

Advanced International Training Programme on Transboundary Water Management

19 a 30 de março de 2007 – África do Sul e Swazilândia

IP: Gestão das águas transfronteiriças das Bacias do Paraná III e Alto Paraná – Reservatório da Itaipu

*Apresentado por
Mauri César Barbosa Pereira*





Objetivos do curso

- Melhoria das habilidades dos participantes no desenvolvimento de ações para a gestão de águas transfronteiriças.
- Influenciar os participantes e sua instituição para efetivar as funções em gestão de águas transfronteiriças.
- Apoiar a identificação de demandas e oportunidades existentes no processo de gestão de águas transfronteiriças na região em que os participantes estão envolvidos.



Países seleccionados





Países selecionados

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Southern African Development Community
(SADC),

Protocol on Shared Watercourse Systems

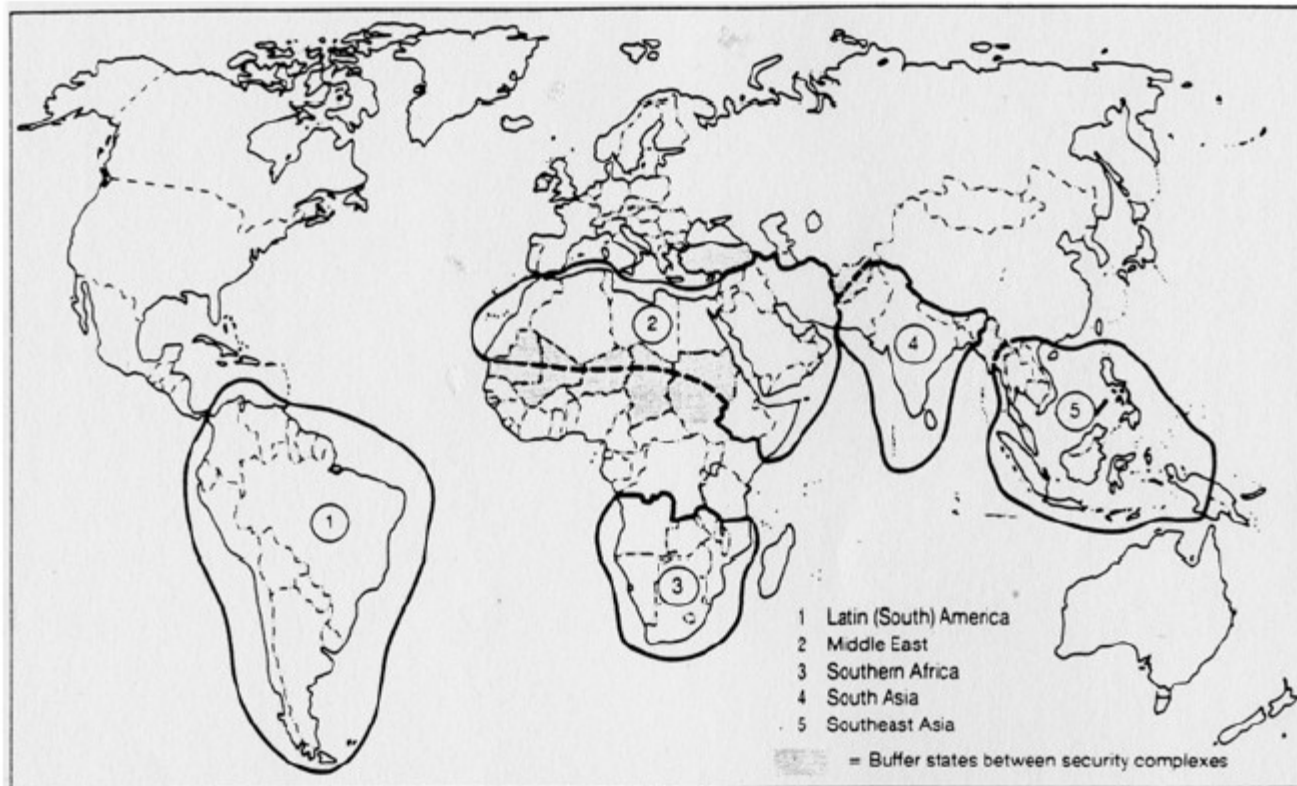
Southern Africa





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Regional Security Complexes

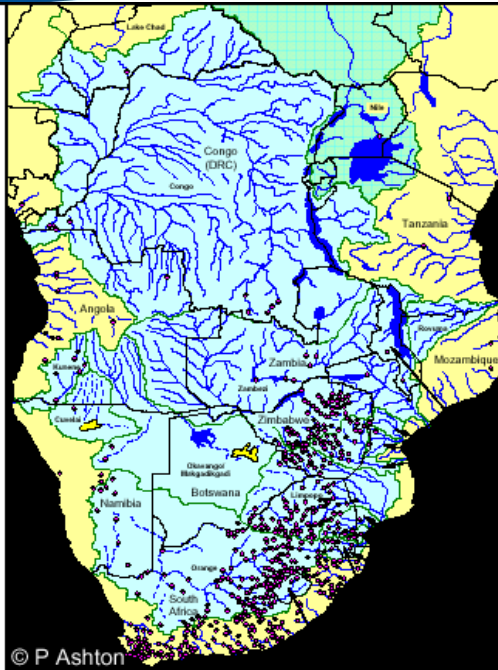




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Dams and hydraulic infrastructure in Southern Africa

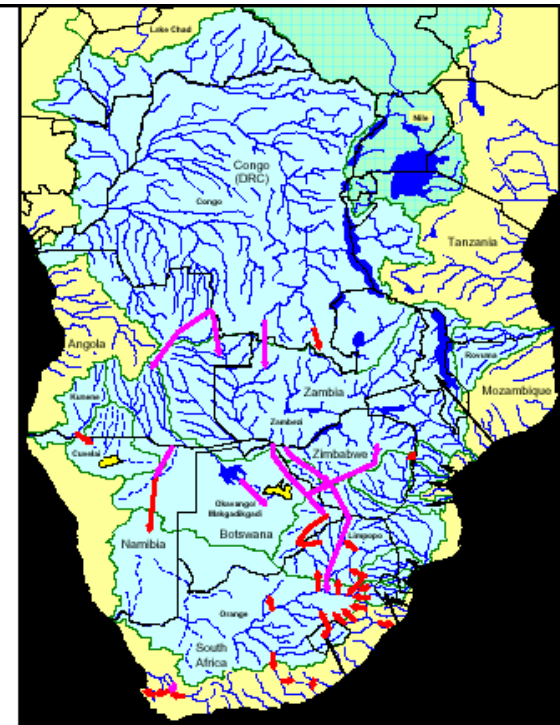
South Africa and Zimbabwe are listed amongst the top twenty countries in the world in terms of the numbers of dams built (WCD 2000)



