



A CALL FOR REGIONAL APPROACH against climate change effects

Hon. Charity K. Ngilu and Ambassador Stanislas Kamanzi receive the Guest of Honour, H.E. Jean D. Ntawukuriryayo on arrival at Serena Kigali hotel for the 3rd NBDF

>> Participants from Burundi, DR Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, The Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda issued a Kigali Declaration that calls for intensified regional approach to address climate change challenges in the Nile Basin.

The first ever regional dialogue on climate change in the Nile Basin was opened within the framework of the Nile Basin Development Forum (NBDF). The NBDF is held every two years since 2006 under the auspices of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI). The purpose of the NBDF is to foster Nile Basin emergence of knowledge communities and exchange of experience as well as to enhance the understanding between diverse categories of stakeholders on Nile Basin issues and challenges.

Studies indicate that climate change will have considerable negative impacts on the quantity and quality of the Nile waters and related natural resources. As a consequence, human livelihoods and development in the riparian

countries could be adversely affected. It is therefore not surprising that the theme selected by NBI for the 3rd Regional Nile Basin Development Forum was: 'Climate Change and its implications for Sustainable Development and Cooperation in the Nile Basin - Threats and Opportunities to Nile Basin Cooperation'. The Forum was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Natural Resources of the Republic of Rwanda, from 26th to 28th October 2011 in Kigali.

The 3rd NBDF attracted more than 200 participants including Ministers in charge of Water Affairs and Members of Parliament in the Nile Basin countries, environmentalists, water managers, researchers, River Basin

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2011 A YEAR OF positive events

I trust you have had a wonderful year 2011.

As we come to the end of the year, we are about to open a new chapter in the life of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI). The current project on Institutional Strengthening will come to an end in December 2012. As such, we have prepared an overarching five year (2012 - 2016) Strategic Plan that links the work of all the three NBI centers (Nile-SEC in Entebbe, ENTRO in Addis Ababa and NELSAP-CU in Kigali), as well as the Financing Strategy. Both the Strategic Plan and Financing Strategy were recently presented to members of the Nile Technical Advisory Committee as well as current and prospective donors during the annual Strategic Dialogue meeting, the 6th in a series. The objective of the meeting was to plan for future cooperative water resource management and development in the Nile Basin.

The Strategic Plan is focused on achieving the NBI Shared Vision: *To achieve sustainable social economic development through the equitable utilization of and benefit from the common Nile Basin water resources.* Three Program areas have been identified as follows: *Facilitating Cooperation, Water Resource Management and Water Resource Development.* The first two programs will be led by the Secretariat while the third program will be led by NBI's investment programs namely the Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Program and the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program

The objective of the Program on Facilitating Cooperation is to support and nurture cooperation amongst the Nile Basin countries so as to promote timely and efficient joint actions required for securing benefits from

the common Nile Basin water resources.

The objective of the Water Resource Management Program is to assess, manage and safeguard the water resource base that supports the peoples of the Nile Basin through applying the principles of knowledge-based Integrated Water Resources Management to



What we have been able to do in support of our Member States is quite remarkable.

water development planning and assessment.

The third Program, which is in Water Resource Development, will identify, prepare and facilitate investment in trans-boundary water development projects and programs whilst mitigating negative impacts on the health of the Nile Basin's water resources through applying the principles of Integrated Water Resource Management.

As we plan for the future, I wish to note that the year 2011 has been a very eventful one for us. What we have been able to do in support of our Member States and their people is quite remarkable and it is worth recollecting some of our high level achievements, in line with our three Programs.

Under Facilitating Cooperation Program,, the Secretariat has continued to provide a platform for dialogue and regular fora for technical discussions throughout the basin. Allow me point out a few examples as follows:

The Comprehensive Basin-Wide Study of Power Development Options and Trade Opportunities

