

## **Key Performance Indicators for Transboundary Integrated Water Resources Management**

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International Office for Water (Oieau, as Secretariat of the International Network of Basin Organisations), the African Network of Basin Organisations (ANBO), Ecologic and various African transboundary basins have developed, from 2007 to 2010, performance indicators related to transboundary basin organisations. This project was funded by The European Commission, Cooperation Office EuropeAid, in the frame of its ACP-EU Water Facility programme and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The main objective is to assess the progresses of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) policies and programmes at transboundary level.

The performance indicators have been progressively defined, tested and refined on several African transboundary basins. During a first stage this has been performed in cooperation with the following river Basin organisations: Senegal (OMVS), Niger (ABN), Congo (CICOS) and Volta (ABV). The process has been later on shared and extended to Orange (ORASECOM), Gambia (OMVG), Lake Victoria (LVBC) and Lake Chad (CBLT).

Those tests have allowed to validate the feasibility of using indicators and to demonstrate their usefulness thanks to important appropriation from basin organisation employees.

The elaborated performance indicators are tackling both the assessment of governance within the basin organisation and the assessment of on field results from the implementation of IWRM policies and programmes. As assessment tools of progress encountered in the frame of IWRM implementation, indicators are performed by operations units of basin organisations. But they also provide an important communication and management tool for statutory bodies of the Basin organisations, executives, local partners, stakeholders and donors...

The pragmatic approach developed through the project, based on involvement of various basin organisations has allowed proposing an evolutionary process, adapted to the various levels of maturity of basin organisations and data availability. A final version (but still evolutive) of performance indicators has been elaborated in July 2010.

For governance, 20 indicators have finally been selected and regrouped among 7 IWRM Principles. As for the indicators (technical, social, economical, environmental...) devoted to assessing results from the implementation of IWRM, 15 were defined at the end of the process of selection. One should note however that the easiness of filling them is highly dependant from the state of implementation of IWRM in the basin organisation. In particular, the existence of information or observatory systems at basin level is easing a lot the use of this category of indicators.

In order to detail the indicators but also to provide support for their use among basin organisations, a handbook has been released in May 2010.

However, in order to promote a wider use of performance indicators for basin organisations, it is proposed to ease the diffusion under a structured approach that allows broadening the number of basins involved through a collaborative process thanks to the user community.

A second phase of the project is consequently « under preparation » with main objectives of providing potential users with a set of indicators tools; validated, free and evolutive while ensuring a dynamic process of exchange between users.