



## Evaluating the Hydraulic Performance of Existing Water Supply Distribution System: The Case of Tebela Town of Wolaita Zone, Southern Ethiopia

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**Abstract:** The adequate and reliable water supply in the developing towns of Ethiopia is becoming a challenge for most water utilities especially public service providers like Tebela town. The main objective of this research was to check the hydraulic performance of Tebela town's water distribution system by evaluating water demand and production, losses of water, and hydraulic parameters. Both secondary and primary data sources were used for this study. Primary data was collected through field surveys and photographs of relevant sites and infrastructures. The secondary data was collected from design documents, literature, journals, and office. Moreover, to analyse the existing water distribution system, a model was developed by using WaterGEMSv8i software. The model simulation run was performed for peak and low demand scenarios to analyze the distribution system. The analysis shows that the water supply coverage was 25.9%. The water loss of the town was 17.2% from the total water production. Modeling results showed violation of maximum and minimum pressure and velocity criteria at different junctions and pipes. After modifying the existing water distribution system, 96.23% of the junctions are in the recommended pressure range and 73.50% of the pipes are in the recommended velocity range at minimum hourly consumption. Generally the result of the analysis shows that the overall hydraulic performance of water distribution of the town was moderate, which is reflected by medium water production rate, water consumption, and nonrevenue water, also low water coverage, some velocity and pressure is not in permissible range. Therefore, it is important to rehabilitate and improve the water distribution system capacities, establish pressure zones, increase pumping rates, and drill additional boreholes to meet the current water demand and future demand.

**Keywords:** WaterGEMSv8i, Hydraulic Performance, Simulation, Water Distribution System, Water Losses

## INTRODUCTION

Water is an essential and life-sustaining natural resource and is critical for the survival of all living organisms, food production and economic development. Problems with providing a satisfactory water supply to the rapidly growing population, especially in developing countries, are increasing from time to time. The sustainable provision of adequate and safe drinking water is the most important of all public services (Dassalew, 2017).

The adequate and reliable water supply in the developing towns of Ethiopia is becoming a challenge for most water utilities. Problems with providing a satisfactory water supply to the rapidly growing population, especially in developing countries, are increasing from time to time (Asmelash, 2014).

This research evaluated the performance of Tebela's water supply system in terms of main performance indicators such as water supply coverage, water loss, hydraulic performance, and recommended solutions for improving the water supply service.

Tebela town has water supply and demand related problems. Presently, Tebela faces a serious deficit in its water supply due to an increased population and expanded economic activity in and around the subsystems. The performance of the urban water supply system is to improve the water supply service level, and the main activities are to find the gap or to fill it, between the demand and the existing water supply system, and to analyze whether the distribution system is working as per design or not. Consequently, this study investigated the water supply and distribution conditions of the town in terms of water supply coverage, water demand, water supply and distribution system, and the gap associated with water scarcity to start intervention measures in order to address the aforementioned problems in the study area.

The main objective of this research was to evaluate the performance of the existing water supply distribution system in Tebela town.

The specific objective of this research includes:

1. To evaluate water losses of existing water distribution system, and
2. To simulate the hydraulic parameters of existing water distribution system

## METHODS

### Description of the Study Area

The study area is Tebela Town, Humbo Woreda of Wolaita Zone, Southern Nations Nationalities and Peoples Regional State (SNNPRS) of Ethiopia. It is located 346km away from the country's capital, southwest of Addis Ababa, and 149km away from the northeast of the capital city of the region, Hawassa, which is also located 20km away from the south of Soddo town. It shares a boundary with the Eastern Damot Woyde Woreda, in the North with Sodo Zuria Woreda, in the South with Mirab Abaya Woreda, and in the West with Offa Woreda. The town lies between a latitude of 60 42' 40" N and a longitude of 37 04' 40" E.

Tebela town altitude ranges between 1200 and 1900 m.a.s.l.

According to the results of the housing and population census, the current total population of Tebela town in 2020 is 43,314 of which 22,485 are males and 20,829 are females with an average family size of 5 people per household. The town administrative has two kfile-ketema, Alata and Abana. Alata kfile ketema contains (01, Ambe shoya, Abbela sipa, and Ela qebela) kebeles and Abana kfile ketema contains (02, Koysha ogodama and Shochore ogodama) kebeles.

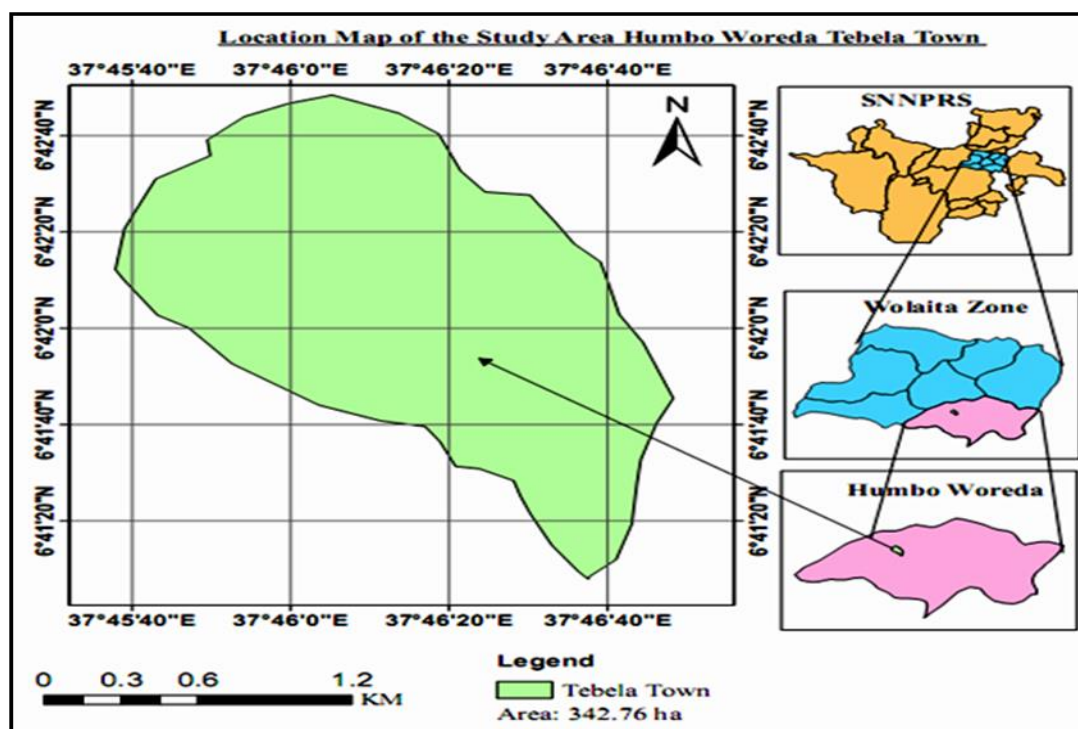


Figure 1. Location map of the study area (Source: WSU GIS Lab, 2020)