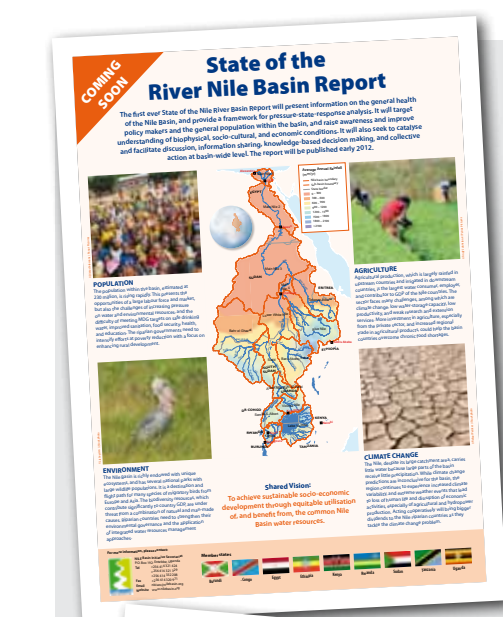
covering all Nile Basin countries and Djibouti was finalized by the Regional Power Trade Project. The study analyzes the status of power supply, regional interconnectivity, and demand as well as trade opportunities in the context of multipurpose water resources development.

In a related development, we brought together a total of 25 power experts to discuss and come up with best practices on how to manage power generation shortfalls in the Nile Basin region. The power experts were drawn from ministries responsible for electricity affairs as well as from power utilities in the Member States.

Furthermore, the guidelines for implementing the interim procedures for data and information sharing and exchange were endorsement by the Nile Council of Ministers.

Our policy experts assisted the governments of Rwanda and Kenya to integrate trans-boundary dimensions into their national water policies.

The NBI successfully organized the first major regional meeting on climate change in the basin, bringing the region's top academics and scientists together with policy-makers as well as civil society to discuss the challenges ahead such as droughts, floods, wetland degradation, reduced river flow, among others and to come up with a regional approach



to address the challenges. The meeting was organized within the framework of the Regional Nile Basin Development Forum, a regular event organized by the NBI every two years since 2006.

The 2011 Regional Nile Day was successfully celebrated in Goma, DR Congo, with over 300 stakeholders, including Ministers in charge of Water Affairs in the NBI Member States.

Besides facilitating cooperation, the Secretariat has attained important milestones in its 'Water Resource Management' Program. Key among these is the production of the first ever and soon to be published State of the River Nile Basin report. The report provides access to accurate, credible and timely information to help in raising awareness and increasing understanding and appreciation about the natural environment, the people, communities and economic development of the basin. Also produced is the Nile Basin Sustainability Framework (NBSF), a suite of policies, strategies and guidelines. It will be

of the DSS is to share a common analytic platform and knowledge base to support the cooperative development of the Nile Basin water resources. Member States can use the tool to analyze their water resources and identify trans-boundary opportunities, among others.

In addition, the Nile Information System (Nile-IS), a web-based knowledge sharing platform through which NBI is able to openly share information and knowledge with stakeholders and among our three centers is now operational. Besides the Nile-IS which is web-based, NBI has also re-modeled its three physical knowledge centers (libraries) to promote face to face knowledge and information sharing.

It is also worth mentioning that through the 'Water Resource Development' Program led by the two investment programs offices, our efforts have enabled implementation of large-scale investment projects to give results on the ground aimed at improving the lives of the people of the basin.

As I conclude, I would like to sincerely thank all the staff of NBI for their hard work and commitment that has translated into the above achievements. My thanks also go to all stakeholders for their continued support to the NBI cause.

With the caliber of staff and continued support from our various stakeholders, I am convinced that we will be able to successfully implement our five-year Strategic Plan—for the benefit of our Member States and for better livelihoods of the citizens of the basin.

While achieving the NBI Vision may not be that easy, I know it is possible with all Member States working together.

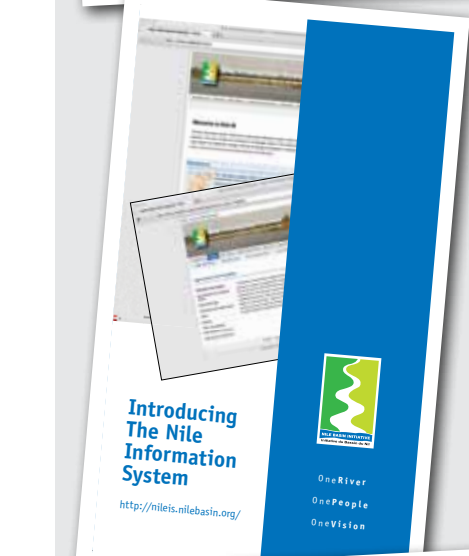
I wish you all a happy and productive New Year 2012.

Wael Khairy

Wael Khairy (DR.)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

used by NBI to ensure that its activities with regard to the Nile Basin water resources are in accordance with the principles of integrated water resources management.

