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# Performance Indicators for African Basin Organizations

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Date de mise en ligne : dimanche 2 janvier 2011

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# Performance Indicators for African Basin Organizations

(The News N° 21 - January 2011)

The project of the International Network of Basin Organizations (INBO) for the development, testing and comparison of Performance Indicators for African Transboundary Basin Organizations ended in September 2010.

During the three years of implementation many tests were carried out in 10 pilot basins : Congo (CICOS), Gambia (OMVG), Lake Chad (CBLT), Lake Victoria (LVBC), Niger (NBA), Nile (NBI), Okavango (OKACOM), Orange-Senqu (ORASECOM), Senegal (OMVS), Volta (VBA).

They spread across the continent, had a wide variety of legal, institutional, socioeconomic or geographic contexts. Interactive workshops for feedback and exchange between the basins allowed INBO to achieve an excellent appropriation of the project by the beneficiaries, best guarantee for the sustainability of such an approach using indicators in the river basins.

**The final list of indicators includes :**

- **20 indicators on the governance and operation of organizations in charge of the implementation of integrated management in transboundary basins ;**
- **15 indicators on the river basin, describing its condition, pressures and responses.**

Basin Organizations have highlighted the entirely new and significant contribution of the project on the "Governance of a Basin Organization" aspects.

The exercise allowed the self-evaluation of organizations on their operation and achievement of their missions. It also helped to gradually include indicators in the various processes of reporting to the Councils of Ministers or to donors.

Moreover, comparison of the strengths / weaknesses of each pilot basin, through a web application for displaying results, allowed basins to consider future discussions on these specific points.

Disseminating the results of the project during the General Assembly of the African Network of Basin Organizations (ANBO), or during the World Water Week in Stockholm in 2010, showed a strong interest of basin organizations and donors on these notions of performance indicators but also the significant needs in terms of popularization and support for their future use.

As INBO Technical Secretariat, IOWater directed this project, in partnership with the African Network of Basin Organizations (ANBO) and Ecologic. The project was financed by the European Water Facility (ACP Water Facility) and the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

[/IMG/images/indicateursEN.jpg]

(The News N° 17 - February 2010)

Performance indicators are now regularly used in the management of drinking water supply and sanitation utilities. For a few years, experiments have been made for their use by Basin Organizations to define criteria for the evaluation of Integrated Water Resources Management.

In order to propose an approach to the adaptation and integration of African specificities in this field, the **African Network of Basin Organizations (ANBO)**, with the support of the International Office for Water and Ecologic, launched a project aiming at developing, testing and comparing Performance Indicators for the African Transboundary Basin Organizations.

This project, financed by the European ACP Water Facility and the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs, is lasting 3 years and involving ten African river basins during 2 test phases.

The first testing phase was launched in November 2007.

After a seminar organized in Ouagadougou in November 2007, a first list of indicators was proposed. These indicators belong to two categories and aim at describing :

- **the governance and operation of the organizations in charge of integrated management on a transboundary basin scale,**
- **the status, pressures and evolution of transboundary river basins.**

**The testing of this first list of indicators in the Niger, Congo, Senegal, Lake Victoria and Orange basins allowed analyzing their relevance and usefulness.**

A seminar for the presentation and analysis of the first results was organized in Kinshasa in October 2008, then in Istanbul in March 2009.

The last testing phase has been carried out at the end of 2009 and at the beginning of 2010 in the **10 transboundary basins of the Congo, Gambia, Lake Chad, Lake Victoria, Nile, Niger, Okavango, Orange- Senqu, Senegal and the Volta**, to refine the results and to lead to a final list of performance indicators. It will then be advisable to make this experiment and this tool known

(The News N° 16 - December 2008)

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In order to propose an approach to the adaptation and integration of African specificities in this field, **the International Network of Basin Organizations, through the African Network of Basins Organizations (ANBO), with the support of the International Office for Water** and Ecologic, has just launched a project aiming at developing, testing and comparing Performance Indexes for the African Basin Organizations.

This project, financed by the European ACP Water Facility program and the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs, will last 3 years and will involve about ten African river basins during 2 test phases. The first phase for testing the use of indicators was launched in November 2007. It involves the Senegal, Niger, Congo, Orange-Sebu and Okavongo River Basins.