

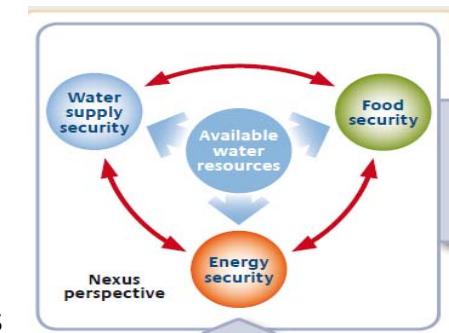
A large concrete dam with multiple arched openings, with water cascading down its face.

# The WEF nexus in the post 2015 development agenda - the role of basin organizations

***Jonathan Lautze***  
**IWMI – 26 November 2014**

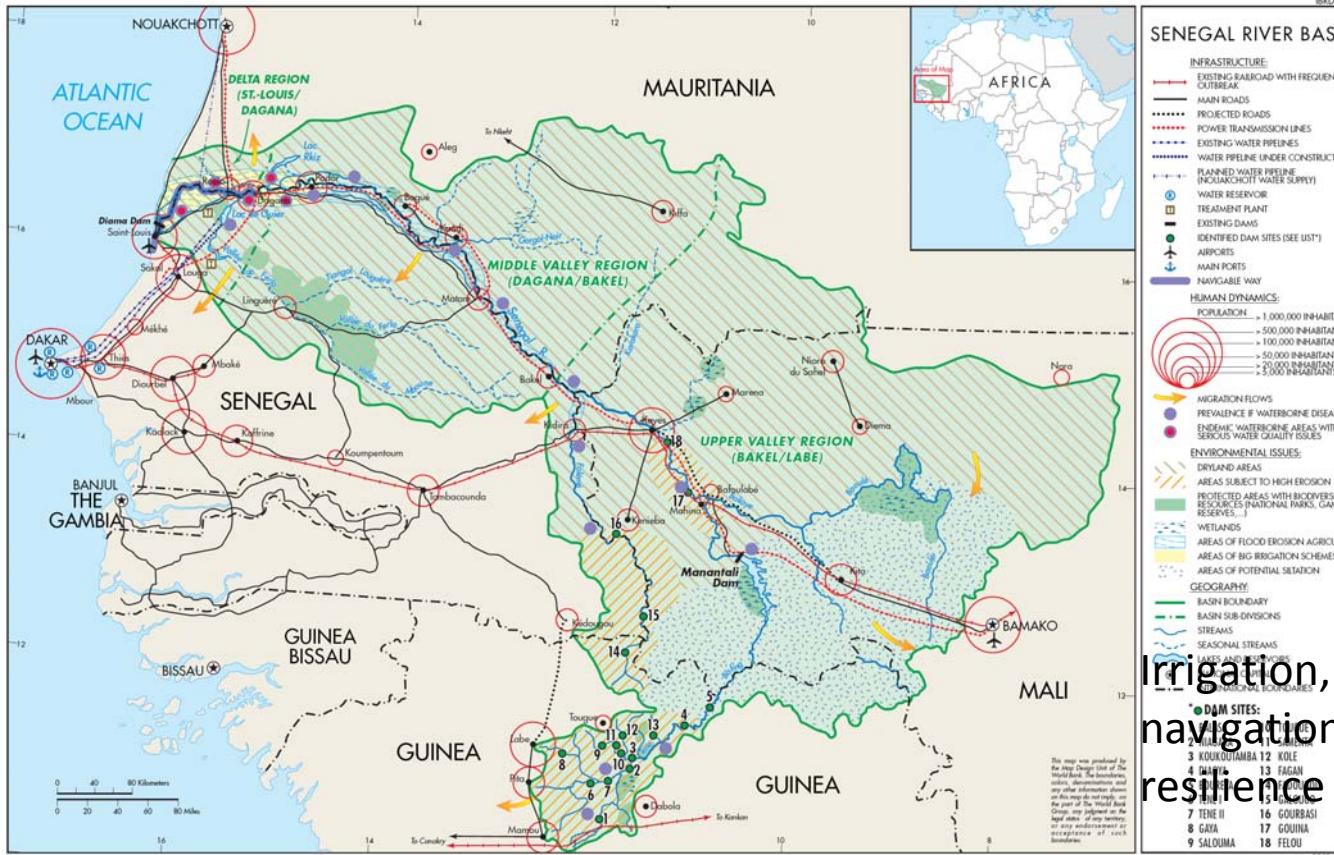
## What is the nexus? Is it any different?