Table 1. Tebela town administration population in each kebele (2018-2020)

| Year             | 2018          |               |               | 2019          |               |               | 2020          |               |               |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|                  | M             | F             | Total         | M             | F             | Total         | M             | F             | Total         |
| 01               | 5060          | 4687          | 9747          | 5019          | 4648          | 9667          | 3965          | 3673          | 7638          |
| 02               | 4279          | 3963          | 8241          | 4787          | 4434          | 9221          | 3874          | 3592          | 7466          |
| Ambe shoya       | 3215          | 3471          | 6686          | 3496          | 3238          | 6734          | 3534          | 3273          | 6807          |
| Abbela sipa      | 909           | 981           | 1890          | 1585          | 1712          | 3297          | 2309          | 2138          | 4447          |
| Koysa ogodama    | 1656          | 1788          | 3445          | 1819          | 1964          | 3783          | 2647          | 2452          | 5099          |
| Schchore ogodama | 1944          | 2099          | 4043          | 1937          | 2091          | 4028          | 2797          | 2591          | 5388          |
| Ela qebela       | 2592          | 2793          | 5385          | 2215          | 2385          | 4600          | 3359          | 3110          | 6469          |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>19,655</b> | <b>19,782</b> | <b>39,437</b> | <b>20,858</b> | <b>20,472</b> | <b>41,330</b> | <b>22,485</b> | <b>20,829</b> | <b>43,314</b> |

The population of Alata kfile ketema is 25,361 of which 13,167 are males and 12,194 are females. Abana kfile ketema is 17,953 of which 9,318 are males and 8,635 are females. According to the Tebela town administration office, the majority of the town's population is growing at a rate of 4.8 percent per year (CSA, 2020).

### Material

This research was conducted to evaluate the hydraulic performance of the existing water supply in the distribution system. To achieve the goal of the research, the materials that were used were computers, endnote, Arc GIS Version 9.3, WaterGEMS V8i, and GPS Garmin72.

### Data Analysis

To analyse the data which is collected from different sources, both qualitative and quantitative methods were used. From the quantitative methods, the descriptive statistical methods like percentage, graphs and cross tabulation was used in order to come up with the appropriate result. In addition to this, qualitative methods like narration were employed in the

study. The computer software applications Origin8 and Excel were used to analyse the data obtained from the office. The field survey data for the distribution system was evaluated by using the engineering software called WaterGemsV8i.

### Modeling of the Existing Distribution System

#### 1. WaterGEMS V8i

WaterGEMSV8i was used for the purpose of understanding the pressure regime, demand, velocity, head loss, and overall systematically studding and better understanding network operation (CAD/GEMs, 2008). Hydraulic performance analysis was carried out for an extended period of time using WaterGEMS. A GIS location map showing the town's water sources, reservoirs, and boost stations is produced by taking galvanized steel pipe (GPS) readings of the existing water sources, reservoirs, and pumping stations.

#### 2. Sample size

Ideally, during the water distribution model calibration process, each link and node was adjusted for each link and node. However, 2%-10% of representative sample measurements can be made available for the use of model calibration due to limited financial and labour requirements for data collection. In general, international proposed guidelines stipulate that for a medium to highly detailed network model (medium to low skeletonization), the following limits should be adopted (AWWA, 2005):

- a) 3% of the nodes in the network should be tested for pressure readings.
- b) 5% of the pipes in the network should be tested for flow readings. In the study area, there are 106 total junctions in the network. However, the minimum acceptable sample size was 3% of the total junction.

Hence, the sample size of the network was  $0.03 \times 106 = 3.10$ , which is approximately 3 junctions. Therefore, for this study area, three representative sample measurements were taken from the whole water distribution system for calibration.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Evaluating the Current Water Supply Performance of Tebela Town

#### 1. Water Supply Coverage

Water supply coverage can be defined as the percentage of people in access of water supply service in the town.

**Table 2. Water supply coverage of Tebela Town for the years 2019-2020**

| Year | Annual water consumption (m <sup>3</sup> /yr) | Total population no | Consumption l/person/day | Total population served by water from utility | percentage of water coverage |
|------|---|---------------------|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 2019 | 322,871.8                                     | 41,330              | 21.40                    | 11,796  | 28.6%                        |
| 2020 | 337,230.3                                     | 43,314              | 21.33                    | 11,207  | 25.9%                        |

Source: Tebela town water supply and sewerage enterprise data, and own study analysis

$$\text{Percentage of Water Supply Coverage} = (\text{Population served} / \text{Total population}) * 100$$

In 2010 the Ethiopian Government presented the equally ambitious Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP) 2011-2015, which aims at increasing drinking water coverage, from 68.5% to 98.5%. In comparison with this plan, the water supply coverage is behind the plan (Ministry of Finance and Economic Development, 2010) and also in comparison, the Ethiopia's capital city, Addis Ababa water supply coverage during 2009 was found to be 60.67% (Shimelis Kabeto, 2011).

## 2. Water Production and Consumption Capacity of the Service

Table 3. Water production and Consumption

| No | Description                                 | Units             | 2016      | 2017      | 2018      | 2019      | 2020      |
|----|---|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1  | Total population living in the service area | No                | 35,907    | 37,630    | 39,437    | 41,330    | 43,314    |
| 2  | Population served public water taps         | No                | 8,530     | 6,438     | 4,811     | 3,531     | 2,712     |
| 3  | Population served yard water taps           | No                | 7,181     | 7,525     | 7,887     | 8,265     | 8,495     |
| 4  | Average daily per capita water cons.        | (l/c/d)           | 21.52     | 21.47     | 21.41     | 21.40     | 21.33     |
| 5  | Number of water point                       | No                | 15        | 13        | 12        | 12        | 12        |
| 6  | Duration of supply                          | Hr/d              | 8         | 9         | 10        | 11        | 12        |
| 7  | Volume of water production                  | m <sup>3</sup> /y | 338,441.1 | 361,091.5 | 373,251.8 | 392,742.7 | 407,267.0 |
| 8  | Volume of water sold                        | m <sup>3</sup> /y | 281,947.0 | 294,845.6 | 308,131.0 | 322,871.8 | 337,230.3 |

Source: Tebela town water supply utility office data and own study analysis

Water production and consumption are indicated as below in figure 2.

