

Newsletter

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Editorial

NBD and Civic Resurgence in the Nile Basin

The Nile basin is very large and complex as a region, encompassing at least ten countries and a number of additional countries adjacent to it. It is characterized by political turmoil, conflicts and consequently by poverty and under-development. Mistrust among governments accounts for the most outstanding problem of the region. All these could not have been the hallmarks of the basin had there been vibrant civil societies.

The establishment of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) was, in the long run, to end the mistrust between governments and replace it with shared vision through implementation of a number of trans-boundary development projects. However, human experience has indisputably proven that without the involvement of civil society at large and communities on the ground, developments projects won't succeed in bringing the desired results. The relevance and practicality of this notion to the Nile basin reality has been the one crucial issue that bedeviled many development practitioners for some time now. The complexities in the involvement of civil society in the NBI projects and in the development process must be contextualized within



Tree production in schools in Rwanda

this prism.

To be sure, civil society involvement constitutes a protracted process. There are a number of reasons to this. In the first place, we can hardly speak of a full-fledged civil society in the region. Civil society in most of the basin countries is incipient, it is just

Our Newsletter is a quarterly update of activities and opinions from the Nile Basin civil society organisations.

The Nile Basin Discourse is an organisation that collates the voices of civil society organisations within the Nile Basin.

News & Events

- The Nile basin Discourse is now legally registered in Dar es Salaam Tanzania and has established its headquarters in Entebbe Uganda.
- The SNDF is organizing a workshop on the dams on the Nile from 19th to 21st January 2008 with a theme "lessons learnt and future perspectives" aimed at bringing the various experiences on the impact of the existing dams on the Nile as well as those to be constructed in the future.

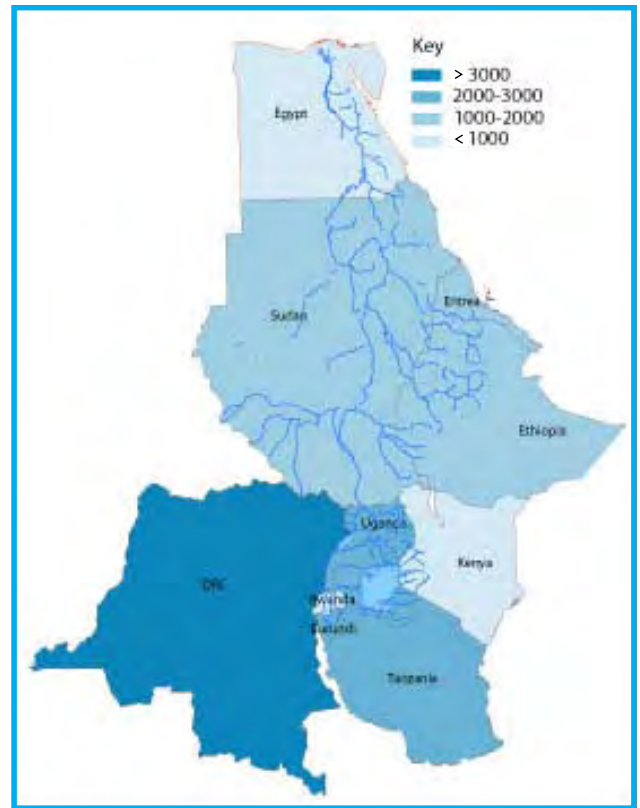
emerging. Yet, it faces enormous difficulties for its growth, lack of space for its participation being the most outstanding obstacle. Civil society in the region is emerging in the absence of space; that makes the process of its growth enormously difficult, protracted and slow. Secondly; the involvement of civil society goes hand in hand with its own growth. In other words, in the process of its involvement, civil society is also engaged in a simultaneous process of its own organic evolution.

Likewise, NBD's involvement in engaging NBI also faces similar problems. Despite the uphill struggle of being involved and organically building its own evolution, the NBD has nevertheless scored some achievements. Today, we can speak of the existence of civil society engagement throughout the basin due to the direct involvement of the National Discourse Forums (NDFs) of NBD. In a span of one year, seven out of the ten NDFs have now acquired legal recognition by their governments. In nine countries, the NDFs have established Nile Resource Centers, conducted lots of activities, issued a number of publications and are invited to be involved in leading positions of other civil society networks. The NBD introduced and marked the Nile Day on Feb. 22 with other stakeholders throughout the basin. In Burundi, the advocacy work of the NDF there has borne fruit in the establishment of the ministry of water. Active cooperation exists between NBD/NDFs and the various institutions of the NBI throughout the basin. The NBD as a whole has now become the bridge between communities on the ground and the NBI.