We have developed a Decision Support System (DSS), an analytical tool assisting Member States and NBI as an institution. The purpose





3rd NILE BASIN DEVELOPMENT FORUM

KIGALI DECLARATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

DECLARATION

WE the Participants from the Nile Basin countries, namely; Burundi, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, The Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda;

HAVING participated in the 3rd Nile Basin Development Forum (3rd NBDF) in Kigali, Rwanda during 26-28 October 2011;

BEING AWARE of the challenges faced by the riparian countries from negative impacts of climate change on the Nile waters, related natural resources, livelihood of our people, and the environment; and recognizing that climate change converges with existing challenges such as poverty, high population growth, aggravated water and land stresses, food in-security and rising demand on resources;

NOTING that the environmental assets and protected ecosystems of the Nile Basin need to be preserved for the benefits of the Nile Riparian States and their populations;

BEING AWARE that the impacts of climate change on the Nile waters and basin resources are likely to cross political and geographical boundaries and coping with climate change impacts requires regional cooperation among our Riparian States and that the implementation of efficient water resources management and joint adaptive measures in the Nile Basin is crucial for strengthening the riparian countries' resilience against negative climate change impacts;

ACKNOWLEDGING Acknowledging that the potential impacts of climate change, including extreme climate events, on agricultural and energy production, and the need for adaptation measures, call for

particular attention, coordination among all stakeholders at national level and robust regional collaboration in planning, governance and toward securing financing;

UNDERLINING that coordinated and joint adaptation efforts in the Nile Basin will bring shared benefits and opportunities to the riparian countries, such as building resilience for reversing negative impacts on water, food and energy, and attract adaptation funding and investments;

ACKNOWLEDGING WITH APPRECIATION the various funding opportunities in the areas of climate change adaptation and mitigation including funding mechanisms such as the GEF trust fund (SPA), the Least Developed Country Fund (LDCF), the Special Climate Change Fund (SCCF), Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and others;

TAKING NOTE to the significant progress made cooperatively among the Nile Riparian States to put in place the necessary tools, systems, and capacities for sustainable management and development, and the progress made on implementation of development programmes that improves resilience to climate change;

Highlight the need to:

1. **ENHANCE COOPERATION** among our respective countries in preserving and managing the Nile Basin environment by giving due attention to its water and land resources, wetlands and biodiversity and by addressing the impacts of climate change.
2. **SUPPORT** 2. Support the empowerment of the Nile Basin to take more rigorous and effective steps towards implementing pertinent climate change adaptation

measures, thereby contributing to efficient water management and optimal use of the resources as well as poverty eradication leading to promotion of economic integration in the Nile Basin.

3. **EXPEDITE** the ongoing efforts to put in-place viable governance systems and institutional design, at sub-basin and basin-wide levels that ably enhance our collective capacity and efforts to more effectively adapt to the impacts of climate change and its variability in our countries and on our peoples.
4. **DEEPEN** the ongoing NBI-led cooperative efforts that strive to build our collective technical capacities to better understand the science of our shared river, the threats it faces and the types of national and regional level interventions possible.
5. **TAKE** the necessary measures to put in place a basin-wide climate change adaptation strategy and expedite the implementation of key priority programs/ activities that respond to climate change impacts and support sustainable water resources management and development of the Nile Water resources.
6. **WORK** closely with scientific and academic sectors on applied research and training programs to facilitate informed policy and decision making, early warning systems and to prepare our farmers, civil society organizations, communities and Nile Basin citizens in general to better prepare for the inevitable extreme events that accompany climate change.
7. **STRENGTHEN** participatory and integrated approaches in planning and decision-making, including the meaningful participation of the civil society and nongovernmental organizations in our efforts on responding to climate change

DEVELOPMENT FORUM

DATIONS



Recommendations from the 3rd NBDF were presented by the NBI during the 17th Conference of the Parties (COP17) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in November 2011. They will also be presented at the 6th World Water Forum in March 2012.

- at national and regional levels, and
8. **IDENTIFY** financial needs for climate change adaptation, mobilize financial resources from various international adaptation funds and attract new funding through international climate change mechanisms for water and energy infrastructure as part of Low Carbon Growth Plans, to pave the way for joint adaptation projects in the Nile Basin.

