



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Secretariat**

EF.NGO/5/07

22 May 2007

ENGLISH only

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**Conference Services**

**Fifteenth OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum - Part 2:  
“Key challenges to ensure environmental security and sustainable development in the  
OSCE area: Land degradation, soil contamination and water management”  
Prague, 21 - 23 May 2007**

**Special Event**

**New international political and financing perspectives:  
Transboundary water management as a regional public good and Benefit Sharing  
beyond the river**

Please find attached the presentation by Dr. Marwa Daoudy, Graduate Institute for  
International Studies (Geneve) and Center for International Studies and Research (Paris).

## Benefit-Sharing in Trans-Boundary River Basins: What is Feasible and What is Not?

Dr. Marwa Daoudy  
Graduate Institute for International Studies (Genève)  
Center for International Studies & Research (Paris)

## Policy & Research Findings

- ▶ "Transboundary Water Cooperation as a Tool for Conflict Prevention and Broader Benefit-Sharing", Expert Group on Development Issues of the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs
- ▶ Co-authored with Phillips, Mc Caffrey, Öjendal, & Turton, 2006.

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## Water, conflict and security

- ▶ Water as a global common good: debate on the need for collective action.
- ▶ Water is in fact a potential source of conflict and/or cooperation.
- ▶ Securitization processes: the link between environmental problems and the emergence of conflict, i.e. water as a security issue.

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## The OSCE'S AGENDA

- ▶ OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in 21st Century
- ▶ **Parag. 5:** « *Socio-economic and environmental factors may affect security and stability* », « *the outcome of globalization depends on policy choices adopted by governments and II and on the response of the private sector and civil society* »
- ▶ **Parag. 14:** « *Environmental degradation, unsustainable use of natural resources, mismanagement of wastes and pollution (...) have a substantial negative impact on the health, welfare, stability and security of States* ».

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## THE OSCE'S STRATEGY

- ▶ **Parag. 42:** « *It encourages further development of co-operation among participating States in various areas, actions and policies aiming at strengthening good governance at all levels, ensuring sustainable development in all aspects and protecting the environment* ».
- ▶ New Strategy Document, Parag. 1.7, 2.1, 2.4.
- ▶ OSCE Strategy Doc. for the Economic and Environmental Dimension: « *Underlining the resolve of the participating States to respond to these economic and env. threats and challenges by developing a strategy with clear priorities* ».

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## The framework for the approach

- ▶ Specific research and policy-oriented questions:
  - What role does the sharing of benefits play in the conflict/cooperation debate?
  - Can cooperation on the sharing of international watercourses be utilized as a broader conflict prevention tool?
  - What are the key areas for development partners in integrating trans-boundary water management more closely into their overall development agendas?

## From 'Water Wars' to the Sharing of Benefits

- ▶ Options for cooperation and the amicable *sharing of benefits* resulting from professionally managed watersheds.
- ▶ The 'desecuritization of water resource management'

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## Benefit-Sharing

- ▶ Sadoff and Grey (2002)
- ▶ Simplest and most useful general framework to date
- ▶ Benefits from cooperation over a shared river basin may be divided into four different categories: 'environmental', 'economic', 'political', and 'catalytic'.

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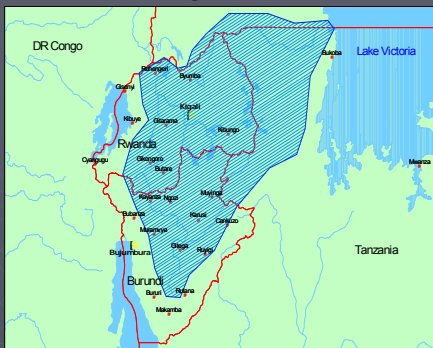
## The Inter-SEDE Model

- ▶ Phillips *et al.*, 2006: assumption that a well-managed watershed will provide enhanced benefits in terms of *Security, Economic Development, and the Environment*
- ▶ Comparative analysis for the Jordan, the Kagera and the Mekong basins
- ▶ Establishment of relevant categories of indicators for 21 riparians of the three basins

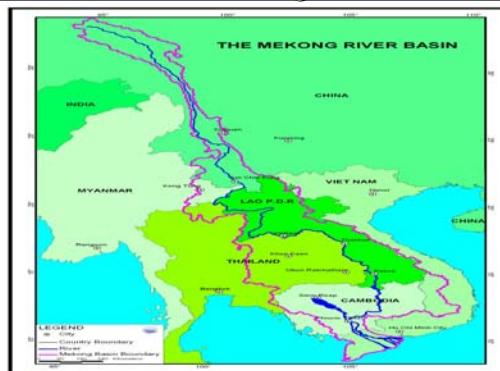
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## The Kagera Basin



## The Mekong Basin



## Categories of Benefits

- ▶ **Security:** promotion of peaceful relations, reduction of military expenditure, prevention of human and societal insecurity.
- ▶ **Economic development:** enhancement of trade, food production, local household consumption, livelihoods.
- ▶ Both of the above elements are nested in the **environment:** contribution to biodiversity, promotion of sustainable management of trans-boundary resources, access to sufficient w. resources.

## Identify Key Drivers

- ▶ Use indicators to identify key drivers
- ▶ All riparians have been ranked for all the indicators and resulting ranks placed in five bands: 1-5
- ▶ Conclusions: relative importance of different categories of drivers

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## Conclusions (1)

- ▶ Enhanced cooperation on the sharing of water (or the benefits arising from water resources) can offer real promise for defusing tensions and reducing broader conflicts.
- ▶ In heavily securitized scenarios, benefit-sharing is not a viable option. This is particularly the case in the **Jordan River basin**, but where viable options can nevertheless be found to induce the parties to agree on solutions concerning water availability
- ▶ Basins such as the **Mekong River** offer a different example, where water-related cooperation has already been an element of closer political ties between at least the four downstream co-riparians.
- ▶ In the **Kagera River basin**, the urgent need to drive economic development and defuse ongoing ethnic tensions should certainly recognize the key importance of trans-boundary water resources

## CONCLUSIONS (2)

- ▶ Clear need for further development of the concept as a whole: "one size does not fit all"
- ▶ Over-riding importance of security-related dynamics: securitization/de-securitization dynamics
- ▶ Any successful benefit-sharing scheme will require the generation of a 'broad basket' of possible benefits to act as an inducement to each co-riparian to be involved.
- ▶ Benefit-sharing will need to be established based on concrete inducements which can be quantified
- ▶ Equitable allocation vs. benefits: two sides of same coin

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## *Proposed Keys to Future Approaches to International Assistance*

- ▶ [1] The need to elevate the acknowledged importance of trans-boundary waters
- ▶ [2] The need for long-term commitment
- ▶ [3] The need for a consensus-based approach by external parties
- ▶ [4] The need for a holistic vision
- ▶ [5] The need for true collaboration, with top-level commitment