For the best delivery of development projects and of meeting the expectations of communities, organizational renewal on periodical basis is a crucial component of one's own development as an institution. To this effect, the NBD has recently launched a management review which was recently concluded. The NBD has made certain conclusions as to its strength and weaknesses and is seriously involved in launching organizational renewal which will hopefully be concluded by the first quarter of 2008. Expecting to be legally registered soon, 2008 will usher a renewed NBD with greater impact.

THE NILE BASIN

The River Nile, with an estimated length of over 6800 km, is the second longest river in the world flowing from south to North Africa. It is fed by two main river systems: the White Nile, with its sources on the Equatorial Lake Plateau (Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Kenya, DRC and Uganda), and the Blue Nile, with its sources in the Ethiopian highlands. The sources are located in humid regions, with an average rainfall of over 1000 mm per year. The arid



The Nile Basin

region starts in Sudan, the largest country of Africa, which can be divided into three rainfall zones i.e. the extreme south of the country where rainfall ranges from 1200 to 1500 mm per year; the fertile clay-plains where 400 to 800 mm of rain falls annually; and the desert northern third of the country where rainfall averages only 20 mm per year. Further north, in Egypt, precipitation falls to less than 20 mm per year.

The total area of the Nile basin represents 10.3% of the area of Africa and spreads over ten countries. For some countries, like DRC, the Nile basin forms only a very small part of their territory. Other countries, like Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Sudan and Egypt, are almost completely integrated into the Nile basin.

The Nile basin is characterized by high levels of poverty, underdevelopment, environmental degradation, population boom, and livelihood insecurity.

The revived Nile Basin Discourse has been up and operational for more than a year now, networking civil society organizations in the Nile basin region and beyond to address fundamental concerns of sustainable and equitable development, poverty reduction and cooperation among all stakeholders in the region.

The Nile Basin Discourse is now legally registered in Tanzania and has established its headquarters in Entebbe, Uganda, close to the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI), for effective engagement. National Forums, NDFs, have been established in all the ten Nile Basin countries that have also finalized activities of its second phase (Knowledge and Communication). The next phase of activities

will be under research, dissemination and capacity building. The National Discourse Forums (NDFs) have all been registered in their countries except for Egypt, Eritrea and Ethiopia.

In a bid to raise awareness on the Nile Basin Discourse quite a number of activities have been undertaken by the Discourse Desk and the National Discourse Forums for instance the production of newsletters, posters, brochures, t-shirts, folders, albums, documentaries, a book, and radio promos.

Some of the National Forums have also developed their own websites such as,

Rwanda, www.nbdfwanda.org.rw

Uganda www.undf.or.ug ,

Tanzania www.tndf.org and Sudan www.sndf.org

all to compliment the Discourse Desk website. The layout and address of the Discourse Desk website has been changed to www.nilebasindiscourse.net and activity reports are being posted.

In Burundi, a twenty six minute documentary film was produced by the Burundi National Discourse Forum, (BNDF) that highlights the five major challenges of the Burundian environment in the Nile basin area.

These challenges include deforestation essentially as a result of lack of a concerted effort at the macro level in intergrated water resource management and ignorance of the population to alternative sources of energy. The focus was Kibira forest, considered to be a big water tank where most of the Nile basin rivers, among them Ruvubu take source.

Another focus of the documentary was soil degradation and demographic explosion as a result of poor agricultural practices and the alarming population growth rate. Burundi has an average population density exceeding 300 hbts/km². At the moment, the national average surface of a farming land by household is of 0.5 hectares with an average of 5 children by household. Burundi does not have a national demographic policy. Another challenge was the wet and aquatic ecosystems' degradation essentially as a result of exploitation of quarries, mines and swamps for agricultural purposes

with no standard control measures in place. There are floods and the water level rises as a result of heavy rains and pollution caused especially by SOGESTAL factories involved in coffee processing. The rise in water levels has also resulted into climate change, another challenge in Burundi.

