# UPDATE ON IWRM IMPLEMENTATION IN AFRICA



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## PARDIGM SHIFT TOWARDS IWRM

### Water resources development (up to the 1970s)

- •Dominant paradigm: water is a resource to be exploited
- •The engineering approach of "predict and provide"
- Emphasis on infrastructure (supply & physical construction)

#### Water resources management (1980s-1990s)

- •Recognition that water can be 'overexploited'
- Demand-side measures came into focus
- Centralist state focus with little attention to community participation

### Integrated water resources management (from 1990s)

- Water management embedded in an overall policy for socioeconomic development, physical planning and environmental protection
- Focus on sustainability
- Public participation

## Key Global IWRM-related Targets

### •MDG 7 (2000)

### Ensure environmental sustainability

•Target 7C: Halve, by 2015, the proportion of people without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation

### WSSD, Johanesburg, 2002)

"Develop integrated water resources management and water efficiency plans by 2005, with support to developing countries, through actions at all levels"

### UN International Decade 'Water for Life' (2005-2015)

•Develop the means to assure water for drinking, water for sanitation, water for biodiversity and water for food production and to contribute to the MDGs

## Enabling Environment for IWRM implementation in Africa:-Policy & Legal Aspects

**REGIONAL WATER POLICIES:- SADAC (2006); ECOWAS (2008)** 

COUNTRY	STATUS OF IWRM
Burkina Faso	<ul> <li>Burkina Faso Water Vision - Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics &amp; Fishing Resources (2000)</li> <li>Water Law No.002-2001- Government of Burkina Faso (2001)</li> <li>Decree No.2003-220: Action Plan for IWRM in Burkina Faso (PAGIRE) - Ministry of Agriculture, Hydraulics &amp; Fishing Resources (2003)</li> </ul>
Ghana	<ul> <li>Water Act (1996)</li> <li>IWRM Component Support Programme I &amp; II (1999-2003; 2004- 2008) - Water Resources Commission (2004)</li> <li>National Water Policy – Ministry of Water Resources, Works &amp; Housing (2007)</li> <li>IWRM Strategic Plan (2011)</li> <li>Water Sector Strategic Development Plan (2011)</li> </ul>
Uganda	<ul> <li>A National Water Policy - Ministry of Water, Lands and Environment (1999)</li> <li>National Water Action Plan - Water Resources Management Department (1994)</li> <li>Water Resources Management Reform Strategy - Water Resources</li> <li>Management Department (2005)</li> <li>National Water Quality Management Strategy - Ministry of Water and Environment (2006)</li> </ul>
Togo	<ul> <li>National Water Policy - Directorate of Water and Sewerage (draft 2007)</li> <li>National Water Law - Directorate of Water and Sewerage (draft 2007)</li> <li>IWRM Roadmap - Directorate of Water and Sewerage (draft 2007)</li> </ul>

## Enabling Environment for IWRM implementation in Africa:-Policy & Legal Aspects (cont)

COUNTRY	STATUS OF IWRM
Eritrea	<ul><li>Integrated Water Resources Management and Water Efficiency Plan (IWRM/WE)</li><li>Ministry of Land Water &amp; Environment (draft 2007)</li></ul>
Mozambique	<ul> <li>Government of Mozambique - Water Act, Lei de Aguas, 16/91 3 August (1991)</li> <li>IWRM Plan - Direccao Nacional de Aguas, Ministry of Public Works and Housing (draft 2007)</li> </ul>
Tanzania	<ul> <li>National Water Policy - Ministry of Water (2002)</li> <li>IWRM Strategy and Action Plan - Ministry of Water (2004)</li> <li>National Water Sector Development Programme 2006-2025 Ministry of Water (2006)</li> <li>National Water Law based on revised Water Act no. 42 of 1974 - Government of Tanzania (draft 2007)</li> </ul>
Zambia	<ul> <li>IWRM and Water Efficiency Plan - Ministry of Energy and Water Development (2006)</li> <li>The Revised National Water Policy - Ministry of Energy and Water Development (2007)</li> <li>Water Resources Management Bill - Ministry of Energy and Water Development (draft 2007)</li> <li>National Development Plan - Ministry of Energy and Water Development (2007)</li> </ul>
Swaziland	<ul> <li>Water Act (2003) - Government of Swaziland</li> <li>Water Policy - Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy (draft 2007)</li> <li>IWRM and Water Efficiency Plan - Water Resources Branch (draft 2007)</li> </ul>

## IWRM implementation:- Management Instruments

Cross - cutting
Issues
-Gender
-Climate Change

•Water Resources Research

Institutions

**National WRM Assessment** 

Socio-economic & Regulatory Instrument

National IWRM Plans/River Basin Plans

Strengthen Capacity

Stakeholders' Participation Platforms

Monitoring

Information Exchange/Networking

Water Resources
Management Action
Programmes

Seminar on National and Trans-boundary Water Resources Management in Africa, Accra, Ghana. 26-30 March 2012.

## **Experiences with IWRM implementation in the Volta Basin:- Multi-Stakeholders' engagement**



Community level engagement and awareness raising.

Joint planning by technical services (Agriculture, Forestry, Environment) and NGOs



### Experiences with IWRM implementation:-Gender & livelihoods perspectives:



Communities supported to dig wells - bringing relief to the communities particularly women who spend time looking for water for domestic chores

Provision of micro-credit to the yulnerable: Women groups are supported to rear small ruminants to earn income in the Volta Basin.

### **Experiences with IWRM:-Joint Monitoring Programs**



## Managing IWRM implementation

- Level of political will?
- The role of National Institutions (e.g. DGRE-Burkina Faso, WRC-Ghana)?
- The role of the decentralized local authorities?
- –The role of civil society groups and NGOs?
- The role of women and the youth?

## Is Africa progressing with IWRM?

- High level political-will to cooperate (Sharm el Shelkh AU declaration of 2008)
- New water policies and laws in place
- Significant progress with creating an enabling environment (the % African countries having plans completed or under implementation has risen from 25 to 38- GWP and the UN-Water surveys, 2008).
- IWRM Plans have been incorporated in National Development Plans in some countries:- (Zambia, Mali, Malawi)
- Stakeholder participation is growing (Africa usually lags behind Asia and the Americas on most IWRM issues, however it is more advanced on stakeholder participation and on subsidies and micro-credit programs);

## **Emerging Challenges to IWRM implementation**

- Most National IWRM Plans are not linked to national development priorities (especially Agric)
- Most plans do not adequately address critical challenges such as climate change, dams safety, food security and overall water security for development
- Limited information on groundwater resources (the areal extent of over 40 transboundary aquifers in Africa are not known

## Challenges to IWRM (cont)

- Gaps with respect to coordination of different sectors
- Differences in levels of decentralization various countries
- Frequent changes in the local political & technical leadership
- Land tenure challenges (for buffer zone preservation)
- Limited capacity (human & technical) of national institutions to undertake integrated planning
- Transboundary agreements often exclude monitoring and enforcement

## How do we address the challenges?

- Address the diffused functions and authority of water management institutions
- Give priority to capacity building across local, national, transboundary and regional scales;
- Harness the power of networking to share experiences across Africa and other regions (Asia for example);
- Political will of African governments should go hand in hand with adequate funding of IWRM;

## THANK YOU