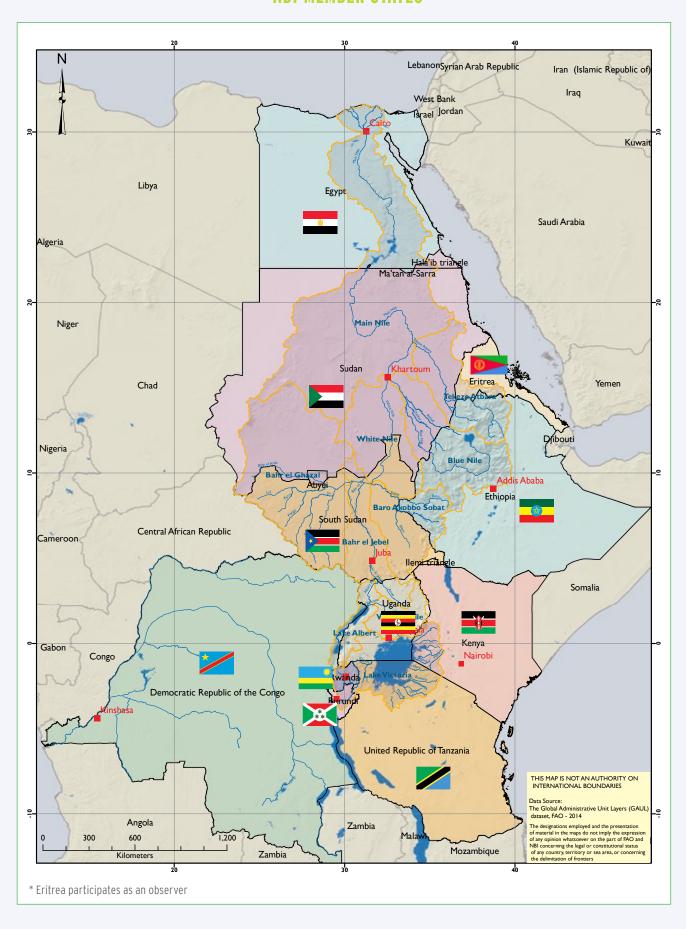
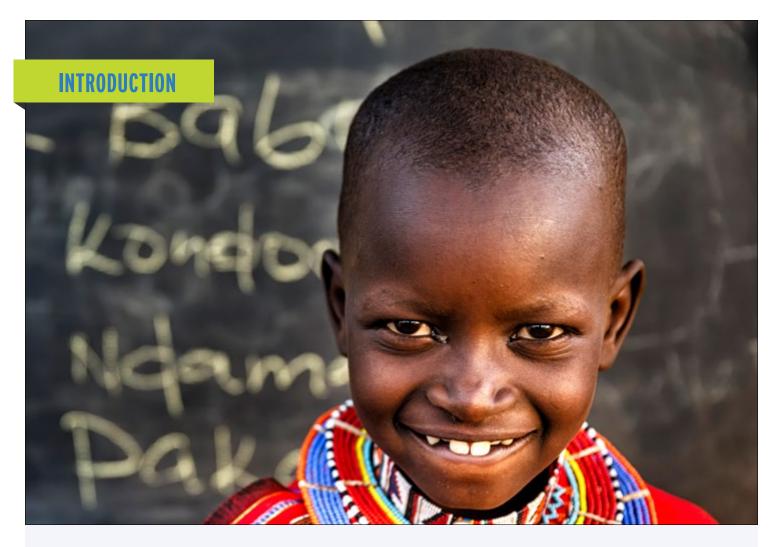


NBI MEMBER STATES







his Annual Corporate Report 2019 covers key achievements and progress of the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) for the financial year July 2018 to June 2019. The reporting is against the six goals of NBI's 10-Year Strategy (2017 – 2027), namely water security, energy security, food security, environmental sustainability, climate change adaptation, and strengthening trans boundary water governance as well as cross-cutting functions and corporate support services.

The 10-Year Strategy is implemented through 5-Year Programmes for the Secretariat (Nile-SEC) and the two Subsidiary Actions Programmes Offices – the Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO) based in Ethiopia and the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme Coordination Unit (NELSAP CU) based in Rwanda.