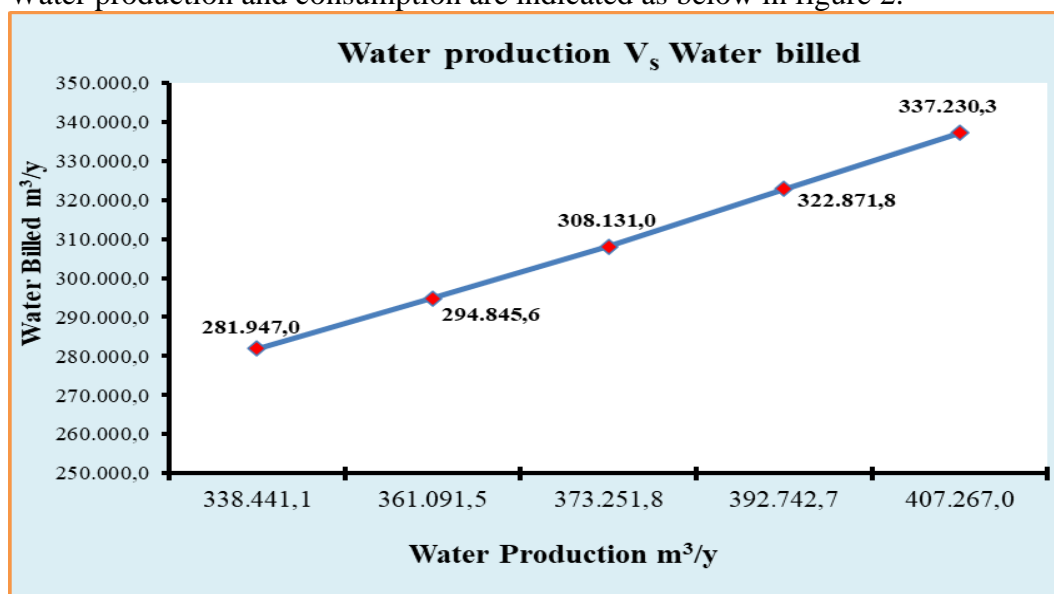


Figure 2. Total volume of water production and water billed

### Water Losses Analysis

One of the major challenges facing water utilities is the high volume of water lost in distribution networks. If a large quantity of supplied water is lost; it is difficult to meet the level of satisfaction of the user community. Whereby, water loss for Tebela town's water supply system was assessed and discussed as below; because of the type of the system, the water is distributed equally to the community but, with the similar challenge mentioned above, it performed inefficiently against its aim.

The current production of water supply for Tebela town depends on Abana bora boreholes and koysbo ogodama natural spring water that are administrated by Tebela town water supply and sewerage enterprise office. The designed water production capacity of the borehole system is 24.92l/s (717m<sup>3</sup>/day) and the spring capacity is 4.6 l/s (398.1m<sup>3</sup>/day).

Water loss from water distribution systems (WDSs) has long been a feature of water distribution system operations management. According to figure 3.2, the water loss in 2020 (17.2%) is less than 2019 (17.79%) due to pump, pipe and fitting maintenance. The average amount of water, which actually reaches the consumers, therefore, accounts for only 82.8% of the total water produced. According to (Mckenzie et al., 2006), the system efficiency is good (acceptable) if above 75% of water produced reaches the consumer. Thus, Tebela town water supply system is good (acceptable).

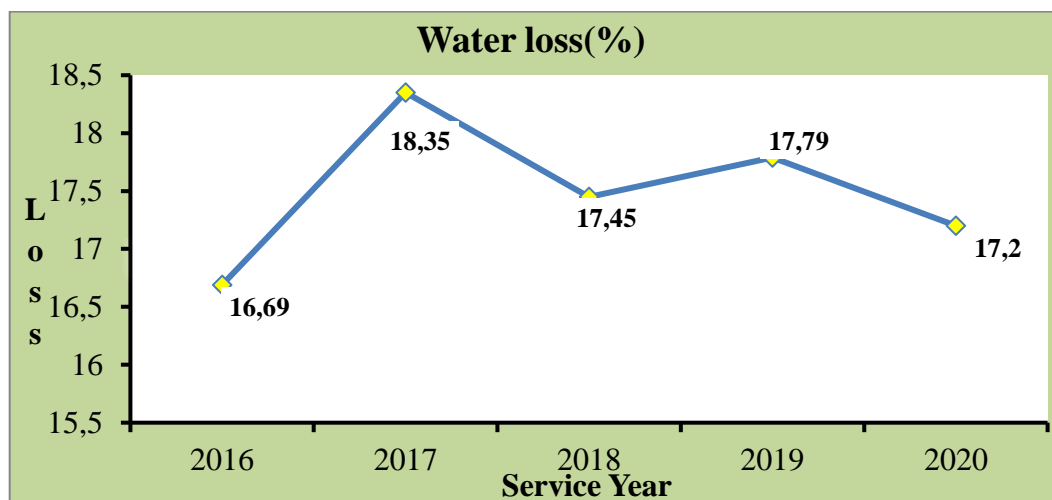


Figure 3. Water losses in percentage

**1) Total Water Loss Expressed as a Percentage (UFW)**

The total annual water produced and consumed within the specified year (2020) was 407,267.0m<sup>3</sup> and 337,230.3m<sup>3</sup> respectively, and the annual total water loss was 70,036.7m<sup>3</sup>. That accounts for 17.2%. (Saroj, 2008) gives classification and descriptions of UFW as acceptable, which could be monitored and controlled, when the loss is < 10%, as intermediate, which could be control when the loss is 10-25% and as a matter of concern that reduces the water supply when the loss is > 25%. According to this study, the average water loss in Tebela town was 17.2%, showing that a controlling mechanism was needed.

**a) Water loss expressed as the length of the main pipe**

One of the best indicators of water loss in the distribution network system was determining loss as per the length of the main pipe. According to the town's water utility report, the total length of the water distribution line was estimated at around 22.592km. The water loss per kilometre length of the main pipe was determined as 70,036.7m<sup>3</sup>/year ÷ (22.592km 365days)= 8,493.33liters/km/day. According to (Farley et al., 2008), the performance indicator of the physical loss target matrix describes a good condition system if water loss per length of main pipe is <1000 liters/km/day, an average condition system is between 10,000-18,000 liters/km/day and a bad condition system is > 18,000 liters/km/day. In line with this, the town's water loss per length of main pipe was 8,493.33 liters/km/day, which is shown to be in good condition.

**b) Water loss expressed as per the number of service connections**

Tebela town total number of service connections was 1730, which were obtained from the town's water utility. The water loss per number of service connections was determined as 70,036.7m<sup>3</sup>/year x1000liters ÷ (1,730x365days) = 110.91 liters/connection/day. According to (Farley et. al., 2008), the performance indicator of the physical loss target matrix describes a good condition system if water loss per length of main pipe <150 liters/connection/day, an average condition system is between 150-450 liters/connection/day and a bad condition system is > 450 liters/connection/day. In line

with this, the town's water loss per length of main pipe was 110.91liters/connection/day, which is shown to be in good condition.

**c) Unbilled authorized consumption**

Unbilled authorized consumption is the volume of water used for operational purposes, such as fire fighting, and water produced for free by water supply service workers. According to the Tebela town utility report (2020), the total volume of unbilled authorized consumption of water was 0m<sup>3</sup>/year.