WATER TRANSFERS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

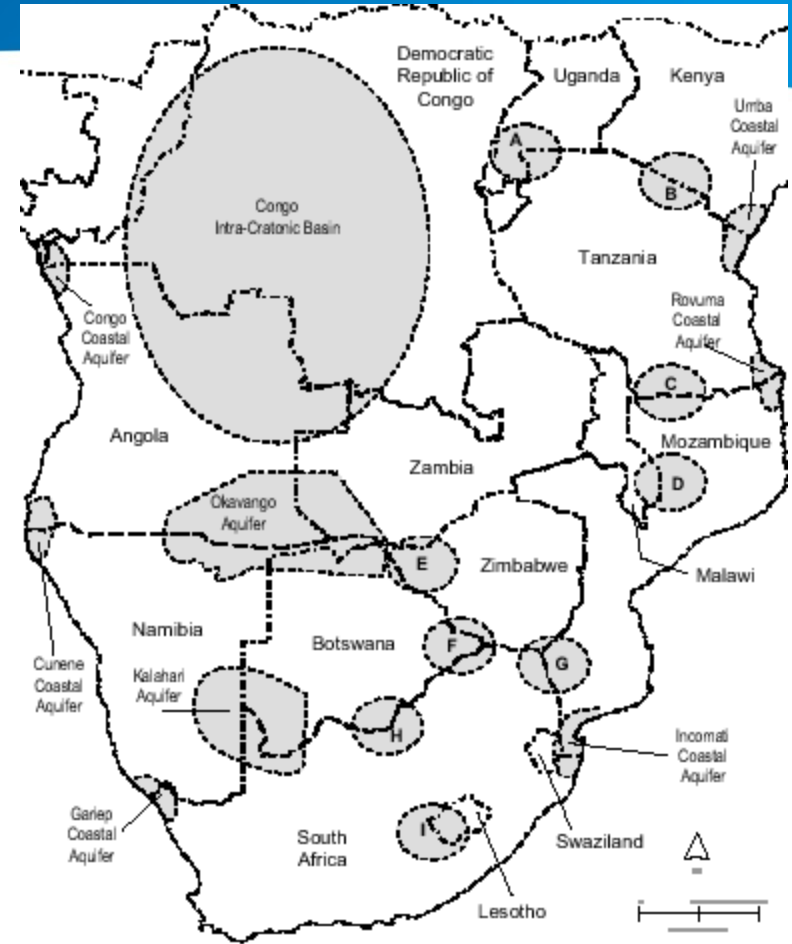
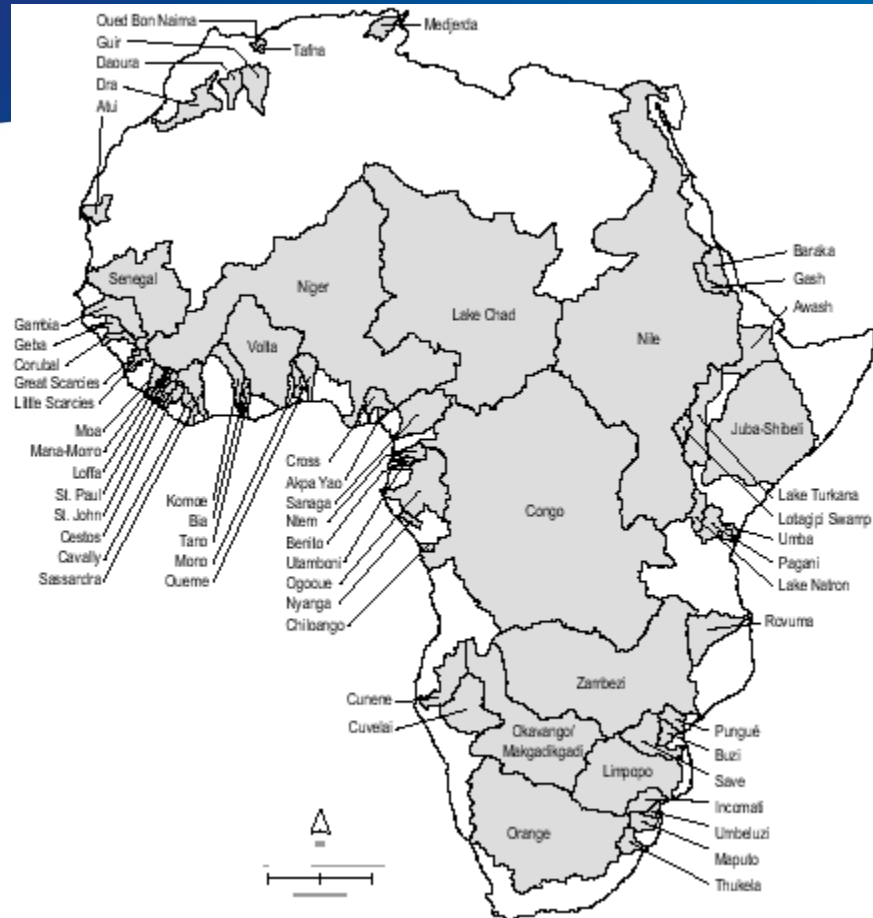
- ➔ Existing water transfer scheme
- ➔ Proposed new water transfer scheme

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Africans take the lead in water sharing
by: Lowvelder Correspondent
3/26/2007 4:12:00 PM



Search

NELSPRUIT - Water management professionals from 17 developing countries around the world this week visited South Africa to learn from the country's advanced examples of transboundary water management plans.

The international capacity-building programme on transboundary water management was organised by the African Centre for Water Research (ACWR) and implemented in conjunction with two Swedish organisations, namely Ramboll Natura and the Stockholm International Water Institute. The course was funded by the Swedish Agency for International Development Cooperation (SIDA).

