's water resources according to IWRM principles in terms of protection, conservation and development. This Directorate is made up of five Divisions looking at surface water, groundwater, water quality, water ecology, water demand management as well as control and protection of national water resources.