WE CALL UPON the international donors community, bilateral and multilateral financing institutions and friends of the Nile to extent technical, financial, moral and other

types of appropriate support to our collective efforts to build multi-tiered institutional and technical capacities and for joint adaptation projects in the Nile Basin that significantly will make improved livelihood, economic growth, and environmental sustainability in the Nile Basin countries and its peoples.

WE EXPRESS our warm and sincere thanks to the people and Government of Rwanda, for their strong support to the 3rd NBDF and for their hospitality extended to all NBI delegations.

**AGREED ON 28TH OCTOBER 2011
IN KIGALI, RWANDA**

RECOMMENDATIONS

Adaptation Governance

1. Sound policies and institutions should be created on the national and regional level and effective coordination mechanisms put in place to support cooperation for climate change adaptation and accommodate national needs with regional perspectives.
2. Technical and institutional capacities should be enhanced and awareness raised among decision makers for the threats and opportunities emanating from climate change to allow for more effective adaptation actions in the Nile Basin.
3. A strong knowledge base and effective mechanisms for data and information sharing need to be created to support the development of climate change policy, to facilitate policy learning and decision-making in the Nile Basin as well as to build the legitimate basis for collective action.
4. The role of Civil Society Organisations needs to be strengthened as an intermediate between the governments

and citizens to increase awareness and to learn from best-practices for climate adaptation from the community-level.

5. A climate strategy should be developed and agreed upon by NBI members that identifies areas where climate adaptation measures are urgently needed in the Nile Basin.
6. Policy makers should express their clear political will to enhance cooperation and joint actions to cope with climate change.

Adaptation Finance

7. A comprehensive climate finance strategy should be developed for the Nile Basin and climate finance become an integral part of water and related sector planning.
8. Information and training as well as partnerships with regional development banks will enhance capacities to better access climate funds and allocate of domestic resources.
9. Increase significantly the allocation of climate funds for adaptation and make projects bankable.

Food and Energy Security

10. Joint development and operation of multi-purpose infrastructure is needed at sub-basin level to support groupings of riparians to cope with weather and climatic extremes and derive win-win benefits on an equitable basis from utilisation of the common Nile Basin water resources.
11. Climate change needs to be mainstreamed into national and regional planning and development processes.
12. The role of the NBI should be strengthened to enhance food security in the Nile Basin through promoting intra-basin trade in agricultural products taking advantage of comparative advantage of individual countries in efficient production of various agricultural products.

THE NILE BASIN INITIATIVE SHOULD TAKE THESE RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARD TO DEVELOP CONCRETE PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION IN THE NILE BASIN.

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Dr. Wael Khairy (L) and Hon. Amb. Kamanzi (L) receive the FAO-Nile products from Dr. Pasquale Steduto, Deputy Director- Land and Water Division at FAO

Organizations, International and Regional organizations, civil society, private sector, media, diplomatic missions and development partners.

NBI PRODUCTS LAUNCHED DURING THE FORUM

- State of the River Nile Basin report
- Nile-Decision Support System
- Nile Information System
- Nile Basin Sustainability Framework
- FAO-Nile Information Products

While officially opening the Forum the President of the Senate of the Republic of Rwanda H.E. Jean Damascene Ntwukuriyayo emphasized the need to overcome fragmentation that exists at various levels of climate change management. "In Africa, there are many initiatives that are engaged in climate change matters, including the East African Community through the Lake Victoria Basin Commission, Inter Governmental Authority on Development, and the United Nations Environmental Programme", he noted. He called for synergistic interventions that optimize and ensure beneficial use of the available resources.

H.E. Ntwukuriyayo gave assurance of Rwanda's commitment and support to the Nile Cooperation. "... I promise this commitment to continue as we collaborate with all stakeholders involved in climate change issues and other development programs in Africa."

The Chairperson of the Nile Council of Ministers in charge of Water Affairs in the NBI Member States and Kenya's Minister for Water and Irrigation, Hon. Charity Kaluki Ngilu, told participants that "the Nile Basin region is

faced with a declining level of Lake Victoria. For us to guarantee water security for our citizens, I would encourage the Nile Basin Member States that are yet to sign the River Nile Cooperative Framework Agreement to do so." She added that water security for Sudan and Egypt is not a matter for debate, but a right. "To secure this right it is important the River Nile Cooperative Framework Agreement is ratified by all the Nile Basin States," Hon. Ngilu stressed.

