



**NILE BASIN INITIATIVE**  
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## The 7<sup>th</sup> Nile Basin Development Forum

# KEY MESSAGES FROM WEBINARS

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# Presentation summary

- NBDF 7 setup
- Summary of outcomes
- Key reflections



# Nile Basin Development Forum

- A regional science–policy–practice dialogue to “***exchange information and views on the steps necessary to achieve sustainable development of the shared Nile Basin water resources***”
- NBDF 7 Theme “**Deepening Nile cooperation: Accelerating the achievement of SDGs in a changing climate**”
- Thematic area
  - Basin monitoring, strategic water resources assessments and water-energy-food nexus
  - Watershed management and ecosystem sustainability
  - Climate change adaptation and mitigation
  - Finance, investment and the sustainable development goals
  - Transboundary water governance
- Online webinars 18 September – 12 October 2023
- Physical Sessions – 16-18 October 2023



## **THEMATIC AREA 1: BASIN MONITORING, STRATEGIC WATER RESOURCES ASSESSMENTS AND WATER-ENERGY-FOOD NEXUS**

- Improved water resources monitoring is critical for sustainable regional water resources management
- Remotely sensed data and information to address challenge of limited in-situ monitoring data – but ground monitoring data is still essential for its validation
- Increase generating knowledge and information products and promote their use in decision making
- Advances in sensor technology and reduction in sensor costs is making citizen science a viable option for increasing the coverage of monitoring networks
- Strategic Water Resources Assessments are showing a mismatch between projected water supply and demand and explore solutions
- Conjunctive use of ground and surface water resources can provide an opportunity to address water deficit and climate-induced water scarcity



## **THEMATIC AREA 2: WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AND ECOSYSTEM SUSTAINABILITY**

- Deforestation, overgrazing, wetland drainage, bush burning and use of other unsustainable agricultural practices is ongoing – need for Greater investment in watershed management
- Current management practices are inadequate to deal with the level of water pollution and environmental degradation.
- Water quality monitoring is characterized by inadequate funding, and variable capacity in terms of field and laboratory equipment, and staffing.
- Need to increase the level of investment in water pollution control and integrated watershed management so as to ensure the sustainability of the Nile Basin water and environmental resources.
- Need to increase public awareness and the involvement of local communities in environmental management.



## THEMATIC AREA 3: CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION

- Africa is experiencing climate and weather extremes at increased frequency and higher socio-economic and environmental impacts.
- NBI, regional organizations, and NBI Member States have invested in flood and drought forecasting and early warning tools
- Inadequate timely dissemination of early warning messages, leads to limited resilience of affected communities to extremes
- NBI Member States should urgently implement CC adaptation measures, including multi-purpose storage reservoirs to smooth out the projected variability in water resources
- Need to support the promotion of climate smart agricultural technologies and practices in the smallholder sector so as to contribute to attainment of the targets of SDG2, SDG5 and SDG13



## **THEMATIC AREA 4 FINANCE, INVESTMENT AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

- A considerable proportion of the population in the basin does not have access to safely managed water sanitation services
- Inadequate water resources infrastructure is limiting the efficient use of water resources, and ability of Member States to adapt to climate change.
- Efforts by NBI and other regional organisations prepare regional investment programs to support the sustainable management and development of the transboundary Nile water resources
- Need to mobilise financial resources to implement the infrastructure development programs prepared by the NBI Member States and regional organizations in the Nile Basins.
- Greater investment in water resources infrastructure is critical for attainment of many SDGs particularly SDG3, SDG6, SDG11, SDG12 and SDG15.





## THEMATIC AREA 5 TRANSBOUNDARY WATER GOVERNANCE

- Countries need to focus more on the benefits they can derive collectively from the shared water resources to deepen cooperation
- Need for partnership with non-state actors as they are a critical mechanism for reaching out grassroots communities.
- Women and youth are underrepresented in transboundary water management governance structures and processes at national and regional levels.
- Capacity building and continuing education to maintain high levels of competency in negotiation and communication skills to deal effectively with the complex issues
- Cross-sectoral coordination in water and environmental resources management continues to be weak, requiring further efforts at multi-disciplinary collaboration.







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**THANK YOU!**