During the reporting period, the Secretariat registered an overall physical performance of 70.4 percent of the planned results of the annual work plan while 60 percent of the annual budget was spent. At ENTRO physical performance was at 80 percent and budget disbursement at 72 percent. NELSAP CU on the other hand registered a physical performance of 90.05 percent and budget absorption of 77 percent.

Major events that characterised the reporting period include the official launch of 2019 as the Year of the Nile Basin under the motto: 'Putting Water at the Heart of Regional Transformation'. This is in addition to Celebrations to mark NBI's 20th anniversary and Nile Day 2019 dedicated to the theme: NBI @20: Stronger Together.

Other major events include the Flood Forum organised by ENTRO, targeting stakeholders from Eastern Nile countries as well as dam safety training organised by NELSAP CU and targeting dam operators, dam owners and policy makers responsible for dams in the Nile Equatorial Lakes countries.

OUR PURPOSE

he Nile Basin Initiative is a regional 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. NBI is the only basin-wide institution mandated to facilitate the cooperative development and management of the shared Nile Basin water resources on behalf of the 10-Member States, for win-win benefits and to promote regional peace and security.

SHARED VISION OBJECTIVE

"To achieve sustainable socio-economic development through equitable utilisation of, and benefit from the shared Nile Basin water resources".

Core functions

To achieve the Shared Vision Objective, NBI implements three core functions:

FACILITATING BASIN COOPERATION

This function is undertaken to provide a common platform for countries to engage, consult and deliberate with each other and other Nile stakeholders on a regular basis. It aims to build broad political and civic support for transboundary water cooperation in the basin.

WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

This function provides critical services in building basin wide technical competencies and capabilities and supporting science/knowledge based decision making to monitoring, protecting and sustaining the Nile water resources.

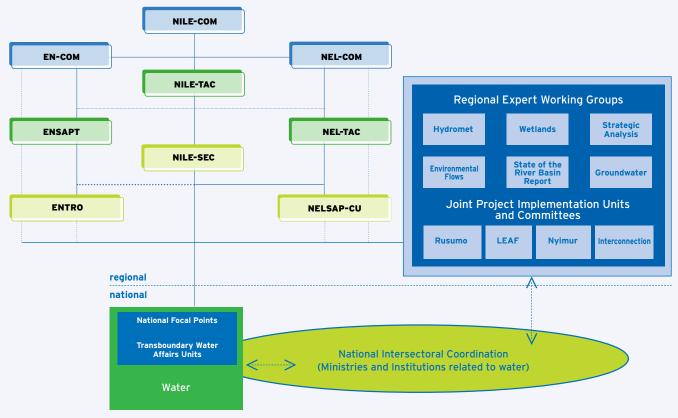
WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT

This function mainly focuses on identification and preparation of cooperative water resources investments that demonstrate to the basin population the benefits accruing from cooperation.

Institutional Setup

The setup of NBI is comprised of the headquarters – NBI Secretariat (Nile-SEC) based in Entebbe, Uganda and two Subsidiary Action Programmes Offices leveraging unique sub-basin potentials and mitigating unique sub-basin risks. These are the Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office (ENTRO) based in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia for the Eastern Nile sub-basin and the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme Coordination Unit (NELSAP-CU) based in Kigali, Rwanda for the Nile Equatorial Lakes sub-basin.

Organisational Structure



NELSAP	Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme
ENSAP	Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Programme
Nile-COM	Nile Council of Ministers
EN - COM	Eastern Nile Council of Ministers
NEL- COM	Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers
Nile-TAC	Nile Technical Advisory Committee

ENSAPT	Eastern Nile Subsidiary Action Programme Team
NELTAC	Nile Equatorial Lakes Technical Advisory Committee
Nile-SEC	NBI Secretariat
ENTRO	Eastern Nile Technical Regional Office
NELSAP-CU	Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme Coordination Unit



STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIRMAN, NILE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS



I started my tenure as chairman of the Nile Council of Ministers (Nile-COM) in August 2018 and it has been a distinct pleasure to serve at the helm of this organisation.

The reporting period 2018/2019 was a tremendous year as NBI clocked 20 years of existence. In January, 2019 was officially launched as 'The Year of the Nile Basin', with the motto - Putting Water at the Heart of Regional Transformation. I had the honour to officiate at the launch ceremony held in Bujumbura - Burundi.