**d) Estimating apparent losses**

Apparent losses consist of unauthorized consumption, metering inaccuracies, and data handling errors (Lambert and Taylor, 2010) and are aggregated into 2,859.6m<sup>3</sup>/ year + 7,526.92m<sup>3</sup>/year + 843.01m<sup>3</sup>/year, which is equal to 11,229.53m<sup>3</sup>/year. This loss amount was 2.76% of the total production of water, which is about 16.03% of the total system loss as detailed in the following sub-section.

1) Unauthorized consumption

Unauthorized consumption includes illegal connections, unauthorized use of fire hydrants, meter bypassing, and a deficient billing collection system. It is difficult to estimate unauthorized consumption. According to the water service office's 2020 report, the amount of unauthorized consumption in the town was 2,859.6m<sup>3</sup>/year.

2) Customer meter inaccuracies

Water meter inaccuracies are considered to be a significant component of apparent losses in the water supply system (Rizzo and Cilia, 2005). Water losses as a result of metering inaccuracies were analyzed using the comparison of testing bench values and the average water reading value of customer meters that were obtained from authorized consumption water in 2020. The total customer metering inaccuracies lost in the town's water utility was estimated at 7,526.92m<sup>3</sup>/year taken from the utility office.

3) Systematic data handling error

Data handling errors in the meter reading and billing systems contributed to the apparent losses. It includes billing system entry errors, account adjustments, invalid meter consumption readings, poor accounting, and others. It is difficult to estimate the value of the volume of data handling errors. Therefore, it is recommended to take the default value, which is 0.25% of the billed meter volume (Saroj, 2008). Based on the above recommended value, the total lost volume of data handling error of Tebela town was 0.25%\*337,230.3m<sup>3</sup>/year, which is equal to 843.01m<sup>3</sup>/year.

**e) Estimating real losses**

This category includes the volume of water lost through all types of leaks, bursts, and overflows on the main, service reservoir, and service connection, up to the point of customer metering. Real losses can be calculated as the volume of NRW minus the sum volume of apparent losses and unbilled authorized consumption. Based on this definition, the volume of total real loss was 58,807.17m<sup>3</sup>/year, which covers 14.44% of the total production, which is 83.96% of the total system loss. This result signifies more of the loss in the system as real loss which is mainly caused due to deterioration of the existing distribution system infrastructure.

**2) Quantifying water loss by the water balance method**

To estimate the water loss by using the water balance method for Tebela town in the year 2020 based on international water association (IWA) standards, the water balance components are obtained by using the available data and estimated in the above. The results are summarized in the table below.

**Table 4. Water balance (m<sup>3</sup>/year) for Tebela town year 2020**

|  |  |   |   |  |
|--|--|---|---|--|
| System in put volume =407,267 m <sup>3</sup> /year | Authorized consumption =337,230.3 m <sup>3</sup> /year | Billed authorized consumption =337,230.3 m <sup>3</sup> /year | Billed metered consumption m <sup>3</sup> /year =337,230.3<br>Billed unmetered consumption m <sup>3</sup> /year=0   | Revenue water =337,230.3 m <sup>3</sup> /year    |
|  |  | Unbilled authorized consumption =0 m <sup>3</sup> /year       | Unbilled metered consumption m <sup>3</sup> /year=0<br>Unbilled unmetered consumption m <sup>3</sup> /year=0  |  |
|  | Water loss =70,036.7 m <sup>3</sup> /year              | Apparent loss =11,229.53 m <sup>3</sup> /year                 | Unauthorized consumption m <sup>3</sup> /year=2,859.6<br>Customer meter inaccuracies =7,526.92 m <sup>3</sup> /year<br>Systematic data handling errors =843.01 m <sup>3</sup> /year | Non-revenue water =70,036.7 m <sup>3</sup> /year |
| Real loss =58,807.17m <sup>3</sup> /year           |  |   |   |  |

**Hydraulic Performance of Water Supply System**

The performance of water distribution networks does not depend only on the ability to deliver adequate flows and pressures, but also on its efficiency in doing so. Previous measures equate demand satisfaction to performance and apply alternate reliability measures that are proportional to pressure surplus. The water distribution network is a loop network; it has one reservoir tank at higher elevations. The level of the reservoir tank is 1678.38m and the flow distribution is supplied by a gravity system from the reservoir to customer end taps. Flow plays a role in supplying flow. Pumping is still required from the source (BH) to the reservoir tank. The pump curve is defined by one head versus flow coordinate of 86 m for 24.9l/s. The network configurations were modelled, the original (looped) system, the same system with fewer loops, and with increased diameters.

**1. Network simulation**

To build and simulate the hydraulic model, WaterGEMSV8i water distribution modeling software was used. The water distribution network map was obtained from the Tebela town water supply and sewerage enterprises which were prepared with a feasibility study design document report of the town's water supply distribution network.

**2. Pipe network maps development**

In building system models, it is typically used to draw a system map for the water distribution system because it illustrates a wide variety of valuable characteristics. System maps may include information such as:

- Pipe alignment, connectivity, material, diameter, and so on.
- The locations of other system components, such as tanks and valves,
- Miscellaneous notes or references for tank characteristics
- Pressure zone boundaries, elevations

In my study, the map was developed using data collected from the site and analyzed by WaterGEMS software.



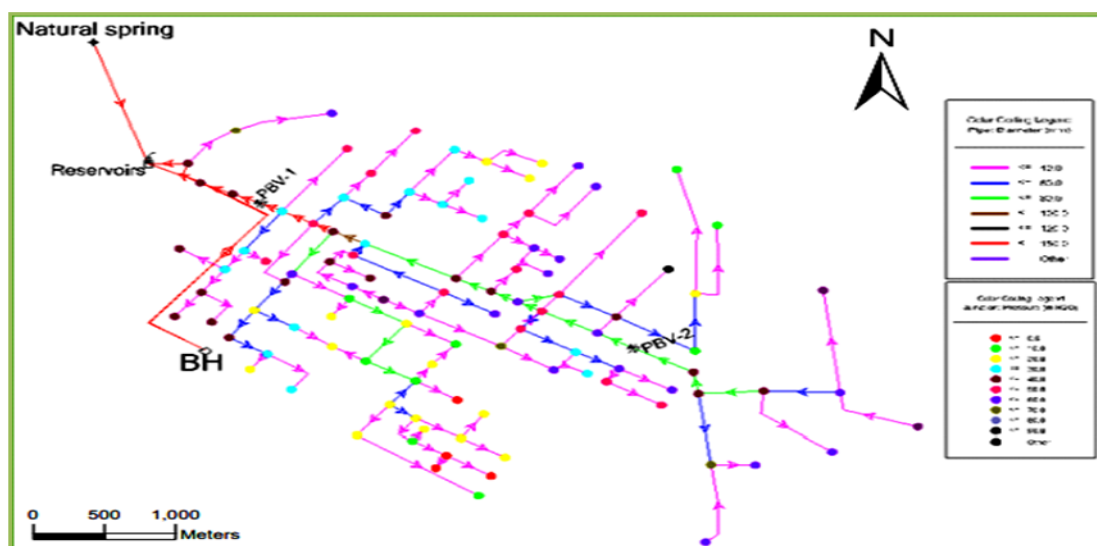


Figure 4. Tebela town's existing water distribution pipe network (Source: Own software analysis)