The programme saw the 30 participants attend various presentations and discussions at Ingwenyama Lodge before departing for Swaziland this Sunday for a practical analysis of the Incomati River shared by South Africa, Swaziland and Mozambique as a case study. Here participants will spend three days at the Komati Water Basin Authority (Kobwa) to gain insight into the reality of co-managing a river basin on international scale.

The remainder of the programme is to take place in Johannesburg and the attendees are to depart on Sunday, March 31. It is hoped that through the programme, participants will gain a better understanding of how shared waters can become avenues for peace, development and regional cooperation, all in accordance with the principals of sustainable development. This is seen as necessary if the global crisis over water, exacerbated by population increase, industrial development and climate change is to

Visitas Técnicas de Campo

Water professionals tour Maguga Dam

By Bheki Gama
Maguga

MID-CAREER professionals in the water sector toured Maguga Dam project and learnt how it benefits the people downstream.

According to Anton Earle from the Cape Town-based African Centre for Water Research, water management professionals selected developing countries around the world where they were to learn how 'Trans-boundary Water Management' was done.

He said the Maguga Dam project was revered in the world as a perfect example of how water projects should be handled for the benefit of all involved, including affected communities. The tour was a case study of the Nkomati River, which is shared by Swaziland, South Africa and Mozambique.

At Komati Basin Water Authority (KOBWA), participants gained insight into the 'reality of co-managing a river basin on the international scale'.

"Here they would meet with the communities resettled due to the construction of the Maguga Dam, learn about the management strategies for water allocation and get an opportunity to conduct water quality tests," Earle said.

"We are here to learn how issues of water sharing between states are done and how negotiation on water resources should be handled," Earle added. He said there were participants from 17 developing countries from around the world who were on a capacity building programme organised by the African Centre for Water Research.

Earle mentioned that the programme started last Monday in Nelspruit. Participants were then brought into the country on Sunday. They would be departing for Johannesburg this morning for the last leg of their training. The programme ends on Friday.

This is the second year of a five-year programme, explained Earle.

He said the exercise was to help water management professionals gather knowledge and share experiences "on the latest approaches to boundary water resources management". He also mentioned that the programme involved mid-career professionals representing governments, NGOs, the private sector and academic institutions who were on intensive training in theory and practice of trans-boundary water management of shared rivers, covering concepts from international water law as well as benefit-sharing, stakeholder participation and environmental water requirements. The course is funded by a Swedish organisation called SWIDA and implemented by African Centre for Water Research in conjunction with the Sweden-



Chairman of the Resettlement Committee Reverend Jameson Mncina (r) briefing the mid-career professionals before their tour of the Maguga Dam project. (Pics Bheki Gama)

based Ramboll Natura and Stockholm International Water Institute.

"The programme participants will gain a better understanding of how shared waters can become avenues for peace, development and regional co-operation, all in accordance with the principles of sustainable development," he said, adding "this is necessary if the global crisis over water, exacerbated by population increase, industrial development and climate change is to be averted."

Earle also mentioned that the course would be held again next year. He said organisers especially chose southern Africa as a location for the programme as this was a part of the world which demonstrated some of the most advanced examples of trans-boundary water management and co-operation in the world. "Ground breaking regional initiatives include the SADC Protocol of Shared Watercourses and water sharing agreements," Earle said, adding "thus, through the course we manage to showcase many of these cutting-edge processes to an international audience."

Touring downstream

JUST after having breakfast, participants were taken on a guided tour of the Maguga project on Monday morning.

A senior and influential member of the local community, Reverend Jameson Mncina was there and ready to explain everything that took place during the relocation process to the finest detail. Mncina was responsible for the resettlement exercise. Taken on the guided tour of the Komati River were mid-career water professionals who came from Swaziland, Lesotho, Namibia, Uganda, South Africa, Botswana, Malawi, Bangladesh, India, Serbia, Vietnam, Angola, Brazil, China, Cambodia, Vietnam, Thailand, South East Asia and Denmark.

All arrived in the country the previ-

ous day from Nelspruit where a 12-day intensive training on 'International Capacity Building Programme on Trans-boundary Water Management' began.

