



NILE BASIN INITIATIVE
INITIATIVE DU BASSIN DU NIL



***FINANCE AND INVESTMENT IN THE
WATER RESOURCES SECTOR.***

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Presentation framework



1. GENERAL CONTEXT;
2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PRESENTATION;
3. CHALLENGES IN THE WATER RESOURCES SECTOR;
4. SIGNIFICANT ADVANCES;
5. SOME RECOMMENDATIONS;
6. CONCLUSION.

I. Background



The various discussions at recent international forums (COP 27 on climate, COP 15 on biodiversity and the United Nations conference on water) have highlighted the limitations of the current international architecture for financing water and have called for a restructuring of the Bretton Woods institutions (World Bank and IMF).

The current discussions on reforming the global financial architecture are relevant to water financing worldwide.

The water community would benefit from getting involved in these issues.

The reorientation and reprioritisation of public finances could be an important source of funding and investment in the water sector, particularly through the mobilisation of annual recurrent subsidies from governments.

II. Objectives of the presentation



On the occasion of the 7^{ème} Nile Basin Development Forum, our presentation aims to encourage all stakeholders to play their part in attracting finance to the water sector by :

- ❖ Strengthening advocacy on financing and investment in the water sector to ensure access to drinking water, sanitation and hygiene for all;
- ❖ Persuade donors and investors to strengthen the expertise and capacity of partners to combat pollution in the water sector.

III. Some challenges in the water resources sector



Observations and research at global, continental, national and even local levels have led us to identify a number of challenges in the water resources sector:

- Challenges linked to low funding in the water sector (mismatch between supply and demand);
- Challenges linked to climate change (rainfall deficits, falling water levels in natural reservoirs, overexploitation of groundwater, degradation and encroachment of water basins are making it increasingly difficult to manage the quantity and monitor the quality of water resources);

III. Some challenges in the water resources sector (continued)



- Policy-related challenges in water management (inability to value or price water appropriately);
- Challenges linked to conflicts over the governance of water resources ;
- The challenge of water pollution caused by human activities (mining, use of chemical fertilisers, poor management of plastic waste, etc.).
- Challenges linked to staff and the quality of tools in the water sector;
- Challenge linked to the quality of water on the market (inadequate sanitation services and lack of access to drinking water);
- The challenge posed by Africa's exploding population growth (increasing pressure on the continent's water resources).

IV. Some progress in the water resources sector



1. Water Action Programme, which will list all the voluntary commitments relating to water and monitor their progress;
2. Programme to strengthen cooperation and scientific and technical exchanges in the field of water, including the UN Secretary General's call to intensify and stimulate international cooperation by providing water technologies to developing countries, "without restriction and at preferential prices".
3. The World Bank is launching and testing multi-stakeholder platforms (MSPs) to support water-related reforms in countries, involving governments (ministries of water, economy and finance), the private sector (commercial banks and private operators), citizens and MDBs;
4. Multilateral development banks that paid more attention to financing global public goods, including stabilising the hydrological cycle towards a safe and fair operating space, while regional and national development banks could focus on regional and local projects.

V. Some recommendations



1. That the governments of African countries encourage donors and developed countries to increase loans and cancel the debt of developing countries;
2. That stakeholders commit to improving the efficiency and quality of water supply, particularly in underserved communities, and to developing the institutional capacity of the Ministry of Public Utilities and the Water and Sanitation Authority;
3. That African governments and civil society actors strengthen early warning mechanisms and revolutionise the way countries are equipped to deal with droughts and floods, while taking advantage of partnerships;
4. Donors and investors to strengthen the expertise and capacities of partners with a view to investing in the water sector.

VI Conclusion




Water is linked to food, climate, health, culture and the economy, yet the African continent has more than 5,000 billion cubic metres of water in its aquifers, but around 320 million people do not have access to drinking water.


Without this natural resource, maintaining a healthy lifestyle is impossible.

In the face of these overwhelming facts, social tensions are growing and the health of Africans is being made worse in several countries by local politicians.

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THANK YOU!