Earlier, Dr. Wael Khairy, Executive Director of the Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat, noted that achieving sustainable socio-economic development and management of the Nile Basin presents a great challenge, which calls for joint regional action as well as explicit political-will and financial commitment from all Nile Riparian States and development partners. He said the "Nile Basin can be resilient to climate change if, and only if, our Riparian States work together as one body."

Participants discussed the impacts of Climate Change on the Nile waters, related natural resources and on socio-economic development in the Nile Basin region. They also discussed opportunities for trans-boundary cooperation and benefits from integrated water resources planning for adaptation under a changing climate; governance issues for climate change adaptation; challenges and potentials for financing adaptation; as well as opportunities for food and energy security under a changing climate.



The NBDF is a continuation of the Nile 2002 conferences and came into being as a result of the need to continue dialogue among stakeholders with regard to Nile Basin emerging issues and needs as well as challenges and opportunities.

The inaugural Forum was held in Addis Ababa in 2006 under the theme: "The role of the River Nile in Poverty Reduction and Economic Development". The 2nd NBDF took place in Khartoum in 2008 under the theme: "Environment and Water resources management for peace and cooperation in the Nile Basin".

The 4th Nile Basin Development Forum will take place in Nairobi Kenya, in 2013.

While officially closing the 3rd NBDF on 28th October, 2011 the Host, Hon. Ambassador Stanislas Kamanzi, Minister of Natural Resources of the Republic of Rwanda noted that participants have ably deliberated on the challenges, existing opportunities and the ever growing threats of climate change to development agendas, not only in NBI but in the whole of Africa. "We received captivating key note speeches, deliberated on core issues and what can be done in Governance, Finance, Food and Energy Security in enabling us adapt to climate change", he added.

BY JANE K. BAITWA
REGIONAL COMMUNICATION SPECIALIST
NILE-SEC - ENTEBBE



Ministers Hon. Jean-Marie Nibirantije (Burundi) and Hon. Kamal Mohammed (Sudan) listen to an explanation on the Decision Support System developed by NBI



STRATEGIC DIALOGUE another step into the future of NBI

>> The 6th Strategic Dialogue attended by members of the Nile Technical Advisory Committee, development partners and the three Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) centers (Nile-SEC, ENTRO, NELSAP-CU) took place on the 16th and 17th November, 2011 at the Munyonyo Commonwealth Resort in Kampala, Uganda.

The main objective of the meeting was to plan for the future cooperative water resources management and development in the Nile Basin through focused discussion on NBI progress and achievements, proposed NBI Strategic Plan, programs and projects as well as financing strategy.

A total of 14 development partners were represented in the meeting namely, CIDA-Canada, Denmark, DFID-UK, EU, Finland, France, Germany, Sida-Sweden, The Netherlands, Norway, UNDP, USA and World Bank. JICA was represented for the first time.

The NBI presented its key achievements and the proposed five-year Strategic Plan developed to shape the institution's direction from 2012 to 2016 as a period of consolidation, with a primary focus on delivering tangible benefits to the citizens of the NBI Member

States and in line with the **NBI Shared Vision - to achieve sustainable socio-economic development through the equitable utilization of, and benefit from, the common Nile Basin water resources**. Also presented and discussed was the Financing Strategy for the planning period.

The development partners noted that NBI has greatly enhanced its implementation capacity and improved its quality of reporting, providing information needed to monitor programs. They expressed their conviction of NBI's value addition as a basin-wide platform for dialogue and forging regional cooperation and development. They expressed satisfaction with the coherent strategies and related programmatic framework of the projects proposed to be implemented by the three NBI Centers.

Development partners demonstrated interest

in continuing to support NBI in line with its new proposed Strategic Plan, that highlights the key strategic objectives and the different program areas and a number of them expressed their readiness to conduct joint specific project identification missions

They also stated their readiness to assist NBI through a programmatic approach and funding mechanisms such as Cooperation in International Waters in Africa' (CIWA) established by the World Bank, other basket funding mechanisms as well as bilaterally.

The development partners called on NBI Member States to demonstrate their financial commitment and progressively move towards covering the core costs of NBI.

