



NILE BASIN INITIATIVE
INITIATIVE DU BASSIN DU NIL



POLICY

NILE BASIN SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK

NILE BASIN INTERIM PROCEDURES FOR DATA AND INFORMATION SHARING AND EXCHANGE

Document Control Sheet

Title	Nile Basin Interim Procedures for Data and Information Sharing and Exchange
Document type	<input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Guidelines <input type="checkbox"/> Legal and Foundational Document
Prepared by	<input type="checkbox"/> Nile-SEC <input type="checkbox"/> ENTRO <input type="checkbox"/> NELSAP-CU <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <u>WRPM Project</u>
Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New Policy/Strategy/Guideline/Legal and Foundational Document <input type="checkbox"/> Revision of existing Policy/Strategy/Guideline/Legal and Foundational Document
Revision Date	
Effective Date	27-28 th July 2009

Consideration by Nile-COM/ EN-COM / NEL-COM (cross out whichever body is not applicable)	
Date of submission for consideration	27-28 th July 2009 17 th Ordinary Nile-COM Meeting, held in Alexandria, Egypt
Action by Council of Ministers	Under Minute 6.0, the 17 th Nile-COM meeting approved the NBI Interim Procedures for Data and Information Sharing and Exchange.
Comments satisfactorily addressed	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Consideration by Nile-TAC/ENSAPT/ NEL-TAC (cross out whichever body is not applicable)	
Date of submission for consideration	25-26 th July 2009 29 th Ordinary Nile-COM Meeting, held in Alexandria, Egypt
Action by the Technical Advisory Committee:	Under Minute 6.0, the 29 th Nile-TAC considered the draft NBI Interim Procedures for Data and Information Sharing and Exchange and made the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cost of data be considered as a country contribution Add a new clause to accommodate issues of national legislation. Nile-SEC to prepare detailed guidelines for implementation of the Interim Procedures. Subject to addressing the above comments, the Nile-TAC endorsed the NBI Interim Procedures for Data and Information Sharing and Exchange and recommended to Nile-COM to approve the Interim Procedures.
Comments satisfactorily addressed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable

Responsible Officer:



Nile Basin Initiative

Nile Basin Data and Information Sharing and Exchange Interim Procedures

(July 2009)

Nile Basin Data and Information Sharing and Exchange Interim Procedures

1.0 Preamble

The Council of Ministers of Water Affairs of the Nile Basin Countries, Nile-COM, in its meeting of 27 – 28 July 2009, Alexandria, Egypt.,

Considering that, under the umbrella of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), the Nile Basin countries have developed a Shared Vision (Shared Vision) to achieve sustainable socio-economic development through the equitable utilization of, and benefit from, the common Nile Basin water resources;

Recognizing that this Shared Vision can be preserved and nurtured primarily through joint cooperative efforts;

Desirous to maintain and enhance their friendly and cooperative relations and achieve mutual benefit from their Shared Vision;

Acknowledging that the sharing and exchange of data and information is instrumental to the achievement of the Shared Vision;

Hereby agrees to these interim procedures (Interim Procedures) as follows:

2.0 Acronyms and Definitions

2.1 Acronyms

- ENTRO: the Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office;
- NBI: Nile Basin Initiative;

- NELSAP-CU: the Nile Equatorial Lake Subsidiary Action Program Coordination Unit;
- NFPI: National Focal Point Institution;
- NILE COM: NBI Council of Ministers;
- NILE SEC: NBI Secretariat;
- NILE TAC: NBI Technical Advisory Committee;

2.2 Definitions

- **Data:** representations of facts, in a formalized manner, suitable for communication, interpretation or processing.
- **Information:** processed, refined, interpreted and displayed data;
- **Data and information exchange:** reciprocal transfer of data and information between Nile Basin countries;
- **Data and information quality:** attribute of data and information that describes the completeness, usefulness, accuracy and integrity of data.
- **Data and information sharing:** the act of possessing data and information or using in common with others;
- **Existing measures:** interventions existing before or from an earlier time;

