

Overview on the Nile Basin Initiative



NILE BASIN INITIATIVE

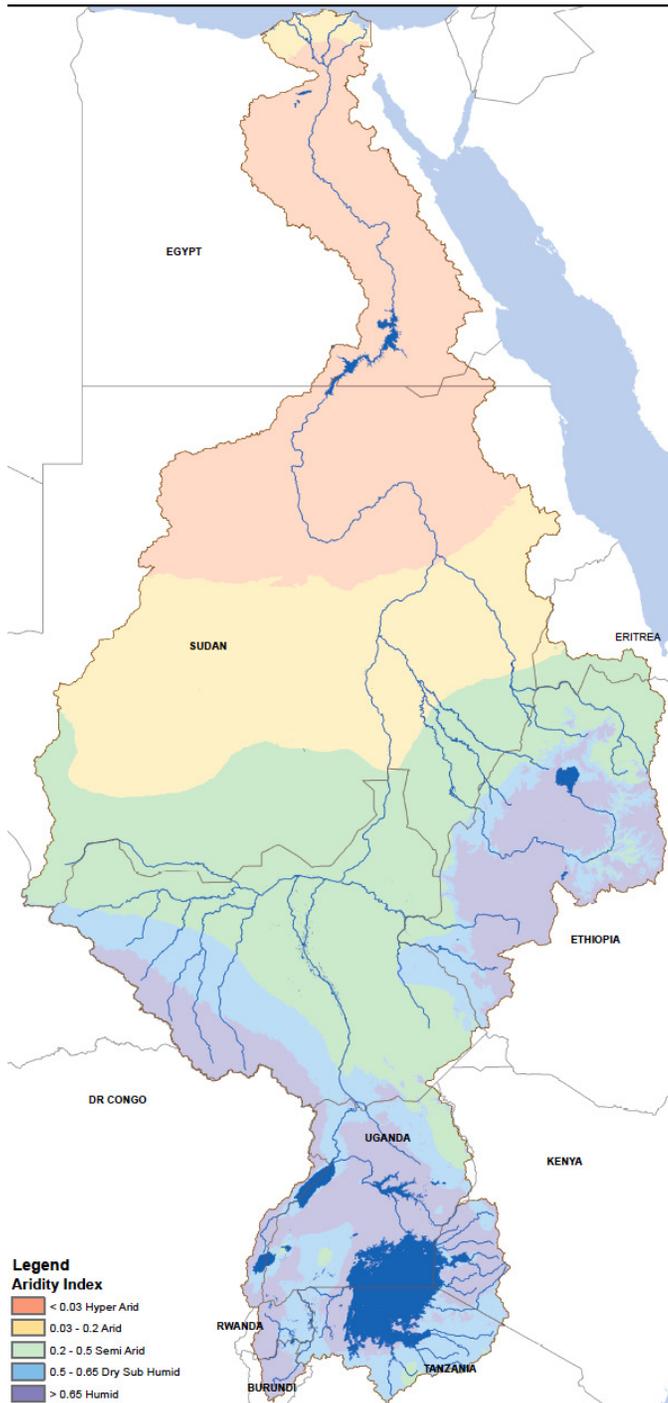
Burundi
D.R Congo
Egypt
Eritrea(Observer)
Ethiopia



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The Nile Basin

- Africa's largest river basin by area
- Area: 3.25 million km² (10% Africa)
- Length: 6,695 km
- Main tributaries: White & Blue Nile
- Population: 230 million (within basin)
- High spatial variability; nearly half semi-arid and arid
- High seasonal variability in Blue Nile
- Water scarce; large parts do not generate runoff; low runoff coefficient in parts generating runoff;
- Mean annual discharge 83 BCM

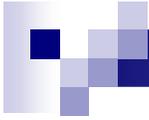
Introduction: the NBI

- The **Nile Basin Initiative (NBI)** is an inter-governmental partnership for cooperative management of the Nile Basin
- The NBI was established on February 22nd 1999 in Dar Es Salaam
- The NBI is not the first time that Nile Riparian countries have got together to manage the Nile. There were previous instances of cooperation right from the mid 1960s. These previous forms of cooperation had a narrow technical focus – for example data collection, and involved smaller groupings of the Nile Riparian countries
- The NBI is the first effort that brought together nearly all the riparians, and which discussed cooperative management under a legal framework. The NBI was set up by nine Nile Basin states (Burundi, D.R. Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda), with Eritrea as an observer

