

Extrait du OIEau - IOWater - OIAgua

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# Integrated Water Ressource Management (IWRM)

- International Office for Water - Our skills -

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## **Description :**

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IOWater takes care of the Permanent Technical Secretariat of the International Network of Basin Organizations, present in 45 countries, which includes the African Network of Basin Organizations (ANBO) and the International Network of Transboundary Basin Organizations (INTBO).

It has great experience linked to its involvement :

- in many African transboundary basins, such as that of the Niger, Volta, Congo, Senegal ;
- in the selection in 2003 of five priority transboundary Basin Organizations, recipients of the 10 Million Euros mobilized within the European Initiative :
  - IOWater carried out investigations and a study for their selection, which led to the choice of the Volta and Niger basins in West Africa ;
  - IOWater carried out assignments for the identification of priority topics for the commitment of these European funds ;
  - the African working group of the European Initiative initiated a plea to the Europe-Africa partnership for infrastructures, which comprises 4 components, including Water ;
  - IOWater took part in this step on the request of the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, which led this working group with AMCOW.
- in the promotion of the African Network of Basin Organizations, with its leadership in projects such as "AWIS" (African Water Information System) or "Performance Indicators for IWRM" ;
- in Europe, via the European Water Framework Directive, in many countries applying for integration ;
- worldwide, in directing the International Network of Basin Organizations, as well as the International Network of Transboundary Basin Organizations.

In the field of Integrated Water Resources Management at river basin level, the IOWater products are diversified :

## LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ASSISTANCE

IOWater provides support to the countries and organizations, which wish so, for the improvement of their institutional and legal organization for better water resources management, involving :

- The drafting of mandates and statutes for new local or international institutions for river basin management ;
- The establishment of suited legal frameworks for managing a shared resource

**Niger + 8 Riparian Countries 2003** : Institutional and organizational audit of the Niger Basin Authority (NBA) in order to make it a legal and institutional framework, truly operational and effective.

**Cambodia 2005** : Support to institutional capacity building and to the development of water management policies within the North-West Irrigation Sector Project.

## PLANNING AND INVESTMENT PROGRAMS

As true support to integrated water resources management, joint planning on a basin scale is essential to take action in the medium and long term :

- using a method for drafting documents for the medium/long term planning needed for integrating sustainable development in its economic, social and environmental dimensions ;
- ensuring the consistency of these Plans with the other geographical levels of planning ;
- using performance indicators for IWRM at the level of river basins.

Examples :

**Hungary Romania 2005** : "Assistance with the development of tools for the monitoring and management of the Körös/Crisuri" transboundary basin within the Transboundary Management of the Körös/Crisuri Basin, sub-basin of the Tisza.

**West Africa 2005** : support to the planning processes ; assistance with the creation of a Transboundary Basin Organization for the Volta River Basin.

## PARTICIPATION OF USERS AND THE CIVIL SOCIETY IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESSES

As one of the stakes of sustainable development is awareness and participation of the civil society, IOWater integrates the water users in its strategy for water resources management water, through

- support and reinforcement of Basin Committees, gathering members representative of the problems related to water management ;
- the establishment of mechanisms for stakeholders' information and participation leading to quality governance ;
- the development of suited communication supports and tools.

Example :

**Poland 2005** : Implementation of a test for the information and consultation of the stakeholders and the public on the water topic.