- **Interim Procedures:** the provisional procedures with limited duration and scopes as determined hereunder
- **NILE SEC:** For the purpose of the Interim Procedures, Nile-SEC includes NBI projects and programs and subsidiary entities such as NELSAP-CU and ENTRO.
- **River basin monitoring:** repeated measurements of parameters on the status, use, changes and other desired attributes of water and related resources of a river basin;
- **River basin monitoring system:** a collection of equipment, methods and institutional setup used for river basin monitoring.
- **Third party:** any entity other than the entities directly involved in this Procedures on data and information sharing and exchange;

3.0 Objective

The objective of these Interim Procedures is to facilitate the successful implementation of NBI projects and programs.

4.0 Scope

4.0.1 NBI member countries, upon request from NBI projects and programs shall make available through the NILE SEC readily available data and information on existing measures and on the condition of water and other related resources of the Nile Basin, necessary to facilitate the successful preparation and implementation of NBI projects and programs and where possible in a form or format that best facilitates utilization.

4.0.2 To facilitate the systematic archiving, maintenance and dissemination of data and information collected through the implementation of these Interim Procedures, Nile

Basin countries hereby establish a Shared Regional Knowledgebase comprised of data and information on existing measures and on the conditions of the water and other related resources of the Nile Basin.

4.0.3 The Shared Regional Knowledgebase shall include:

- Data and information provided by NBI member countries;
- Data and information generated through the implementation of NBI programs and projects;
- Data and information compiled by NBI from appropriately referenced public domain sources.

4.1 Categories

4.1.1 These Interim Procedures apply to data and information considered necessary to successfully implement NBI projects and programs.

4.1.2 Examples of the categories of data and information covered by these Interim Procedures include the following:

1. Meteorological: such as historical time series data on precipitation, temperature, evaporation, transpiration and other climatic variables;
2. Water Resources and Uses: such as historical hydrometric data (river flow, stages), sediment discharges), water uses, data on characteristics of existing water related infrastructure (such as reservoirs, irrigation networks, hydropower generation schemes, etc), water demand data, reservoir operational rules, agricultural information, bathymetry of lakes, reservoirs, characteristics of groundwater aquifers;
3. Ecological/Environmental data and information: such as wildlife and fisheries, wetland characteristics, pollution sources, nature reserves, water quality parameters;

4. Basin physical characteristics: such as land use and/or land cover, basin topography, drainage networks, soil erosion;
5. Socio-economy: such as population distribution;
6. Any other categories of data and information considered necessary to successfully implement NBI projects and programs.

4.2 Costs and Finance

4.2.1 NBI member countries shall provide free of charge readily available and relevant data and information necessary to successfully implement NBI projects and programs

4.2.2 If an NBI member country is requested to provide data and information necessary to successfully implement NBI projects and programs that is not readily available, it shall employ its best efforts to comply with the request, within a reasonable time, but may condition its compliance upon payment, by the requesting entity, of the costs of collecting and, where appropriate, processing such data or information.

4.2.3 The funding required for the periodic review and adjustment of these Interim Procedures shall be covered by the NILE SEC

4.2.4 The funding required for maintaining the Shared Regional Knowledgebase shall be covered by the Nile-Sec.

4.3 Access to Shared Regional Knowledgebase

4.3.1 All access to the shared regional knowledgebase shall be for purposes related to NBI programs and projects

4.3.2 Access to the Shared Regional Knowledgebase by Nile Basin countries is free of charge.

4.3.2 Access to the Shared Regional Knowledgebase by third parties shall be granted as per guidelines to be developed by the NILE SEC and approved by the NILE TAC.

4.4 Data Quality

4.4.1 Any NBI member country providing data and information necessary to successfully implement NBI projects and programs shall make its best efforts to ensure the quality of the data and information it provides.

4.4.2 The NILE-SEC, shall develop and, upon approval by the Nile-TAC, implement recommendations for establishing and maintaining the quality of data and information that has been provided by Nile Basin countries and other data and information that shall be included in the Regional Knowledgebase.