Mncina said a resort would be developed near the dam, and would include a hotel, casino and golf course.

First the delegation assembled at the Maguga Dam-based Komati Basin Water Authority (KOBWA) where the Reverend explained what lay ahead. Then what felt like an excursion began. Throughout the journey, Mncina explained to the visitors how people were resettled as a result of the Maguga Dam project. He said the project affected the Mncina clan, which occupied most of the area.

Meanwhile, one of the participants from Swaziland, Trevor Shongwe, explained the cumbersome laws attached to water usage in the country. Shongwe is a water engineer working for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Energy.

He said many did not understand that one cannot just have water as they wish because there were certain agreements with neighbouring states, which regulated how much the country could divert out of the river to use for domestic and agricultural purposes.

"When people are told that there is no water, they fail to understand," he said, adding that furthermore, there were measures to check if water allowed to flow downstream matched what was agreed upon.

Shongwe also explained that there was a hydro power station operated by the water released from the Maguga Dam. He said the generated energy supplemented the electricity used by Pig's Peak and surrounding areas during peak time (mornings and evenings). "Power generated is estimated at 19 mega watts," he said. However, Shongwe explained that the generation of electricity was controlled by how much water was released, which he said was largely

dependent on how much was demanded by its downstream users. He said most water went towards the cane fields.

The dam capacity is 320 million cubic metres. The narrow winding road leads to a bridge several kilometres downstream where everyone took some time to stretch and marvel at the flow of the river. Many used this opportunity to capture the scene in pictures. At the same place a small concrete canal branches out of the Komati River. This canal feeds the resettled homesteads with an unending supply of water for their daily chores, gardening and a big farming project further down the road.

Lying ahead were beautiful homesteads of the resettled families at Ekuvinjelweni. Shongwe said the place was a government farm used as a cattle-fattening ranch.

On the other hand, Reverend Mncina explained that the resettlement process affected 65 families. A clinic, primary and high school were built for them. Mncina said the resettlement process was quite engaging and involved negotiating with the affected.

Resettled families better than before

THE touring water management professionals were taken to Ekuvinjelweni Farmers Association's offices where Reverend Mncina was previously chairman.

The visitors met some members of the association and its administration, as well as viewed the association's cane fields. Reverend Mncina explained that every relocated family was much better off than before. He said the association was bringing income to all members, to which all speakers present were in agreement.

Mncina said a feasibility study for the Maguga project was conducted in 1984 and the community was worried when surveyors were seen going about their business in their area. He

said in 1996, a memorandum of agreement was signed and in 1999 it was discovered that there was a need for a Resettlement Committee, of which he was eventually chairman.

The area's chief appointed two members, who were called 'case officers' and visited homesteads to evaluate what needed compensation. He said they came up with a 'Resettlement Work Book', which explained resettlement procedures and compensation thereto. The rate was E1 400 per square metre for structures.

Mncina said the Maguga project first wanted to build the affected families structures, but it was later agreed that home owners should be allowed the liberty to build their own structures. Adding, he said the Resettlement Committee was given powers to monitor, evaluate and supervise the construction of the new homes. He also said people were given choices to either choose to resettle at the new area or take their compensation and find new homes elsewhere.

Mncina said there were discussions which changed the mindset of the community from being subsistence maize farmers to commercial sugar cane growers, hence the formation of the Ekuvinjelweni Farmers Association.

He said cane farming was better than vegetables in that it had a market even before being planted. He said proceeds from the cane were shared through dividends.

The delegates then toured a place where there is big canal taking irrigation water to Mhlumex and Vuvulane. An officer said 10 cumex per second went into the canal and another 10 cumex per second was allowed to flow downstream. Participants also toured the sugar cane farm projects of Nkomati downstream where they saw large fields owned by Nhlanguyavuka Farmers

Association, Bambanani Farmers Association, Intamakuphila Farmers Association and Sivukile Farmers Association.

In the afternoon presentations were held at Tjaneni Country Club by KOBWA, Swaziland Water and Agricultural Development Enterprise (SWADE) as well as Lumati/Komati River Irrigation from the South African side.



Anton Earle from the Cape Town-based African Centre for Water Research.



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