BY DANIEL MASSAMBA, TOM WAAKO AND JOHN OGWANG
NILE-SEC - ENTEBBE



The Head of the Africa Water Program at the World Bank, Mr. Gustavo Saltiel addresses participants during the opening ceremony of the 6th Strategic Dialogue meeting



Participants who attended the 6th Strategic Dialogue meeting



Mr. Benjamin Ssekamuli (Uganda) explains the use of the Decision Support System developed by NBI, to Ms Diane Briand of CIDA-Canada



The Nile-TAC chair, Mr. Fred Mwango (Kenya) takes time off during the meeting, to pick some NBI products displayed during the meeting

GIS BOOSTS NBI common knowledge base

One of the key targets of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) in the area of Integrated Water Resources Management is to build a common Knowledge base for use by NBI Member States in the management and development of the Shared Nile Water resources. The NBI has over the years been putting together the building blocks for such a planning tool.

One such building block is the Geographic Information System (GIS) and Remote Sensing office established at the Secretariat (Nile-SEC) in Entebbe. The office is responsible for leading the development of a GIS and spatially referenced information about the River Nile Basin. A critical component of a GIS is its ability to produce maps and graphics to scale on the screen or on paper to convey to decision

makers the results of analyses about resources. This is a key step in developing a knowledge base of NBI Member States to improve the management of water and related natural resources of the Nile basin.

The GIS office will provide data about the River Nile basin and its resources that is organized and customized in standard formats for easy exchange. So far, spatial data has been collected from existing global datasets and has been compiled/processed, standardized and customized for the Nile Basin boundary, into a data repository at the Nile-SEC. This will encourage cooperation and communication among NBI Member States, the three NBI centers (Nile-SEC, ENTRO and NELSAP-CU), NBI projects as well as other organizations involved in environmental protection, planning and resource management.

Also already produced are maps for the State of the River Nile Basin report as well as a number of other maps and posters. These can be accessed through the Nile-IS on <http://nileis.nilebasin.org>.



There are different categories of the data repository. These include; administration, topography, land cover/land use, demography, hydrology, soils, potential evapo-transpiration and rainfall. Others are temperature, solar radiation, agriculture, geology, infrastructure, biodiversity, transport, energy/power options, transmission lines, wetlands, vegetation, satellite imagery and topo maps.

Among its future plans, Nile-SEC will set up a Geospatial Portal for the Nile Basin, which will provide Member States, NBI staff, researchers and the general public with a repository of quality assured, processed and customized electronic data. The Geospatial Portal will also serve as a help desk within the region through which Geo-referenced Information about the Nile Basin and its resources can be accessed.

For further information, Please send an email to: gis@nilebasin.org

BY MILLY MBULIRO
GIS AND REMOTE SENSING SPECIALIST,
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NILE BASIN COUNTRIES ENGAGE IN water footprint training



Water Footprint analysis allows policy makers to understand where local agricultural production fits in the global economy, it helps to frame questions about production and around the use of national water resources endowment. These types of discussions help to frame the debate around efficiency of water use, productive agriculture and trade.

A water footprint and virtual water training was held in Nairobi in August 2011, attracting over 40 participants. The training aimed at creating awareness and up-skilling in water footprint analysis was organized and conducted by NBI's/NELSAP Regional Agricultural Trade and Productivity (RATP) project together with PEGASYS-South Africa.

Participants were carefully selected from NBI Member States ministries in charge of agriculture, trade, water, planning and finance as well as representatives of the Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee. Others were members of the RATP Steering Committee, the project's National Liaison Officers and other NBI staff. The five day training also attracted participants from Global Water Partnership Eastern Africa, Nile Basin Discourse, COMESA, African Union-Inter African Bureau of Animal Resources, World Wildlife Fund, Northern Corridor, Horticultural Council of Africa and East African Grain Council.

Water footprint and virtual water contribute

to trade policy discussions that encourage efficient water use. There is therefore some considerable benefit to understanding the applications of water footprint of the countries and regions in the Nile basin. In particular, where water footprint informs thinking about the comparative advantage around an agricultural product. For example, a country that is water scarce may seek import goods with higher virtual water content and hence "free themselves from their own climate" that is, free their water resources for other productive uses. Countries or regions that are water abundant are better able to produce and export more water-intensive crops.

As part of the training, participants looked at the water resources in the Nile Basin (rainfall, ground water, surface water, water storage) and the likely effects of climate change. They examined existing water footprint analyses which show green water and blue water use in Sub-Saharan Africa and how water footprint may have resonance for strategic/policy dialogues around trade, agriculture or water in the Nile Basin countries.

The training examined water footprint and how it may be used to support water resources



The **Virtual water** content of a product is the water consumed in making that product measured over the whole supply chain. Water is termed "virtual" because the amount of water physically contained in the final product is negligible compared to the amount which contributed to production.

