



# International Water Cooperation and Transboundary Aquifers

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# Structure

- Who are DFID?
- What are DFID's over-arching objectives?
- How do aquifers fit with this agenda?
- What are we doing now on water? 
- Challenges and Opportunities?

# Who are DFID?

- UK government department responsible for overseas aid and development.
- Headquarters in East Kilbride and London.
- Country offices around the world but specifically with programmes in:
  - South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, South Sudan, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Rwanda, DRC, Somalia

# DFID's Objectives

- To focus on very poor people (<\$1.25/per day) and strive for their exit from poverty and to help save lives when humanitarian disasters strike.
- But noting that - the prospects for the poor are driven by different factors in different countries:
  - In terms of income per capita and growth environment
  - In terms of how economic development translates into jobs for the poor and the financing of poverty reduction, for all social groups, including women and girls
  - In terms of state capacity, political fragility, conflict risk and institutional environment, climate change risks and impacts.

# Including aquifers in the development agenda.

- Need to recognise the linkages.
  - Water for Energy
  - Water for Agriculture
  - Water for Food
  - Water for human development.
  - Water for industry and productive uses.
  - Water for environment and ecosystems.
  - Water governance.
  - Water economics.
  - Water and Climate Change.

# ....or it can be packaged into

## Water Security

Achieving water security means delivering sufficient quantity and quality of water for health, productive purposes and the environment whilst reducing the impacts and costs of water related shocks and stresses including floods, droughts and pollution to an acceptable level .



# Including aquifers in the development agenda?

- Water underpins all aspects of life from environment and ecosystems to social and economic development.
- Aquifers are an integral and essential consideration of the water cycle.
- Funding of work on aquifers needs to resonate with the countries own development priorities, and leadership.
- Case studies in India – demonstrate this:

# India's 12<sup>th</sup> Five Year Plan

- Accepts the contribution that ground water has made to the Green Revolution in the past.
- Acknowledges that a man made crisis of falling water tables threatens these gains.
- Recognises that for Economic Growth of 8 – 9 % will only be possible if the water requirements of the expanding population, with a growing degree of urbanisation, and the increasing requirement of expanding GDP can be met.
- The Twelfth Plan must break new ground in bringing sustainable management of aquifers to the forefront of policymaking. . .
- Aquifer mapping . . . must be combined with a massive groundwater recharge programme based on integrating a reformulated Mahatma Ghandi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme with programmes on watershed development and restoration of water bodies.





# So how do we currently frame water issues?

- Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) through a human development lens.
- Water resource management predominately through a climate change lens.
- Increasing thinking along Water Energy and Food Nexus.
- Economic growth, governance, environment, gender remain core cutting issues, but increasingly need to demonstrate and improve value for money and results.

# What Relevant Projects and Programmes is DFID doing?

- At country level DFID is supporting water resource management programmes in:
  - Sudan, Ethiopia, China, Afghanistan and Bangladesh.
- At a regional level DFID is supporting transboundary programmes:
  - Nile Basin Initiative, Southern Africa Regional Water Programme, South Asia Water Initiative.
- Globally, supporting water security in three ways.
  - Support to the Global Water Partnership.
  - Support to the World Bank Water Partnership Programme.
  - Support to BMZ/GiZ on International Water Stewardship.



# What Relevant Projects and Programmes is DFID doing? (cont'd)

- Research programmes and projects.
  - 2012 – BGS study on Groundwater and Climate Change in Africa – development of comprehensive set of groundwater maps to help define vulnerability to CC and direct future research to key hotspots.
  - Unlocking the Potential of Groundwater for the Poor (UpGro) in SSA.
  - Sustainable Solutions for Water Supply at Scale.
  - Commitment to double the focus on WASH to reach 60 million people.

# What Relevant Projects and Programmes is DFID doing? (cont'd)

- Climate Change Adaptation in Africa – includes support for research and capacity development on water management and early warning systems and data sharing.
- Climate Science Research Partnership – improved understanding and modelling of climate and strengthened climate science capacity in Africa.
- Ecosystem Services for Poverty Alleviation – research call covering six areas including water – impacts of climate variability and other changes on ecosystem services that underpin the water cycle and water security.

# Challenges and Opportunities

- Examining outcomes and recommendations of on-going research work.
- Linking in to country and regional programmes both DFID and partners in country and through HQ.
- Making wider linkages for groundwater work.
- Results – not just about the output, but the outcome and the impact.
- Metrics and indicators.
- Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Countries ensure that aquifers are specifically included as a development priority in their country social and economic development plans.

# Final Thoughts.....Elephants and Frogs



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# Thank you for your time

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