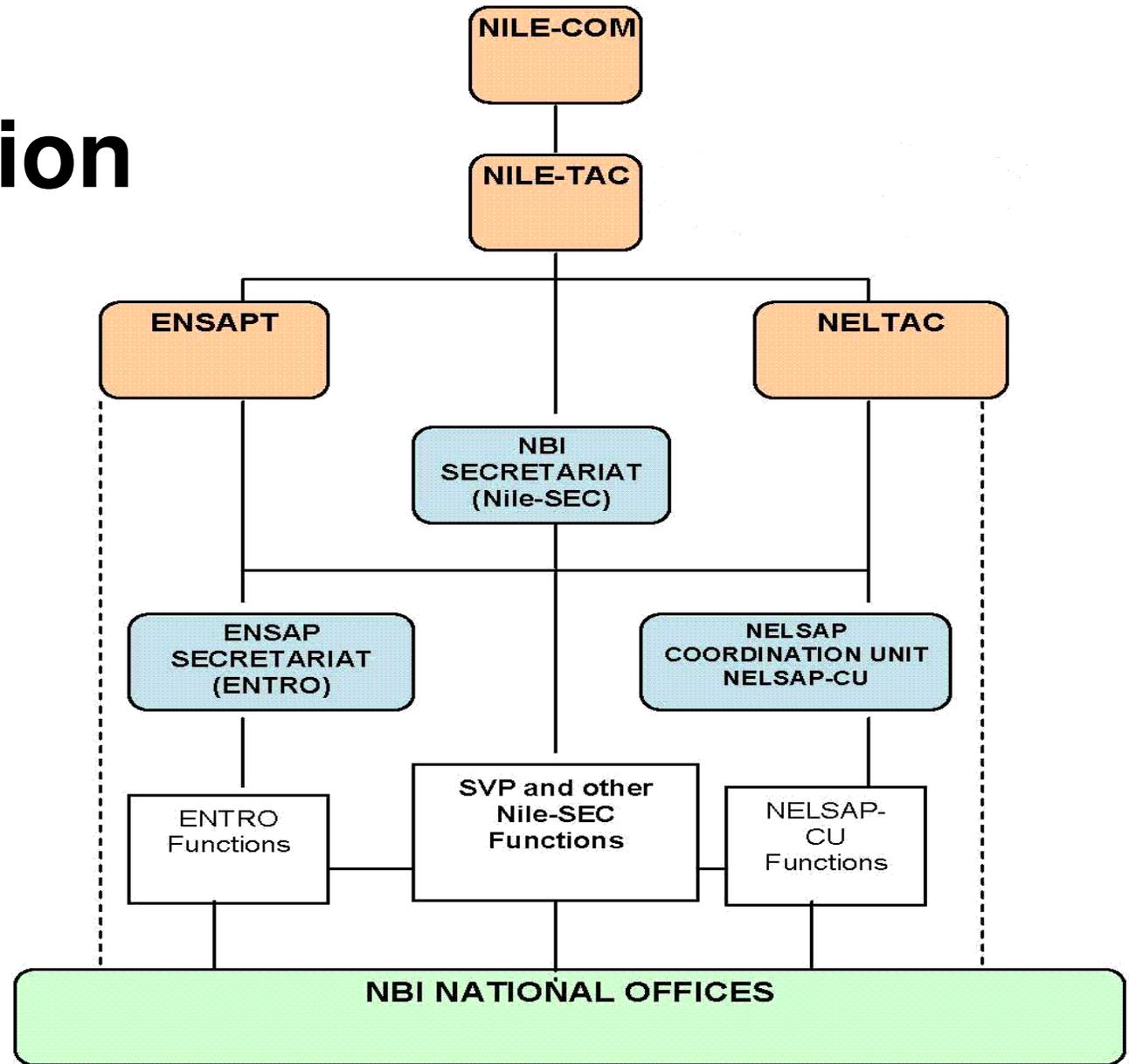


Introduction: The NBI

- At time of formation of the NBI, a shared vision was adopted by the countries for the institution, which is:
To attain sustainable socio-economic development through the equitable utilization of, and benefit from, the common Nile Basin water resource
- The NBI institutionally comprises of the Nile-COM, Nile-TAC, Nile-SEC, the SAPs, PMUs and PSCs



Organization Structure



The main organs of the NBI

- ***Nile-COM*** – The Nile Council of Ministers is the governing body and the supreme policy and decision making body of the NBI.
- ***Nile-TAC*** – The Nile Technical Advisory Committee comprises of technical representatives from the member states (two from each country; mostly Directors of Water) and is charged with oversight of the NBI on behalf of the Nile-COM. The Nile-TAC offers technical support and advice to the Nile Council of Ministers on matters related to the management and development of the Nile waters

Main organs

- ***Nile-SEC*** – (the NBI Secretariat) this is the full-time professional body that assists Nile-COM and Nile-TAC in their respective functions and monitors, supervises and coordinates basin-wide activities of the NBI.
- ***SAPs*** – Each of the sub-basins has a secretariat (ENTRO and NELSAP-CU) that are responsible for preparing and implementing investment programs.
- ***Country focal point offices*** – Each NBI country has a national focal point office responsible for liaison between the country and the NBI organs, and for coordinating country level activities.