4.4.3 The NILE SEC shall develop and, upon approval by the Nile-TAC, implement recommendations for establishing and maintaining systems for the proper archiving, retrieval, dissemination and processing of data and information necessary for the successful implementation of NBI projects and programs.

4.5 Data Exchange Formats

4.5.1 Formats for data and information sharing and exchange shall be identified and developed. The formats shall be promoted by the NILE SEC.

4.6 Implementation Arrangements

The implementation arrangement comprises the Nile-TAC, Nile-Sec, and the National Focal Point Institutions.

4.6.1 Roles and Responsibilities of the NILE TAC

The roles and responsibilities of the NILE TAC in implementing these Interim Procedures shall include:

4.6.1.1 Serving as the supervising body for the implementation of these Interim Procedures;

4.6.1.2 Reviewing information and updates on the status of implementation of these Interim Procedures and providing guidance for improvement.

4.6.2 Roles and Responsibilities of the NILE SEC

The roles and responsibilities of the NILE SEC in implementing these Interim Procedures shall include:

4.6.2.1 Serving as the custodian of the Shared Regional Knowledgebase;

4.6.2.2 Developing and implementing guidelines to facilitate the implementation of these Interim Procedures;

4.6.2.3 Monitoring and evaluating implementation of these Interim Procedures and providing recommendations for improvement;

4.6.2.4 Researching and preparing such reports as may be needed to keep the NILE TAC informed on significant developments, alternative considerations, progress, and operations;

4.6.2.5 Any other such additional matters the NILE TAC shall consider appropriate.

4.6.3 Roles and Responsibilities of the National Focal Point Institution

In each of the NBI member countries the Ministry responsible for water affairs shall be the NFPI responsible for all matters relating to these Interim Procedures relevant to the respective member country.

The roles and responsibilities of the NFPI in implementing these Interim Procedures shall include:

4.6.3.1 Availing data and information as per the request of NBI projects and programs;

4.6.3.2 Designating a contact person for the implementation of these Interim Procedures and communication to the NILE SEC;

4.6.3.3 Facilitating access to the Shared Regional Knowledgebase.

5.0 Final Clauses

5.1 Without prejudice to clause 4.2.1 of these Interim Procedures, NBI countries shall endeavor to implement the Interim Procedures within the framework of their national legislations

5.2 These Interim Procedures shall be effective immediately upon being confirmed by a Minute of the NILE-COM.

5.3 These Interim Procedures shall remain effective until further notice from the NILE-COM.

5.4 These Interim Procedures shall be reviewed by the NILE TAC on a periodic basis, at least annually.



Photo: Shutterstock

ONE RIVER ONE PEOPLE ONE VISION



Nile Basin Initiative Secretariat

P.O. Box 192
Entebbe - Uganda
Tel: +256 417 705 000
+256 417 705 117
Email: nbisec@nilebasin.org
Website: <http://www.nilebasin.org>
Facebook: /Nile Basin Initiative
Twitter: @nbiweb

Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office

Dessie Road
P.O. Box 27173-1000
Addis Ababa - Ethiopia
Tel: +251 116 461 130/32
Fax: +251 116 459 407
Email: entro@nilebasin.org
Website: <http://ensap.nilebasin.org>

Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action

Programme Coordination Unit
Kigali City Tower
KCT, KN 2 St, Kigali
P.O. Box 6759, Kigali Rwanda
Tel: +250 788 307 334
Fax: +250 252 580 100
Email: nelsapcu@nilebasin.org
Website: <http://nelsap.nilebasin.org>

NBI MEMBER STATES



Burundi



DR Congo



Egypt



Ethiopia



Kenya



Rwanda



South Sudan



The Sudan



Tanzania



Uganda



[f /Nile Basin Initiative](#) [t @nbiweb](#)

[#NileCooperation](#); [#NileBasin](#); [#OneNile](#)