Exploration of mines and quarries in Burundi without control has resulted in a number of gulleys and the destruction of infrastructure. Although there are legal tools governing the exploration of these resources, territorial administration does not apply.

This documentary film was reproduced on DVD and 100 copies were distributed to Burundi NDFs' member associations and to various partners especially the national Coordinators of projects under NBI, key Ministries in touch with the environment management, embassies and some United Nations agencies like FAO, UNDP. This DVD can be made available on request.

The film was also shown on Burundi's national television during the World Water day week and it served as a tool especially with the journalists and the public debates on the major challenges of the environment and water management in Burundi.

Burundi NDF has also held public debates on water resource sustainable management and protection in the Burundi Nile basin zone for the public and Members of Parliament, in conjunction with NBI's Capacity Building and Stakeholder Involvement project, CBSI. Key issues raised on the topic were water resource sustainable management strategies, measures to be taken, and problems of coordination.

Recommendations were formulated in relation to good governance which included:

- the creation of a unique coordination and regulation structure of the water resource such as a ministry of water
- the introduction of water resource management problematic at all the teaching levels
- the implementation of a national water management policy;

- the updating and application of laws relating to water resource



Workshop on desertification and poverty in Burundi

The move to sensitize decision makers on the problem of water resource management in Burundi during the debates interested one of the NBI Projects in Burundi, The Nile Trans-boundary Environmental Action Project (NTEAP), to join BNDF in creating awareness on this issue. Through the use of the media, BNDF lobbied for the important issues that had been raised and this in turn has led to the creation of a proper Ministry of Water in Burundi.

In Democratic Republic of Congo, Bunia city and the Ituri district has been opened up from enclosure



Workshop participants in Bunia, DRC

The city of Bunia is the major city of Ituri district where the DR Congo National Discourse Forum held its public consultation with local stakeholders in September 2007. Ituri district is located in the north of the DRC Nile basin area and comprises among others sites Lake Albert, which is shared by the Democratic Republic of Congo and Uganda.

One of the major successes of the DRC NDF is involving stakeholders in the basin by informing them about the Nile issues despite the huge geographical distances between the city of Kinshasa, and the Nile basin area. Notable meetings were held with DRC Parliamentarians, media, business sector and academia.

The Bunia workshop is considered as the most important of all the workshops the NDF held in the phase two activities (Knowledge and Communication) because of its location. It opened up the region to the rest of DRC that had been closed for a long time. The overall objective of this workshop was to identify the stakeholders in the northern area of the DRC Nile Basin and sensitize them about NBD and NBI issues, as this had been done earlier in the south (Goma-Rutshuru) and in the central (Butembo-Beni).

Bunia has the longest distance from Kinshasa, the capital, at about 2800 km and is not easily accessible. There is no direct connection by air with the city of Kisangani, which is the major city of the Oriental Province and the roads are not safe because of various militia activities. Bunia and the whole of the DRC Nile basin area are still facing political insecurity despite the peace agreement signed in December 2002 between various militia groups and the government.

Bunia also hosts the LEAF (Lake Edward and Albert) project of NBI project that aims at boosting fisheries in the two lakes shared by DR Congo and Uganda, namely Lake Edward in North Kivu province and Lake

Albert in Oriental province. The project officer of the NBI LEAF project made a presentation on how the project plans to improve fishing methods and fish production in the two lakes. The participants who were unaware of the LEAF project objectives expressed pleasure on receiving this information on the benefits of the project in their area. Participants were encouraged to learn about the NBI and NBD initiatives in the District and 15 organizations from Bunia joined the NDF.

The DRC Nile Basin is divided in three focal zones which are expected to become local NDFs (LNDFs) for a better and rational management of the entire DRC Nile Basin area. The NDF is as much as possible spreading information about NBD/NBI efforts aimed at poverty reduction and social conditions improvement for all the Nile riparian people particularly the DRC Nile basin area.

In Egypt, the Egyptian National Discourse Forum (EgNDF) held a three days workshop with most of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) officials in Egypt to establish modes of cooperation and



Aqua Parties in Egypt

engagement within their activities especially at the level of research and training.

This workshop was highly attended with representatives from the NBI, Egyptian local discourse forums of the 16 Egyptian governorates, members of the steering committee, water experts, and representatives of the ministry of water resources and irrigation and the media.