Programs

The activities of the NBI have mainly been in three areas

1. Negotiations amongst riparians to put in place a cooperative framework agreement on the Nile.
 2. A set of 'software' activities aimed at building trust, confidence and capacity in member countries; laying a foundation for greater regional cooperation; and creating an enabling environment for transboundary investments and transboundary river basin management following IWRM principles
 3. Preparatory activities for 'hard' or concrete investments on the ground to address poverty, environmental degradation and socio-economic development
- The interventions under the last two made up the first strategic action plan for the Nile Basin, the so called **Shared Vision Program** (soft) and **Subsidiary Action Program** (hard)

Objectives of the Strategic Action Program



1. To develop the water resources of the Nile Basin in a sustainable and equitable way to ensure prosperity, security and peace for all its peoples.
2. To ensure efficient water management and the optimal use of the resources.
3. To ensure cooperation and joint action between the riparian countries, seeking win-win gains.
4. To target poverty eradication and promote economic integration.
5. To ensure that the NBI moves



Achievements - Shared Vision

Prog.

- Projects established, implemented and closed (2004-2012)
 - The Applied Training Project (ATP) – Cairo
 - The Confidence Building and Stakeholder Involvement Project (CBSI) – Entebbe
 - The Social Economic Development and Benefit Sharing Project (SDBS)- Entebbe
 - The Regional Power Trade Project (RTP) – Dar Es Salaam
 - The Nile Transboundary Environmental Action Program (NTEAP) – Khartoum
 - The Efficient Water Use in Agriculture Project (EWUAP) – Nairobi
 - **The Water Resources Planning and Management Project (WRPM) – Addis Ababa**
 - The SVP Coordination Project – Entebbe

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Achievements SVP

- Many best practice guides have been prepared in numerous topics such as efficient water use for agriculture, transboundary environment management, transboundary water resources management, and benefit sharing.
- Community micro-projects to demonstrate best practices in transboundary water and environmental management have been completed
- Capacity of member states has been built in diverse areas of integrated transboundary

Achievements – Subsidiary Action



Prog.

- Two sub-program offices were set up: one in the Eastern Nile region (ENSAP) and the other in the Nile Equatorial Lakes (NELSAP)
- Feasibility studies have been completed and proposals for investment projects in water supply infrastructure, agricultural irrigation, flood protection, power generation and transmission and watershed management have been prepared and are at various stages of seeking financing/implementation.
- Investment and pre-investment programs in the SAPs are mainly in the areas of flood control, agricultural irrigation and drainage, agricultural trade, power infrastructure development, power trade, water supply, establishment of small RBOs, and integrated watershed management.
- The investment portfolio of projects prepared under the SAPs has passed the US\$ 2 billion mark.
- Financing of project preparation has largely been through grants from international development partners – both multilateral and bilateral – supported by counterpart financial and in-kind contributions from the Nile riparian countries.

Achievements - CFA

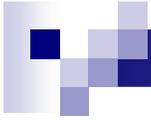
- Text of cooperative framework agreement negotiated and agreed upon with exception of one clause - article 14b on water security.
- Some countries have signed the new text while others still have unresolved issues
- The countries are in talks to continue working together despite their differences

Impacts

- Trust building; increased dialogue and communication
- Increased visibility of the NBI
- Nile issues brought to the fore, including degradation, water scarcity, water sharing
- Within each member country, citizens have become more aware of the shared nature of the Nile resources, and shared responsibility by all the riparian communities to manage the scarce resource wisely.

The present: looking to the future

- The Institutional Strengthening Project has succeeded the SVP: bridging function
- Preparing for the Commission
 - Institutional design & configuration, HR policies, financial sustainability models
 - Preparation of new Strategic Plan; projects proposals; resource mobilisation drive
 - Continued capacity building
 - Core staff in NBI
 - Technical tools like DSS, monitoring strategy, state of basin report, environment function



END