### 3. Analysis of pressure, flow and velocity of existing water distribution system

#### a) Junction report of WaterGEMS out put

The evaluation of the analysis results of the given existing water distribution system in Tebela town nodes reports analysis in a hydraulic model of WaterGEMS V8i. According to the model result, most areas of the distribution system have low velocity. This low velocity causes several problems. And some of them are shortage of source ( $Q$  in  $l/s$ ), large size of pipe diameter, and topography of the area. So some parts of the distribution net work system need modification of pipe diameter during minimum day demand time to adjust pressure within the (MoWR, 2006) guide line standard as in Appendix\_B1.

#### b) Pipe report of WaterGEMS output

Water velocities shall be maintained at less than 2.2 m/sec, except in short sections and velocities in small diameter pipes (evaluation results analysis of hydraulic parameters of pipe sizes with velocities by the use of hydraulic model (WaterGEMS V8i) standard are discussed. The velocity of 0.42 m/s–2.2 m/s during analysis is listed in appendix\_A2 and B2 according to the (MoWR, 2006) guide line standard. As well as all velocity greater than 0.6 m/s of the distribution network listed in appendix\_A2 during peak hour time from 6:00-9:00 AM.

#### c) Pressure analysis

In Ethiopia's water supply distribution system network, the minimum and maximum operating pressures were 15m and 70m, respectively (MoWR, 2006a). In order to achieve a 15m minimum and 70m maximum operating pressure, it is necessary to provide a pressure control valve, establish a boosting station, and replace the old pipe with the new one. The maximum pressure in the main is considered not to exceed 80m to limit leakage and stress on pipes (Mosissa, 2008). There is no defined maximum and minimum pressure ranges designed by the town's water utility. According to (Totsuka et al., 2004), those consumers further away from supply points always collect less water than those nearer to the source due to pressure losses in the network, which increase as far as the source. Pressure was increased as elevation decreased and vice versa. Households located at a higher elevation and close to the reservoir site have access to water at low water pressure (Mekonnen, 2014). During hydraulic modeling of the water pressure of Tebela town, 106 nodes and 117 pipes were identified. With regard to the current simulation, the result of pressure at peak consumption was summarized in table 5, and detailed in appendix A1.



minimum of 15m and a maximum of 70m. However, 1.89% of the nodes were getting water above standard pressure (>70m) due to low consumption at midnight when most of the consumers are sleeping and not using water. Higher pressure may cause the pipe to burst.

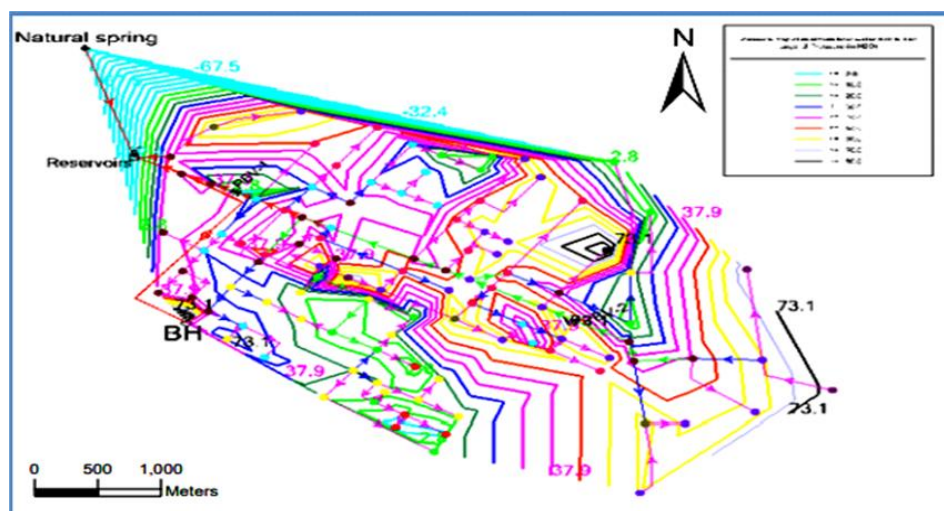


Figure 6. Pressure contour map of Tebela town at minimum hourly consumption

In the case of Tebela town, the main causes of water supply interruption were shortage of water from the source, lack of maintenance, improper function of the pump, and interruption of electric power in the pumping pressure system. In conclusion, to achieve a 15m minimum and 70m maximum pressure, it is necessary to give a pressure control valve, establish a boosting station, and replace the old pipes with new ones that have the required diameter.

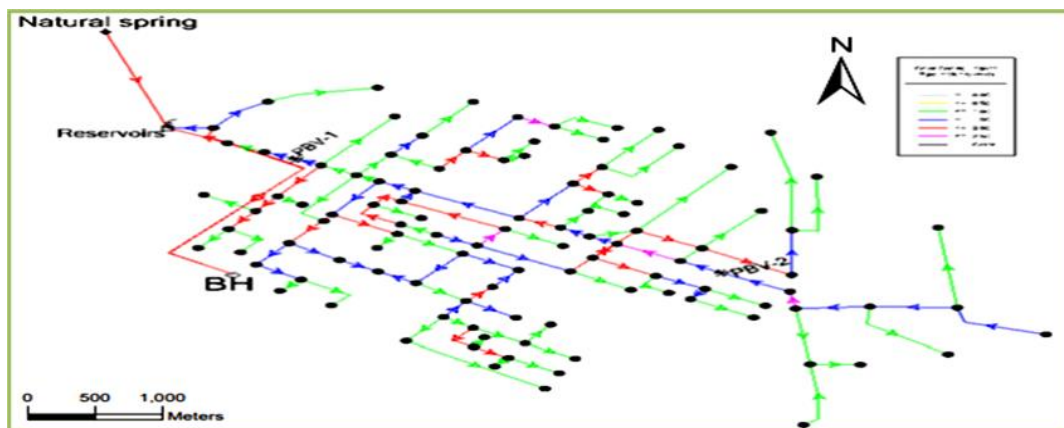
d) Velocity analysis

The velocity of water flow in a pipe is also one of the important parameters for evaluating the hydraulic performance of a water supply distribution system. According to (Andey and Kelkar, 2007), flow in the pipe below 0.6m/s causes water stagnation, sediment accumulation, and bacterial growth in the pipe. On the other hand, the velocity of flow in the pipe above 2m/s causes head loss as well as water hammer. The town's water supply distribution system's velocities during peak consumption time were summarized in table 7 below.

