Facts about the Nile Basin

What's on? January - March 2013

Quiz

Basin Area 3,176 X 103 Km2
Location -4 0 S to 310 N and 24 0 E to 40 0 E
Main Tributaries Victoria Nile/Albert Nile, Bahr El Jabel, White Nile, Baro Pibor-Sobat, Blue Nile, Atbara, Bahr El Ghazal
River Length 6,695 Km (one of the world's longest River)
Estimated Navigable Length 4,149 Km
Countries
Burundi DR Congo Rwanda Egypt South Sudan Ethiopia The Sudan Kenya Tanzania Uganda Eritrea
Major Lakes within the Basin Lake Victoria, Lake Tana, Lake Kyoga, Lake Albert
Population (Total in all the Nile Countries)* 437 Million
% Population within the Nile Basin* 54% (238 Million)
Temperature Night Minimum -100 c and daily Maximum in June 470 c
Precipitation Max Annual 2,098 mm/yr in Ethiopia
Min Annual 0 mm/yr in Egypt
Mean Annual /f_low (Discharge) (m 3/yr) at Aswan 84 X 10 9 m3/yr
Discharge/Unit area 28 X 10 3 m3/Km 2
Main Consumptive Water use Agriculture

Date Activity Venue
Jan NCoRe Project Effectiveness All Centers
Jan NELTAC/NELCOM Meeting Kigali
11 – 12th Feb Regional Meeting for National NBI Desk Officers Entebbe
22nd Feb Nile Day celebrations (Regional and National) Bahr Dar, Ethiopia (for regional celebrations)
April 38th Nile-TAC Meeting Entebbe

Member states

What is the major determinant of population distribution in the Nile Basin?
Send your answer to: editor@nilebasin.org

Answer to the previous quiz question
The single most important intra basin agricultural trade commodity by volume among the Nile Basin riparian states is maize.

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of NBI, its Member States or Partners

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NBI OVERVIEW

Construction of the 80 MW Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric dam. The project is a joint undertaking between Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania.
**Introduction**

The Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) is an intergovernmental partnership of ten Nile Basin countries, namely Burundi, DR Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, The Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda. It was established on February 22, 1999, by Ministers in charge of Water Affairs in the Nile Basin countries: “To achieve sustainable socio-economic development through the equitable utilisation of, and benefit from, the common Nile Basin water resources”.

NBI provides Member States with the only basin-wide and impartial platform to discuss with trust and confidence how to jointly take care of and utilise the shared water resources for win-win socio-economic benefits and to promote regional peace and security.

**Objectives of NBI**

- To develop the Nile Basin water resources in a sustainable and equitable way to ensure prosperity, security and peace for all its peoples
- To ensure efficient water management and the optimal use of the Nile resources
- To ensure cooperation and joint action between the riparian countries, seeking win-win gains
- To target poverty eradication and promote economic integration

**Institutional set up**

The setup of NBI is informed by the principle of subsidiarity to enable leveraging distinctive development potentials and addressing constraints and challenges unique to geographic regions. The Secretariat (Nile-SEC) based in Entebbe, Uganda is responsible for the overall corporate direction. Two Subsidiary Action Programme (SAPs) offices, namely the Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO) based in Addis Ababa - Ethiopia for the Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Programme (ENSAP) and the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme Coordination Unit (NELSAP-CU) based in Kigali - Rwanda, for the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme (NELSAP) focus on preparation of joint investment (infrastructure) projects.

**Core functions**

**Facilitating Basin Cooperation** - Providing the regional platform for multi stakeholder dialogue, information sharing, joint planning and management of shared water and related natural resources in the Nile Basin

**Water Resource Management** - Strengthening Member States’ institutional and technical capacities as well as developing and operating a shared knowledgebase to support decision making at basin-wide level and action at lower levels.

**Water Resource Development** - Assisting Member States to identify and prepare regionally significant investment projects and mobilising financial and technical resources for their implementation.
Goals & Actions for 2017 - 2027

**GOAL 1: WATER SECURITY**
*Meeting rising water demand*

*Our actions:* Increase storage capacity in the basin; support the improvement of water use efficiency in major water-use sectors; strengthen river basin monitoring and analysis of data from monitoring networks; promote conjunctive use of surface and ground water resources; and improve preparedness to flood and drought risks in the Nile sub-basins.

**GOAL 2: ENERGY SECURITY**
*Unlocking and optimising hydropower potential*

*Our actions:* Identify and prepare bankable investment projects in power infrastructure; in special cases such as the 80 MW Regional Rusumo Falls Hydro-electric Project, extend implementation support to the countries; identify and prepare bankable projects in power transmission, interconnection and trade with the aim of increasing availability, accessibility and stability of power, minimising losses and reducing costs.

**GOAL 3: FOOD SECURITY**
*Increasing agricultural productivity*

*Our actions:* Undertake analytical work to introduce and promote an approach that examines and proposes options for addressing the water-food nexus in the Nile Basin; identify and prepare investment projects for enhancing agricultural irrigation and promoting fisheries and aquaculture production as well as promote trading of food across the basin.

**GOAL 4: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY**
*Protecting and restoring degraded ecosystems*

*Our actions:* Conduct diagnostic studies and prepare inventories to promote the wise use and sustainable management of wetlands of transboundary significance; Support environmental flow assessments for critical river and lake ecosystems; support Member States in establishing and operating a strategic network of water quality monitoring stations; identify and prepare projects for restoration of degraded watersheds and wetlands.

**GOAL 5: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION**
*Preparing for climate change impacts*

*Our actions:* Carry out climate vulnerability assessment for major water systems and water use sectors; generate scenarios of water availability under different climate change scenarios; prepare short-term to seasonal river flow forecasts; support harmonisation of climate change policies of the Member States; build capacity of NBI centres and Member States in areas of global climate finance.

**GOAL 6: TRANSBOUNDARY WATER GOVERNANCE**
*Bringing people together to build a common ground for win-win benefits*

*Our actions:* Build the capacity and efficient operation of NBI Centres; facilitate meetings and other activities of NBI’s governance bodies; raise funds for Nile cooperation; build the capacity of Member States' transboundary water units; organise multi-stakeholder dialogue events to deliberate on issues of Nile cooperation; disseminate NBI information and knowledge products; Forge strategic partnerships with other regional inter-governmental institutions.