- “an approach that integrates management and governance across sectors and scales”... “an approach that reduces tradeoffs and builds synergies across sectors...”
- No its not entirely new, but ‘the nexus’ frames the debate differently at a time of heightened competition – it has convening power
- There is no single nexus – multi-dimensional – water, energy, food, land, climate change, natural resources, etc
- In a world of increasing water demands, the consequences of not taking a cross-sectoral approach are more significant now than a generation ago
- We shouldn’t turn nexus concept into a structured framework – its value lies in its principles and flexibility
- Doesn’t displace other forms of planning (regulatory frameworks, SEA, IWRM, etc), but provides a focus or ‘lens’ for integration
- Important to extend the knowledge base and analysis of nexus issues



## Nexus thinking and the SDGs (Indicative)

Target	Indicator
Water-Health Nexus	Cases of water and sanitation related disease decrease by X percent
Water-Energy Nexus	Productive use of hydropower is increased by X percent while maintaining ecosystem water requirements
Water-Food Security Nexus	Water efficiency and water productivity in agriculture are increased by X and Y percent, respectively
Water-Energy-Food Nexus	Nutrients and energy in WW and sludge are safely recovered and their reuse is increased by X and Y percent, respectively



Irrigation, flood recession agr,  
navigation, hydropower,  
resilience to variability

# Analytical tools inform RBOs / related IWMI work

## Sustainable waste and wastewater reuse

### Nexus benefits:

*Energy reduction* in: Water treatment, chemical fertilizer production and transport

### *Environmental benefits:*

Reduced pollution of water bodies, reduced nitrogen and phosphorous demand, reduced GHG emissions





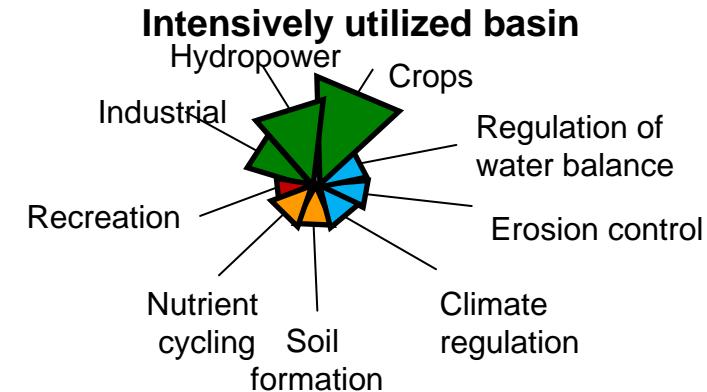
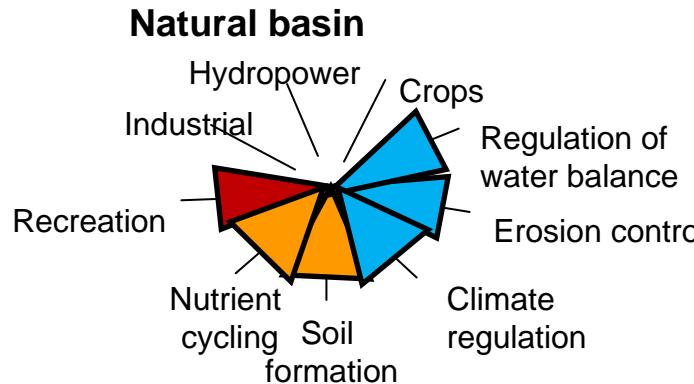
# Interactions between “agricultural” and “natural” ecosystems – providing multiple services

Sources: McCartney, Senaratne Sellamuttu, de Silva

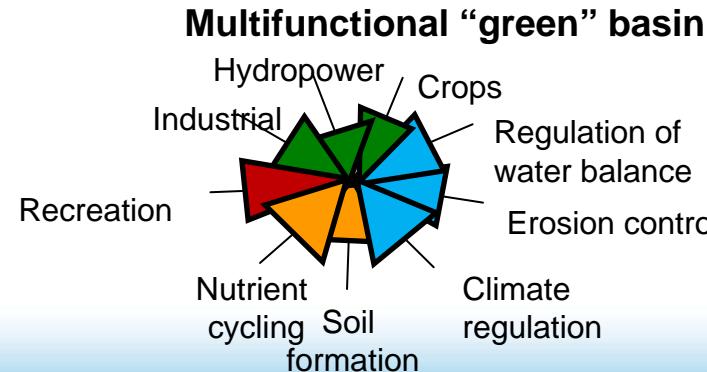
Sustainable use of wetlands:  
fulfilling multiple needs  
through  
ecosystem services including  
food production, fisheries,  
storage



# Benefit from functioning ecosystems



- Provisioning services
- Regulatory services
- Cultural services
- Supporting services



Analysis conducted for 16 locations in the Zambezi Basin.

Results confirm that ecosystems affect flows in different ways

Ecosystem	Flood Flows	Low Flows
Floodplain	↓ (10-60%)	↑ (10-50%)
Headwater wetlands	↑ (10-300%)	↓ (40-90%)
Forests	(40-60%)	(15-30%)

But:

- contradictory results for all ecosystems
- no simple relationships between ecosystem extent and the impact on flow

# Ecosystem work

Simple method developed.

Quantifies ecosystem impacts and is easily reproducible.

Could be incorporated into a water resource DSS.

Clear that impacts are dependent not just on the presence/absence of a particular ecosystem, but also topography, soils, geology etc.



Also, work on understanding land and water grabbing  
=> Link land and water governance, more inclusive business models

# Realities about RBOs

- How to foster meaningful, empowered RBOs?
- Link to revenue stream...this may mean thinking a bit out of the box about scale
- Through convening, basin plan development, other analytic work, RBOs can shed light on nexus issues
- RBOs and other forms of water cooperation

## Some Bottom line Thoughts

- How are RBOs already incorporating nexus? Can we learn from what RBOs are already doing?
  - Treaty classification?
- RBOs v. water sharing agreements
- Variation in RBO forms – from empowered authorities to ...
  - Need to think about the role for each to play
- Greater focus on analytic tools to inform



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