Table 7. Velocity for water supply distribution system during peak hour consumption

| Velocity (m/s) | Number of pipes | Percentage | Effect                     |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| <=0.5          | 1               | 0.85%      | Water stagnation happens   |
| <=0.6          | 34              | 29.06      | Sedimentation happens      |
| <=2            | 78              | 66.67      | An acceptable level        |
| Above          | 4               | 3.42       | Head loss and water hammer |
| Total          | 117             | 100%       |                            |

As indicated in table 7 above, 0.85% of the pipes are below the desirable minimum velocity and 3.42% of the pipes are exceeding the maximum allowable velocity during peak hour consumption. While 95.73% of the pipes are in the recommended velocity range of minimum 0.6 m/s and maximum 2 m/s velocities. In this study area, 4.27% of the velocity is not in a suitable range based on Ethiopia's urban water supply design guideline criteria.

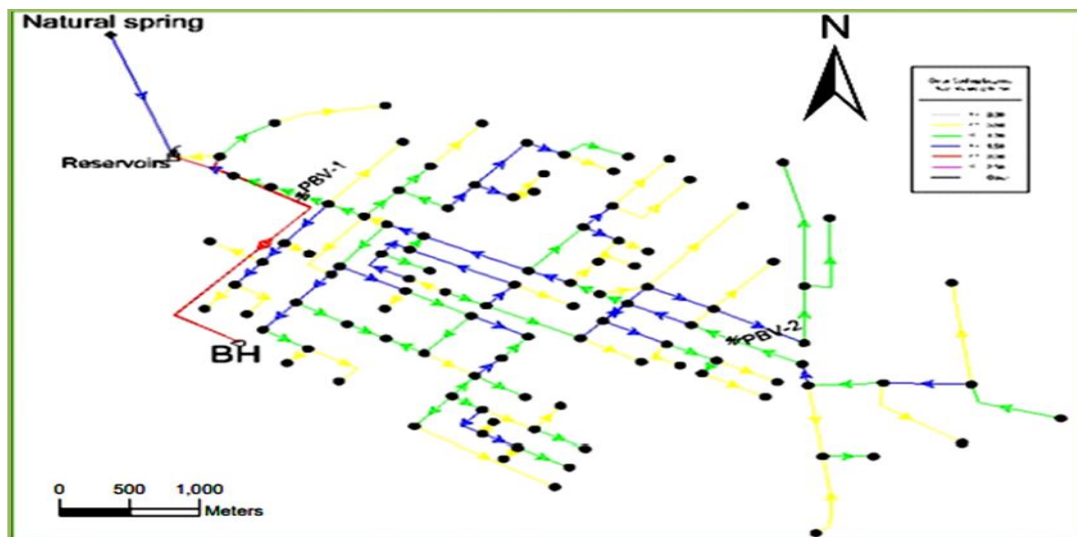


**Figure 7. Velocity for water supply distribution network during peak hour consumption**

**Table 8. Velocities for water supply distribution system during min consumption time**

| Velocity (m/s) | Number of pipes | Percentage | Effect                     |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| $\leq 0.5$     | 40              | 34.18      | Water stagnation happens   |
| $\leq 0.6$     | 9               | 7.69       | Sedimentation happens      |
| $\leq 2$       | 68              | 58.12      | An acceptable level        |
| Above          | 0               | 0          | Head loss and water hammer |
| Total          | 117             | 100%       |                            |

As shown in table 8 above, 34.18% of the pipe was below the desirable minimum velocity and no pipe velocity exceeded the maximum allowable velocity during low consumption time. While 65.81% of the pipes are in the recommended velocity range of minimum 0.6 m/s and maximum 2 m/s velocities. In this study area, 34.18% of the velocity is not in a suitable range based on Ethiopia's urban water supply design guideline criteria. There is no head loss and water hammer in this study area during the minimum consumption time.



**Figure 8. Velocity for water supply distribution network during minimum hour consumption.**

Generally, the town's water distribution system's velocity was inadequate since velocity in major pipe parts during the minimum consumption time and peak hour consumption, as shown in figures (7) and (8). Therefore, control of the flow velocity in water distribution networks should be maintained in order to avoid pipe breaks, water hammer, and water stagnation which cause sediment deposition in the pipe and head loss.

### Calibration Model Result

Calibration is an iterative procedure of parameter evaluation and adjustment by comparing simulated and observed values. The pressured field measured data at J-28, J-51 and J-88 were used for calibration of the model. As the model gives an automatic C value for GSP pipes, it is 130. Since the existing pipe age is seven years, the roughness coefficient of pipes is not less than the model values. Following analysis, it was discovered that model data and observed data were reasonably matched for a C value of 130, as per the AWWA guideline (2005). The model output and observed data (from three observation points) matched within a reasonable extent for a C value of 130 for given pipes.