With the theme, 'River Nile in our eyes', the Egyptian NDF carried out a Knowledge, Attitudes and Perception (KAP) survey to establish the knowledge of the Nile and how the population protects it. The KAP survey was conducted in five Egyptian governorates of Cairo, Alexandria, Menia, Dakahlia and Aswan, which represent a cross section of the Egyptian communities.

The main results of the KAP survey indicated that there are many weaknesses and gaps between the availability and demand and showed a great importance for real steps towards the Irrigation system and the agricultural structure in Egypt.

This survey was an effective tool for designing the awareness raising materials and activities based

on real knowledge of the main concerns of the people, decision makers and NGOs.

There was an initiative by the EgNDF to work in schools and promote the important issues of the Nile and water by forming Aqua parties in each school. The idea of working with children was unique and targeted schools in 16 Egyptian Governorates through the Local Discourse Forums (LDFs).

Aqua parties have been established in public schools (3-5 school in each LDFs comprising of with pupils within the age range of 10-14 years. In each school there was a day's activity supported by games "about water" and art competitions emphasizing water ethics to try and curb the threatening water pollution and over population. Educational material was provided which allowed teachers to replicate the activities even wider. This was an achievement in the LDFs as the governor of Beni Suef availed \$11,000 to extend these activities to more schools in his governorate.

In Eritrea, one of the Eritrean NDF important objective was to develop strong communication systems especially through conducting public debate



Participants at a farmers' workshop in Eritrea

to raise public awareness and. The purpose of the debates was to enhance public know-how and develop knowledge on water and the Nile issues.

One of the public debates focused on "Agricultural Resource management in the Setit basin" and "Water Resource management in Setit basin while the other debate focused on the livelihood of the community and the natural resources available in the Setit basin and discussions on the constraints and opportunities that could lead to designing developmental work programs.

The Ethiopian National Discourse Forum has conducted workshops with the media, academia, and research institutions in Addis Ababa aimed at enhancing awareness and mainstreaming the Nile issues into the media and academia.

Mainstreaming the Nile issues into these institutions is believed to help in influencing the NBI projects and programs as well as national government's water-related policies and strategies. Further more, it is also believed to help in collating, managing, and disseminating Nile-related information at all levels i.e. local, national, and regional.

As an outcome of these workshops, a course, "History



World Water Day Celebrations in Ethiopia

of the Nile" was incorporated into the curriculum of the department of history of the Addis Ababa University starting from the next academic year (September 2008). This as an outstanding achievement of the Ethiopian NDF in its public consultation efforts and this incorporation will enhance the knowledge base of the public especially the youth and demystify the age-long myths prevalent around the Nile River.

In Kenya, Kenya National Discourse Forum organised a two-day joint KNDF/NTEAP-Micro grants engagement workshop in Kisumu. The workshop sought to monitor progress and challenges facing the NTEAP-Micro grants supported projects, develop a joint KNDF-NTEAP facilitative monitoring framework for the projects in the future and deliberate on the possibilities of sustaining and scaling up the projects beyond micro grants financing period. Representatives of all the NTEAP-Micro grants supported projects and KNDF national and district representatives participated in the workshop. Micro grants supported projects made presentations of their programs highlighting the following:

- A brief description of the supported program and funding level
- Activities under implementation
- Challenges to implementation
- Lessons learnt



A section of land deforested for charcoal burning

- Recommendation and the way forward

The presentations were deliberated on a plenary where various ideas for future individual programme implementation processes were made. The meeting further recommended that:

- KNDF and the Micro grants program should develop a monitoring plan and framework for future joint monitoring of NTEAP supported projects
- KNDF register Micro grants supported projects amongst its membership for the purpose of working with them to replicate their activities
- KNDF district representatives should in future facilitate monitoring of NTEAP sponsored projects through visitation

The workshop was a major step toward KNDF future role in monitoring Micro grants supported projects on their impacts to the communities. Following the workshop, KNDF is abreast with the progress of implementation and will soon develop, together with micro grants, a KNDF-NTEAP micro grant framework for future monitoring of the projects.

