

BASIN MANAGEMENT AND TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION : EXPERIENCE OF THE NIGER BASIN



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Niger Basin Authority (NBA) :

- One River: 4 200 km
- One Basin: 1 500 000 sq.km ;
- Population: More than 110 million
- 9 Countries : Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Chad
- A comprehensive « Vision » for the basin development, negotiated and accepted by all the member States.

Shared Vision : What objectives ?

- 1)- To develop, on a participatory and consensual basis, a strategic framework of integrated development to be implemented throughout the basin : A Sustainable Development Action Plan (SDAP) by the year 2025;**
- 2)- To reinforce the existing legal framework which is favourable to dialogue and consultation for cooperative action among the NBA member States;**
- 3)- To develop, in a sustainable and equitable manner, the water resources so as to promote prosperity, security and peace among the populations of the Niger Basin;**

OUTCOMES OF THE SHARED VISION

- Paris Declaration (April 2004) signed by the Heads of State and Government defining the Principles of Management and good Governance for a sustainable development of the Niger Basin ;
- Framework of cooperation among the Partners to support the NBA and to harmonize their interventions in the Basin ;
- Three priority action areas adopted :
 - (i) Development of socio-economic infrastructure;
 - (ii) Preservation of the basin Ecosystems; (iii)
 - Capacity building and involvement of actors ;

OUTCOMES OF THE SHARED VISION (cont'd)

- **Sustainable Development Action Plan (SDAP) of the basin coupled with a 2008-2027 Investment Programme amounting to 5.6 Billion Euros i.e. US \$ 8.3 Billion. A (2008-2012) PFYP of US \$ 2 047 Million out of which 1 377.9 Million mobilized during the Round Table Meeting of 23rd June 2008;**
- **Water Charter of the basin the annexes of which are being developed (CE, MO, MGTO, PCB)**
- **Regional and national Co-ordinations of the Civil Society of the Niger Basin ;**

WHAT LESSONS TO DRAW ?

- A sustainable cooperation should be based on solidarity and reciprocity for a sustainable, equitable and coordinated use of the water resource of a shared river basin ;
- The cooperation should be supported by Instruments and mechanisms of guidelines determining the obligations and rights of the parties, especially :
Set up Convention, Political declaration, Water charter, Common investment programme, Management bodies involving relevant actors, etc.
- A trustworthy relationship among the parties is necessary through transparency and sharing of relevant information ;

WHAT LESSONS TO DRAW ? Cont'd

- the hydrographic basin remains the appropriate space for a sustainable water resource management. Institutions like Authority, Commissions, Organisation, etc., are necessary for organising consultation and dialogue among States and for the co-ordination of development actions. These institutions need sufficient capacity and autonomy in order to fulfill their missions;
- A good knowledge of water resources and water needs (WN) is necessary for a better planning of the development of river basins ;

- THANK YOU FOR LISTENING -



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