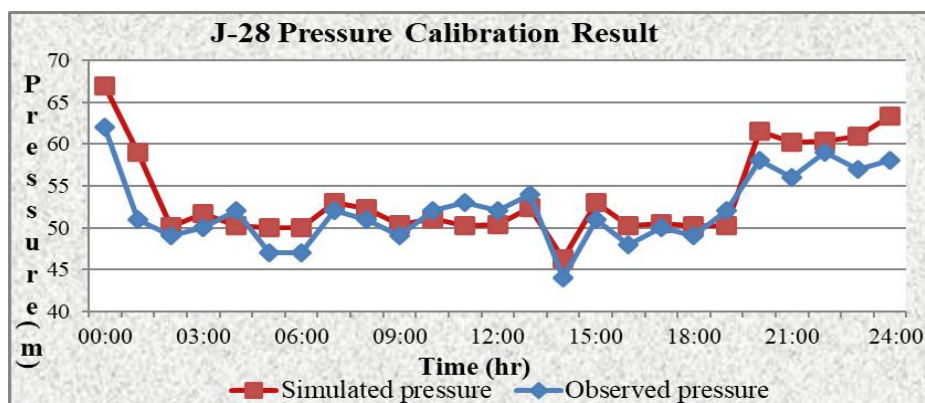


Figure 9. J-28 Pressure calibration result

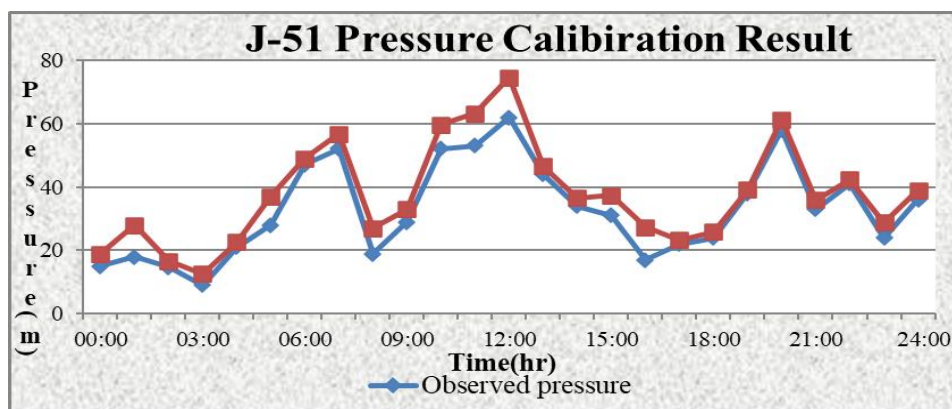


Figure 10. J-51 Pressure calibration result

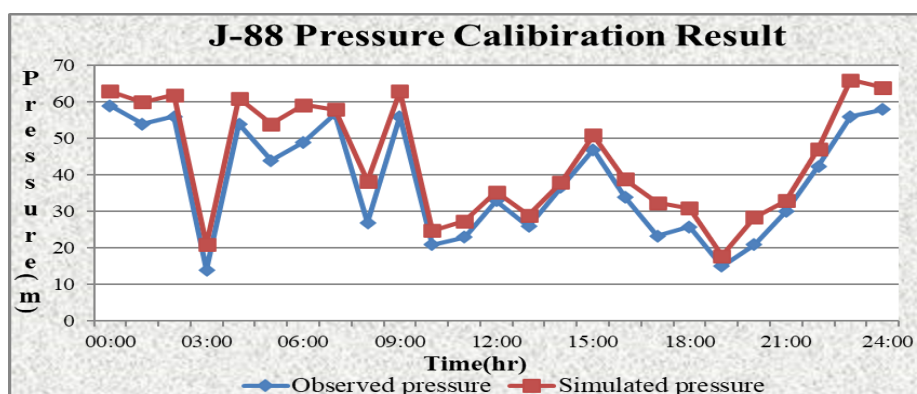


Figure 11. J-88 Pressure calibration result

The degree of accuracy varies depending on the size of the system and the amount of field data and testing available to the modeler.

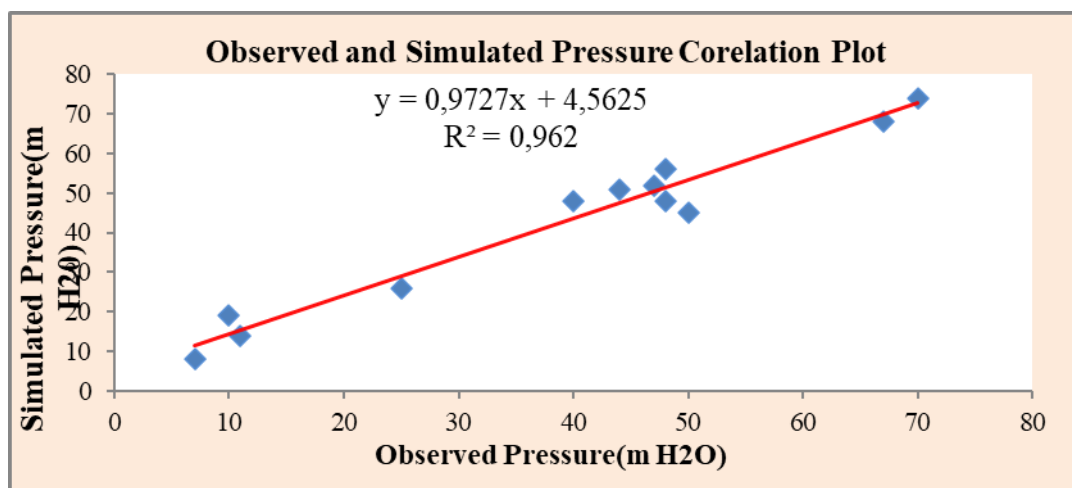
**Table 9. Junction pressure calibration based on difference pressure errors**

| Time (hr) | Junctions | Observed pressure (m H <sub>2</sub> O) | Simulated pressure (mH <sub>2</sub> O) | Differences pressure error (mH <sub>2</sub> O) |
|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|
| 3:00 AM   | J-28      | 50                                     | 51.7                                   | 1.7  |
|           | J-51      | 15                                     | 16.6                                   | 1.6  |
|           | J-88      | 71                                     | 72.6                                   | 1.6  |
| 6:00 AM   | J-28      | 47                                     | 50                                     | 3  |
|           | J-51      | 6                                      | 5.1                                    | -0.9   |
|           | J-88      | 45                                     | 47                                     | 2  |
| 2:00 PM   | J-28      | 46                                     | 46.3                                   | 0.3  |
|           | J-51      | 10                                     | 12.8                                   | 2.8  |
|           | J-88      | 44                                     | 46.6                                   | 2.6  |
| 6:00 PM   | J-28      | 49                                     | 50.2                                   | 1.2  |
|           | J-51      | 11                                     | 12.7                                   | 1.7  |
|           | J-88      | 72                                     | 75.1                                   | 3.1  |
| Average   |           |  |  | 1.725  |

As shown in table 3.8 above the computed pressure values have an average error of 1.725m pressure from simulated to observed values. As a result, the model is calibrated to meet the criteria for pressure calibration at the average level (average 1. 5m to maximum 5m).

**Model Validation**

Methods used to get unbiased estimates of the future performance of statistical prediction models and classifiers include data splitting and re-sampling. Model validation is a means of assessing the applicability of a given model with respect to field measured data. The pressure field measured values at J-28, J-51, and J-88 were used for validation of the model. The model validation work was taken manually using the correlation coefficient equation (R<sup>2</sup>) method and the graph figure presented 12 below.



**Figure 12. Relation between field measured and simulated pressure**

From the above figure12, the correlation (R<sup>2</sup>) value for peak low demand time was 0.962. Since the value of R<sup>2</sup> approaches 1 for this scenario, that indicates a good correlation between the field's measured pressure and simulated pressure. R<sup>2</sup> shows how much of the variance in the dependent variable would be accounted for if the model was derived from which the sample was taken.

### Hydraulic Network Improvement

There are three sets of design criteria to be considered in designing or improving a system. These are pressure, residual chlorine, and velocity. The design criteria used in the design of water supply distribution system components, nodal pressure during the period of peak demand, and optimum velocities of the transfer and distribution mains. Modification to the problems is made by creating new alternatives and scenarios, trial and error procedures until a solution appears to meet the design criteria.