Virtual water was conceptualised by Prof. Tony Allan as a way to understand why water wars in the Middle East region had not materialised. Conflicts over water are likely mitigated by the trade in water-intensive foodstuffs from outside the region which relieves pressure in areas where there is insufficient water resources.

The **water footprint** of a product emerged when researchers started to quantify the actual water volumes and discovered there are differences between the volumes used to make the same product in different locations and sources. Furthermore, different types and source of water are used; rain versus surface water (green versus blue).

The water footprint is therefore a multidimensional indicator which expands upon the base concept of virtual water.

Water footprint analysis for the NBI Member States

	Tanzania	Kenya	Uganda	DRC	Burundi	Rwanda	Ethiopia	Sudan	Egypt
Maize	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Rice	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Flowers	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Beans	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Bananas	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
Sugar	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
Tea	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓			
Coffee	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Beef	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mangos	✓	✓	✓			✓			✓

Agricultural commodities produced and traded within the Nile Basin countries

management by looking at water-in-the-economy. Ultimately it was presented as a tool through which trade policy, agricultural policy, and corporate strategy can be brought into the same conversation. Water footprint has applications to food security and to regional trade balances between the Nile Basin countries. This type of analysis offers a pathway to

understanding shared risk and the opportunities for coherent and sustainable response. Also as part of the training, participants (in their country groups) identified a set of agricultural commodities produced and traded within the Nile Basin countries', as indicated in the table. As a next step, analysts at Pegasys are now examining virtual water trade between the NBI

Member States and between the Member States and the rest of the world. They will later develop sample policy briefs based on these analyses.

BY DR. HELLEN NATU
(NBI/NELSAP/RATP) AND
MS. KATE LAING
PEGASYS

GENDER MAINSTREAMING in NBI evolves further

>> Policy and Strategy to mainstream gender
in programs and investment projects developed



Fifty two percent of the population of the Nile Basin is women. Women are heavily involved in the water resources sector although they do not have equal opportunities in water governance.

Lessons from the past few decades show that even a people-centered approach does not automatically ensure that women's and men's different needs and interests are reflected in integrated water resource management practices. Hence, many water management programs now place a focus on 'women's involvement'. But this raises a problem because many of these programs often seek to alter women's condition and position without taking into account the larger social picture of entrenched power relations, which in fact is capable of negating any gains women may achieve.

In response to the above concerns, the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) has committed itself to mainstream gender into its interventions and to ensure that gender concerns are taken into account, by engendering NBI Institutions, Programs and investment Projects.

The purpose of the Gender Mainstreaming Policy and Strategy is to provide NBI with a reference point whilst recognizing varied

levels of progress with the assumption that actions will tailor implementation of gender mainstreaming goals based on the realities of the local context as well as existing experience and good practice. The draft Policy and Strategy will soon be presented to the Nile-TAC for approval.

Implementing the Policy and Strategy

The NBI Policy and Strategy for Mainstreaming Gender will be implemented under the auspices of the Subsidiary Action Programs (SAPs) that are responsible for NBI supported investment projects. This will be in partnership with water related ministries in the Member States, development partners, research institutions, women's groups, civil society and other stakeholders. The NBI Secretariat (Nile-SEC) is the custodian of the strategy and will leverage progress through its structures in benchmarking, monitoring, lesson exchanges and partnership.

Why address Gender mainstreaming in NBI?

Water is probably the most vital natural resource. The bond between people and water is primal and has a long history that spans both ancient and contemporary cultures. The bond with water reflects the cultural values and social differences embedded in societies,

including gender differences. Some practices often result in unfair and self-perpetuating impacts on the lives of both women and men as it reduces the benefits of development among disadvantaged groups and marginalizes their contribution to society—"no water, no wealth, no well-being". This also explains why some people obtain more benefits or are more impacted from water policies.

Addressing gender and water together acknowledges these imbalances and seeks to ensure that contributions of both men and women are recognized. To manage water effectively and sustainably, it is important to understand the different roles of men and women and to target actions appropriately. Re-examining how women and men manage water will allow us to:

- Share benefits from use of water
- Make progress towards more sustainable use of water;
- Maximize social and economic benefits from sustainable use of water.