In Rwanda, RNDF's the biggest involvement so far is with the NBI NELSAP-Kagera Project. RNDF has had several meetings with the NELSAP project to find synergies within their work plans and activities. In addition, RNDF in collaboration with CBSI and NTEAP recruited one of their member organizations, ISUKU, to carry out awareness raising activities on the environment on behalf of NELSAP. RNDF drafted the terms of reference for this consultancy work. The NDF has also been included in the NBI Applied Training Program, ATP, and Integrated Water Resource Management (IWRM) trainings.



Water and community hygiene problems along River Nyabarongo in Rwanda

Sudan NDF was involved in quite a number of activities in the second phase of the program. The NDF organized a water borne disease Workshop which highlighted Water diseases in Sudan scattered along the Nile. Findings at the workshop revealed that Bilharzias is top on the list with most infections in all cities along the Nile in Khartoum.



Participants at the Kassala workshop in Sudan

SNDF aimed at increasing the public awareness about all issues related to the Nile and Nile safety by reviewing the history of the disease, recent findings of research on it and a tentative frame work for disease control.

SNDF held a training workshop on developing its monitoring and evaluation systems with participants representing SNDF SC, local National discourse Forums and NGOs. The objective of this training workshop was to develop the M&E system for the SNDF and ensure systematic and timely monitoring of project implementation and results, enhance transparency and accountability.

In Uganda, UNDF conducted a survey in two sub districts of Kwapa and Mella, in Tororo district, and within Sio- Malaba project catchment. The study focused of three areas of water access and harvesting, water and sanitation and use of water for agriculture. This survey focused on assessing the level of knowledge and practice on the various indicators among the different respondent categories of both male and female adults, youth and school going age.

In a bid to promote dialogue in the NDF, public debates were held on the ecology and socio-economic importance of fisheries in Lake Victoria with a case study of the Nile Perch. This was held at a time when the topic of Lake Victoria and the social economics of fish was a hot issue in scientific conferences and the media. This debate generated discussion on what is happening to Lake Victoria, its economic potential,, issues of using the waters of Lake Victoria, recent declines in water levels and the impacts, the Algae blooms on Lake Victoria and the increasing number of the small fish eating birds.



UNDF Schools' awareness raising campaign on the Nile Basin

NETWORKING

Global Water Partnership, (GWP), Eastern Africa, in collaboration with the Nile Basin Discourse (NBD) and the African Civil Society Network on Water and Sanitation (ANEW) held a workshop in October 2007 in Nairobi. The workshop attracted 57 participants from Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Sudan, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Burundi and Rwanda.

The aim of the workshop was to deepen the understanding and appreciation among civil society organizations on integrated water resource management, IWRM, and the significant role of the civil society in IWRM planning and implementation processes.

The workshop provided an opportunity for civil society actors to acquaint themselves with an array of governmental initiatives and processes in IWRM planning and identified opportunities for collaborative relationships and engagement.

It also provided a milieu for a region wide multi-stakeholder platform in which civil society actors can play a more effective role in promoting integrated water resources management and good governance.

The key output of the workshop was that:

- a mechanism for collaborative relationships between civil society organisation with governments in the context of IWRM was hatched,
- intra civil-society linkages across multi stakeholder groups in water sector were enhanced and,
- capacity for meaningful participation of civil society organizations in IWRM planning processes was built.

Civil society organisations participating in the workshop came up with a joint declaration on fostering IWRM in the region. The declaration has four pillars:

1. On Trans-boundary Water Resources Management – here CSOs will take the responsibility to initiate dialogue, cooperate and build synergies to resolve conflicts in areas of trans-boundary water resources management

- at national and international levels,
2. Decentralization and stakeholder participation - CSOs will form national platforms that are guided by the principles of ownership and inclusiveness for positive advocacy at central and local government level.
3. Research, Capacity Building, Monitoring and Evaluation - CSOs will broaden the scope of stakeholder participation in research, capacity building and monitoring and evaluation.
4. Strengthening financial capacity of CSOs in IWRM – Civil Society Organisations will build trust with partners, governments, communities and donors to promote close liaison and synergy with official bodies by building trust and confidence, through efficient, transparent, participatory and accountable project implementation, backed up by effective monitoring and evaluation.

It is hoped that this will go a long way in deepening the role of civil society organisations in advocating for IWRM processes and implementation in the region.