#### a) Adding a pressure reducing valve to the network

The best operational practice to optimize the operation of the water distribution system was to control the pressure in the network. This management of pressure has been reflected in the aspect of reducing excessive pressure by installing a pressure reduction valve. By controlling the pressure, it is possible to reduce the amount of water loss from the system, the occurrence of internal damage, and power consumption related to high pressure at a minimum hourly demand pressure was high at lower elevation areas. Installing pressure-reduced valves around Humbo St.George Church at junction (J-17) and Mehal Kebele area at junction (J-88) links that have maximum pressure was used to reduce excessive pressure to the desired allowable value seen in the table below.

**Table 10. Excessive pressure in the improved system at minimum consumption hour**

| Junction | Elevation (m) | Pressure(mH <sub>2</sub> O) before adding PRV | Pressure(mH <sub>2</sub> O) after adding PRV |
|----------|---------------|---|--|
| J-17     | 1608.40       | 70.3  | 58.4   |
| J-88     | 1596.35       | 75.1  | 60.7   |

**Table 11. Improved system nodes with pressure at minimum consumption hour**

| Pressure (mH <sub>2</sub> O) | Number of nodes | Percentage |
|------------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| <15                          | 4               | 3.77       |
| 15-70                        | 102             | 96.23      |
| Total                        | 106             | 100        |

After modifying the existing water distribution system by adding a pressure reducing valve, 96.23% of the junctions are in the recommended pressure range of a minimum of 15m of H<sub>2</sub>O and a maximum of 70m of H<sub>2</sub>O, and only 3.77 % of the junctions are not in the recommended pressure range.

#### b) Adding a pressure boosting pump to the network

According to (Swamee et al., 2008) the minimum design nodal pressures are prescribed to discharge design flows onto the properties. In case of high rise buildings, booster pump (valves) are installed in the water supply system to water for the pressure head requirements. Installing pressure booster pump at Evangelical lutheran church, Tebela elementary school, Shoya and Jegera village in order to increase the lower pressure of 22 junctions, the area of low pressure value seen in the table below.

#### c) Improving pipe size

Increasing the diameter of the pipe in a water distribution model results in a corresponding decrease in velocity and an increase in pressure. At peak hour consumption, the velocities outside of the design range are modified by resizing the pipe diameter. The pipe which does not meet the allowable minimum and maximum velocity was selected for modification to improve the water distribution system.

**Table 12. Modified pipe size in main distribution system at minimum hour consumption**

| Label | Existing pipe size(mm) |               | Modified pipe size(mm) |               |
|-------|------------------------|---------------|------------------------|---------------|
|       | Diameter (mm)          | Velocity(m/s) | Diameter (mm)          | Velocity(m/s) |
| P-1   | 150                    | 0.45          | 80                     | 0.80          |
| P-6   | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-7   | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-16  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-18  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-22  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-25  | 50                     | 0.47          | 32                     | 0.64          |
| P-27  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.62          |
| P-29  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-31  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-33  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-34  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-35  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.62          |
| P-36  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-40  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-47  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-48  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-50  | 80                     | 0.42          | 50                     | 0.71          |
| P-55  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.63          |
| P-59  | 40                     | 0.45          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-61  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-63  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-67  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-69  | 40                     | 0.45          | 25                     | 0.62          |
| P-70  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-73  | 50                     | 0.49          | 32                     | 0.64          |
| P-79  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-80  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-81  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.62          |
| P-82  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-85  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-86  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.61          |
| P-88  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-91  | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-94  | 50                     | 0.4           | 32                     | 0.64          |
| P-97  | 80                     | 0.49          | 50                     | 0.71          |
| P-104 | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-105 | 40                     | 0.42          | 25                     | 0.60          |
| P-107 | 40                     | 0.45          | 25                     | 0.62          |

**Table 13. Improved system velocity in the distribution system at minimum hourly consumption**

| Velocity (m/s) | Number of pipes | Percentage | Effect                     |
|----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------------------|
| <=0.6          | 31              | 26.49      | Sedimentation happens      |
| 0.6-2          | 86              | 73.50      | An acceptable level        |
| >2             | 0               | 0          | Head loss and water hammer |
| Total          | 117             | 100        |                            |



After modifying the pipe sizes in the existing distribution system as shown in the table above, 73.50% of the pipes are in the recommended velocity range of above 0.6 m/s and below 2 m/s.

## CONCLUSION

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the performance of the Tebela town water distribution system under existing and projected future demand conditions. Based on the evaluations presented, the following conclusions and recommendations were forwarded.

The main sources of water for the people living in Tebela town were borehole which gives 717m<sup>3</sup>/day of water and natural springs with distribution that provided 398.1m<sup>3</sup>/day. The town has no water treatment plant, but the reservoirs water is treated with chlorine monthly. The water coverage of the area is about 25.9%, which is moderate level.

Total water loss was calculated using a percentage of the system input volume, the length of the mains, and the number of connections. Generally, based on the analysis results, the total water loss from the system was 70,036.7m<sup>3</sup>/year, which accounted for 17.2% of the total water production in the study area. The total apparent loss volume includes the loss due to unauthorized consumption, metering inaccuracies, and data handling errors and was aggregated to 11,229.53m<sup>3</sup>/year, which covers 16.04% of the total losses. Real loss includes the volume of water lost through all types of leaks, bursts and overflows on service reservoirs. In this study, the real loss volume was found to be 58,807.17m<sup>3</sup>/year, which covers 83.96% of the total losses. Real losses are the dominant component of water losses in Tebela town's water distribution system. High levels of water losses have a serious impact on Tebela water service finance as well as on available water resources in water scarce environments. During hydraulic modeling of the town's water pressure, 106 nodes and 117 pipes were identified. At peak hour consumption, 24.53% of the nodes are under desirable minimum pressure, no nodes are exceeding maximum allowable pressure, junctions 43, 51, 52, and 54 are negative pressure, and 75.47% of the nodes have pressure within the recommended limit. During minimum time consumption, 3.77% of the nodes are below the desirable minimum pressure, 1.89% of the nodes are getting water above standard pressure, and 94.34% of the nodes are in the permissible pressure range. For peak hour consumption, 0.85% of the pipes are below the desirable minimum velocity, 3.42% of the pipes velocity is exceeding the maximum allowable velocity, and 95.73% of the pipes are in the recommended velocity range. During low consumption times, 35.04% of the pipes' velocity is below the desirable minimum velocity, and 64.96% of the pipes are in the recommended velocity range. After modifying the existing water distribution system, 96.23% of the junctions are in the recommended pressure range of a minimum of 15m of H<sub>2</sub>O and a maximum of 70m of H<sub>2</sub>O. Only 3.77% of the junctions are not in the recommended pressure range. Also, 73.50% of the pipes are in the recommended velocity range of above 0.6 m/s and below 2 m/s at minimum hourly consumption; only 26.50% of the pipes are less than or equal to 6m/s.

Therefore, the result of the analysis showed that the overall technical performance of the existing water distribution system in the town was moderate, which was reflected by the medium water production rate, water consumption, level of nonrevenue water, water coverage, and same velocity and pressure not in the permissible range.

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