BY EMERITA MUGOREWICYEZA
STATEHOLDER PARTICIPATION
AND GENDER SPECIALIST

NBI STRENGTHENS REGIONAL CAPACITIES for environment management



It is generally recognised that environmental sustainability is about meeting human needs without undermining the balance and capacity of the ecological systems to support life. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment shows that nearly two thirds of the ecosystems examined are being degraded or used unsustainably. Failure to integrate environmental sustainability into planning processes will compromise our ability to achieve, particularly, the eradication of extreme poverty and hunger.

PURPOSE OF THE ESP AND OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE

- Provide Member States with the necessary support to build needed capacity towards enhancing NBI environmental and social management.
- Clarify the concept of environmental sustainability and demonstrate its importance and relevance to NBI activities aimed at achieving the NBI Vision.
- Describe how to mainstream environmental sustainability in all NBI water resources management, planning and development activities.

The Nile Basin is home to unique habitats and ecosystems. These ecosystems (such as the wetlands, marshes, flood plains, mountains and watersheds and forests) are natural water regulators (flow, infiltration, recharge, natural hazard mitigation, sedimentation and erosion control, etc.) of the Nile so much so that that one cannot speak of the sustainability of the Nile in the absence of the preservation and sustainability of these ecosystems.

Integrating environmental concerns has special importance in the Nile basin countries where poor households are more dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, and where they are more vulnerable to natural disasters and longer term effects of climate change. Likewise, natural resources make up a larger share of national wealth in these countries, making them highly dependent on the health of their natural environments. Mismanagement of high-value ecosystems and natural resources could spark off, or sustain, conflicts within a country or region. Similarly, scarcity of key resources, such as water, or extensive trans-boundary pollution of the environment from toxic waste could trigger disputes among communities and between countries.

Through its Shared Vision Program and the two Subsidiary Action Programs (SAPs), ENTRO in Addis Ababa and NELSAP-CU in Kigali, NBI has assisted Member States to build their capacities

and in turn greatly strengthened capacities in the region to better manage the environmental infrastructure and assets. The two SAPs have also made significant efforts to integrate practices for environmental sustainability into the mainstream of water resources development practice.

The SAPs through their water resources development efforts have paid special attention to environmental and social issues, resulting into two major programs, one in the Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Program managed by ENTRO and the other in the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Program managed by NELSAP-CU.

With regard to ENTRO, the Eastern Nile Integrated Watershed Management Project has reached down to the lowest community level through implementing fast-track investment projects in the three Eastern Nile countries namely, Egypt,



The well-being and socio-economic prosperity of poor people can be greatly improved through better management of the Nile environmental resources. The Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) is committed to strengthening its environmental and social functions thus giving rise to an opportunity to place the environment and its contribution to national development at the centre of policy, water resources management as well as planning and development agenda.

Ethiopia, and Sudan countries.

Building on these efforts and best practices, an NBI Environment and Social Policy (ESP) is being developed while a common Operational Guidance has been developed at the SAPs.

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What's on?

January - March 2012

Dates	Activity	Centre/ Institution	Venue
24-25 January	Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee (NEL-TAC) Meeting	NELSAP-CU	Nairobi
27 January	Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers (NEL-COM) Meeting	NELSAP-CU	Nairobi
28 January	Extra-ordinary Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM) Meeting	Nile-SEC	Nairobi
22 February	Nile Day celebrations	Nile-SEC	Jinja
to be confirmed	World Bank implementation review mission for ISP in three NBI centers	Nile-SEC, ENTRO, NELAP-CU	Entebbe, Addis Ababa, Kigali
to be confirmed	Post 2012 projects identification mission by several development partners	Nile-SEC	Entebbe
to be confirmed	World Bank training in contract management	Nile-SEC	Entebbe
to be confirmed	ENTRO Joint Multipurpose Project World Bank mission	ENTRO	Addis Ababa
to be confirmed	NELSAP projects portfolio World Bank review mission	NELSAP-CU	Kigali
to be confirmed	35 th Nile Technical Advisory Committee (Nile-TAC) Meeting	Nile-SEC	Entebbe
to be confirmed	10 th Informal Nile Basin Trust Fund meeting Meeting	Nile-SEC	Paris

MEMBER STATES



Burundi



D.R. Congo



Egypt



Ethiopia



Kenya



Rwanda



Sudan



Tanzania



Uganda

SHARED VISION

“To achieve sustainable socio-economic development through the equitable utilization of, and benefit from, the common Nile basin water resources”

SEND US YOUR COMMENTS AND VIEWS



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