Participants at the GWP NBD & ANEW workshop in Nairobi

SC meeting in Kinshasa November 2007

The NBD steering committee held its 7th regular meeting in Kinshasa, DRC on Nov. 24-26, 2007. The principle agenda of the meeting was to listen to the report and discuss the recommendations of the consultants who had conducted the NBD management review for over a month. The findings of the consultants' report focused on decision making processes and power and functional relationships between various structures of the organization.

As a young regional network but facing a multifarious difficulties but with a grand objective of enabling civil societies of the region to be involved in development projects for the sake of shared vision and benefit sharing basin wide, the NBD needed to put a proper system of governance in place. The management review was prompted from this perspective.

The consultants' report dwelt on a number of issues related to governance and management and put forward a number of recommendations



SC meeting in Kinshasa

at various levels including revision of the constitution, the nature and composition of the steering committee, the size and functions of the regional secretariat, the functions of the steering committees of the National Discourse Forums (NDFs), the functions of the NDF secretariat and so on.

The SC reflected and debated on these recommendations and accepted the entire recommendations by the consultants except a few of them. In order to take these recommendations and SC decisions forward in terms of preparing the ground work for change, it decided to hold a retreat in January, 2008, in Khartoum. A number of assignments were set and several teams within the SC were formed to prepare drafts for the necessary changes in a number of areas of governance and strategy such as;

- An interim strategy for three years to be backed up by a strategic planning later
- Action plan for fundraising
- Developing profiles for new SC members
- Expansion and staffing of the regional secretariat
- Preparation of the General Assembly of the organization in early 2008

The retreat in Khartoum will be on January 22-23, 2008. The changes that are going to be introduced into the NBD system are expected to create dynamism within the young network and galvanize the impact.

The Sudan National Discourse

Forum is organising a workshop on the Dams on the Nile in mid January with a theme "lessons learnt and future perspectives", which aims at bringing the various experiences on the impact of the existing dams on the Nile as well as those to be constructed in the future.

Dams, large and small, are planned, constructed and operated to meet human needs in the generation of energy, irrigated agricultural production, flood control, supply of drinking water, and various other purposes. While seen originally as a relatively straightforward solution to many of these needs, the history of dams over the past 100 years has shown that their many benefits to society come together with an array of environmental and social impacts. The decision to construct a dam and the design and operation of its management regime therefore need to be based upon a rigorous analysis of these costs and benefits.

There is a widespread recognition of this challenge amongst governments, industries, the development community, NGOs, community groups, and all stakeholders with the issues of large dams. Indeed, over the course of the past 10 years there has been substantial change in the approach to dams with much greater attention to environmental and social issues. Various types of environmental and social guidelines now exist and are increasingly applied. Differences in judgments towards the construction of dams are based on different value systems, development paradigms, options analysis and practical actions. At the level of value systems, the dilemma focuses on whether environmental conservation and development are antagonistic.

The majority of dams (75%) are developed and operated to irrigate land and generate power. In many cases, these dams have provided profits and a range of benefits. At the same time, dams have negatively impacted people living near them and the surrounding environment. As such the development of water resources using dams has created many conflicts of interest and it is becoming increasingly



Flooding in Kano Plain, Kisumu

clear that environmental and social dimensions need to be addressed more substantially.

The Sudan National Discourse Forum will seek to project facts about dams, past and present, so as to contribute to improving decision-making about large dams. The proposed workshop will highlight the nature of the effects of dams upon upstream and downstream ecosystems. The reported experience with methods to avoid, mitigate and compensate those effects. However, the workshop is not intended to an exhaustive assessment of the impact of dams on ecosystems world-wide as data for this task are currently unavailable, or different for each geographical region. The focus of the workshop is on the medium to long-term impacts of dams on ecosystems rather than the short term impacts of construction.

Some of the issues to be presented and discussed at the workshop include:

1. A Historical Perspective (Egypt, Ethiopia, Sudan and Uganda).
2. Development and Economics
3. International and Regional Treaties.
4. Pros and Cons of Dams.
5. Ecological and Socio-economic Impacts of Dams on the Nile.
6. Towards a shared outlook for Dams in the Nile Basin.

