

IWRM and Transboundary Cooperation: Policy Issues, Monitoring Instruments & Capacity Development

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Overview

- Review the meaning of IWRM and transboundary cooperation in SDG 6.5
- Discuss indicators for measuring progress toward IWRM, and tools and policy levers for improving IWRM
- Discuss indicators for measuring progress toward transboundary cooperation, and what are tools and policy levers for improving cooperation
- What are the priority areas for capacity development



SDG Target 6.5

- SDG TARGET 6.5: “to implement integrated water resources management at all levels, including through transboundary cooperation as appropriate”
- What is IWRM? It can mean different things, but typically includes:
 - Considering full hydrological cycle
 - Managing water together with related resources
 - Managing water at basin level
 - Process based on participation, equity, sustainability



IWRM: Indicators

What do SDG proposals say about indicators for implementing IWRM?

- *Broad* Integrated approach to water management through enabling environment - GWP (2013); Government commitment to integrated water management by 2030- SDSN (2013); Integrated management of surface and groundwater – UNDG (2013)
- *Specific* Percentage of countries implementing IWRM plans –UN-Water (2014); Qualitative analyses on IWRM structure and performance - UN-Water (2014)



IWRM: Policy Tools

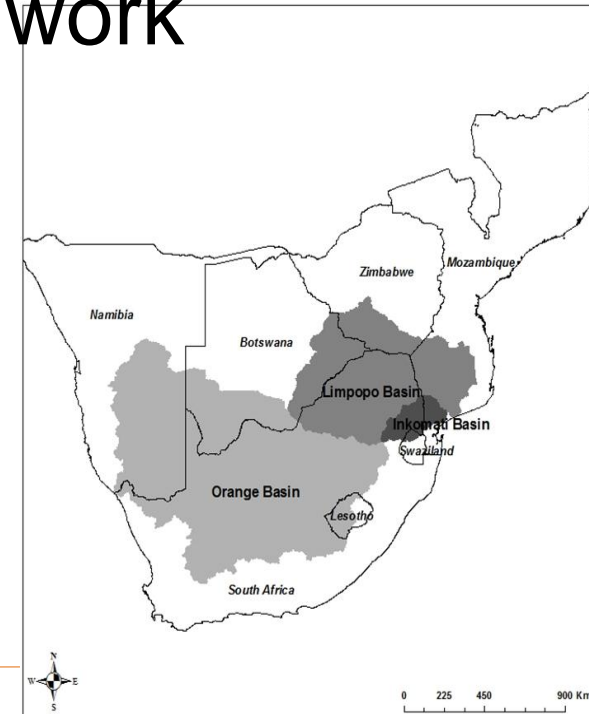
Tools for implementing IWRM:

- Strengthen the enabling environment (policy, legislation, finance)
- Improve institutions (organisations, capacity)
- Enhance management instruments (IWRM plans, regulations, conflict resolution, information exchange)



Transboundary cooperation: Indicators

- Indicators proposed by GWP, Swiss and UN Water stopped only at formation of basin treaties and basin organisations
- IWMI also undertook indicator work
- Past indicator work was mined, filtered and pilot-tested in 3 transboundary basins
- Six strong indicators identified



Six Indicators

Indicator	Possible Scoring System	Means of Verification
Conclusion of a basin-wide transboundary water agreement	0. no international agreement 1. international agreements among some riparians 2. international agreements among all riparians	Interview relevant representative from riparian government/basin organisation and obtain the agreement document if it exists
Reference to transboundary cooperation in national legislation	0. no reference to transboundary cooperation in the national legislation 1. national legislation in some countries refer to transboundary cooperation 2. national legislation in all member states refer to transboundary cooperation	Review legislation of each country for existence of reference to transboundary water management
Inclusive Completion of a Basin Plan	0. no basin plans available 1. basin plan available but is older than five years 2. basin plan available, produced within the last five years	Interview relevant basin/government personnel to establish existence of the plan. Where it exists, obtain the document.



Six Indicators

Indicator	Possible Scoring System	Means of Verification
Evidence of Regular Data Exchange	0. no data exchange 1. hydrological data exchanged among riparians annually 2. hydrological data exchanges among riparians quarterly or more	Interview relevant representative from basin/ riparian government to confirm frequency of data exchange.
Harmonised measurement and assessment methods	0. not harmonised 1. harmonised among some riparians 2. harmonised among all riparians	Interview relevant technical personnel from riparian government/basin organisation. Then review communication material; compare units utilized across countries to confirm harmonisation
Degree of riparian financing for transboundary cooperation	0. riparians fully rely on external support 1. combination of financial support from riparians and external players 2. no external support. Financial support mainly relies on the interested or economically influential riparian states 3. all riparians financial support	Interview relevant representative from basin organisation/riparian government and request budget figures



Policy Tools / Levers

What can countries do improve their scores according to our indicators:

- Form treaties
- Update legislation
- Political commitment through financing
- Establish information systems and exchange data regularly
- Harmonize data with riparians
- Conduct inclusive basin planning



Capacity Needs in IWRM and Transboundary Waters

- Basin Planning
- Research
- Information management
- Finance



Looking forward

- Contextualizing IWRM and transboundary cooperation in country and shared water context is key
- IWRM is somewhat broad: there is a key need to develop context-specific solutions
- Partnership and capacity development can strengthen this process; IWMI can support



Thank You!

Blog:

<http://wle.cgiar.org/blogs/2014/09/10/classic-case-research-policy-disconnect>

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