7. The experience of the Dams Implementation Unit (Sudan).

8. The experiences of the affected communities (Sudan Ethiopia, Egypt and Uganda).

The proposed presentations will examine the nature of river basin ecosystems, their importance, and the reasons as to why the international community has assigned up for promoting their protection within the framework of sustainable development. The presentations will also review the current understanding of the nature of the impact of dams upon these ecosystems and their associated values. This includes their intrinsic spiritual, ethical and biodiversity values and their economic values to local people and their livelihoods, as well as wider ecosystem values for society as a whole. The workshop will examine the current status of approaches to addressing the consequences of dam impacts on ecosystems through the continuum of avoidance-mitigation-compensation-restoration, of ecosystem losses. Based upon these analyses the workshop will give an assessment of the areas of convergence and divergence on these issues within the dams debate and a set of recommendations to the decision makers. Participants of the workshop will be from the NBI, NBD, international organizations, regional bodies, Non Governmental Organizations and Sudan national institutions working on water issues and dams.

THE NBD SECRETARIAT AND NDF SURVEYS AND TRAINING PLANS

The Discourse secretariat has planned the following activities under capacity building and the Research and Dissemination phase:

- Training for the steering committee and NDF coordinators on civil society governance
- A retreat to reflect on strategies for NBD sustainability
- Attract the private sector into civil society influencing of the NBI
- Develop and disseminate key opinions, briefs and other reports on Nile Basin development synthesizing knowledge and issues of concern to civil society to stimulate debate and interest in the NBD
- Increase the global profile of civil society issues in the Nile Basin

For the planned activities in research and dissemination and civil society capacity building the national discourse forums has planned the following:

Burundi;

- Conduct an assessment on the level of stakeholders involvement in the planning and implementation of the NBI projects with a focus on NTEAP, WUA, Kagera project, and CBSI
- Conduct NBI pro-poor audit
- Conduct a study on the comparative advantages (ecologically and economically) on different exploited and exploitable power sources in Burundi e.g. hydro electric, bio gas, wood, etc.
- Training on project development and management
- Training on communication techniques, lobbying and advocacy

DR Congo;

- Increasing contacts with the private sector
- Study on community needs in relation to poverty alleviation
- Training on enhancing the capacity of civil society in engaging NBI
- Commission study on the impacts of the LEAF project (Lake Edward and Albert)

Egypt;

- Research on the multi-stakeholder dialogues influencing the NBI
- Study on the bio diversity in the Nile islands
- Assessment of the micro grants of NTEAP from the social and technical points
- Study on the efficient use of water in agriculture
- Evaluation and analysis of economic and social cost of transformation from sinking irrigation to dropping irrigation
- Training the civil society on policy influence and engagement
- Training on awareness raising and conflict resolution

Ethiopia;

- Micro study on water shed management
- Study on benefit sharing
- Appraisal of NBI projects on water resource, planning and management irrigation in Ethiopia
- Training on resource mobilization and



NBD leadership training Nairobi

management of local NDFs

- Training on applied research for members

Eritrea;

- Research on pastoralists- problems encountered and possible solutions
- Training on salt and water conservation
- Training on animal production

Kenya;

- Planning and implementation of the Sio- Malaba/Mara projects in the Sio Malaba investment strategy
- Training on floods management, rain water harvesting and catchments/ wetlands management
- Training in project development and monitoring and evaluation

Rwanda;

- Study on the impacts of efficient water use in agriculture and water harvesting
- Study on communities involvement in power development and trade on Rusumu and Ruzizi
- Study on stakeholders participation in NBI projects
- Training members on project development and sustainability



A section of land undergoing heavy soil erosion

Sudan;

- Conduct pro-poor audits in NBI project planning and implementation
- Conduct micro studies on stakeholder participation in the planning and implementation of NBI projects
- Training on community needs assessment for NDF members
- Training on communication skills advocacy and lobbying for NDF members

Tanzania;

- Conduct micro studies on stakeholder participation in the planning and implementation of NBI projects
- Conduct environmental impact assessment training
- Training on public relations, advocacy and lobbying for NDF members

- Conduct a pro-poor audit in the project planning of NBI projects

Uganda;

- Pro-poor audit on development projects in the Nile Basin within Uganda
- Two studies on peace and conflict over trans boundary resources
- Documentation of best practices on conservation and poverty in the Nile Basin
- Study on the water shed degradation in Rwenzori highlands, Kigezi and Bunyoro and its impact on lake Albert and George
- Study on fisheries reform processes and its impact on the livelihoods of fishing communities
- Training of the executive committee members on governance and policy advocacy

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