The Year 2019 is dedicated to highlighting the significance of the River Nile towards attaining not only water, food and energy security, but also the regional development agenda as well as enabling regional peace and security.

The launch ceremony was followed by NBI's 20th anniversary celebrations, marking two decades of the organisation nurturing cooperation among the Nile Basin States, on the sustainable management and development of the shared Nile Basin water resources. The celebrations, which coincided with the annual Nile Day 2019 was organised within the framework of the Year of the Nile Basin under the theme 'NBI @20: Stronger Together'. This event took place in Kigali - Rwanda.

I am happy to note that remarkable progress has been registered on NBI's technical work, also lending credence to the motto - 'Putting Water at the Heart of Regional Transformation'. Cases in point include elaboration of strategic options for addressing the growing demand for water in the Nile Basin; implementation of the Nile Basin Regional HydroMet Project funded by EU-GIZ (Germany) to the tune of USD 5.5 million and completion of the preparation phase for the USD 5.29 million Nile Basin Groundwater Project to be funded by the Global Environment Facility.

As we move towards the close of 'The Year of the Nile Basin' in December 2019, allow me take this opportunity to reiterate my call to all Member States governments at every level, civil society, the private sector and millions of ordinary men, women and children in the Nile Basin region, as well as friends of the Nile, to work towards realising the motto: 'Putting Water at the Heart of Regional Transformation'. This is particularly important given the fact that the Nile Basin is facing a multitude of shared challenges, which include increasing water variability, growing water demand and multiple impacts of climate change. In order to adequately respond to these challenges, all countries must act together.

While NBI continues to implement projects and activities aimed at addressing the above common challenges, the institution itself needs to be strengthened to effectively discharge its mandate. Among the challenges is limited financial resources for core costs as well as non-participation of Egypt. The latter, as the most downstream and the most vulnerable to fluctuations in the river, has a huge stake in all developments taking place across the length of the river. As energy is being exerted towards addressing these and other challenges, I would like to urge us Member States not to lose the momentum.

As I end my tenure in November 2019, I take this opportunity to wish my successor Hon. Simon Kiprono Chelugui - Kenya's Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water & Sanitation and Irrigation, all the best as he steers our organisation to higher levels.

Best wishes,

Hon. Dr. Déo-Guide Rurema

Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock Burundi

NBI GOVERNANCE: NILE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS



Hon. Dr. Déo-Guide Rurema Minister of Environment, Agriculture and Livestock



Hon. Dr. Seleshi Bekele Minister of Water, Irrigation

and Electricity, Ethiopia



Hon. Amy Ambatobe Nyongolo Conservation of Nature and

Sustainable Development, DR Congo



Hon. Dr. Mujawamaria Jeanne D'Arc Minister of Environment Rwanda



Hon. Sophia Pal Gai



Hon. Simon Kiprono Chelugui Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water & Sanitation and Irrigation, Kenya



Hon. Prof. Yasir Abbas Mohamed Ali Minister of Irrigation and Water Resources, The Sudan



Hon. Prof. Makame Mbarawa Minister of Water and Irrigation



- 6 Hon. Sam Cheptoris Minister of Water and Environment Uganda

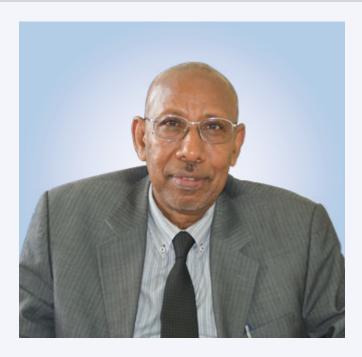


Hon. Dr. Mohamed Abdel Ati Minister of Water





MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NBI SECRETARIAT



This is my first annual report as Executive Director of the NBI Secretariat, having joined in April 2019.

The Financial Year 2018/19 is the second year of implementing the 5-year Basin-Wide Programme 2017 - 2022, formulated to operationalise the NBI 10-year Strategy. The latter is in alignment with and provides an important means for attaining the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) within the Nile Basin Region.

The year under review has witnessed some momentous occasions as well as accomplishments.

Among the momentous occasions was the official launch of 2019 as the Year of the Nile Basin. This was in January during a colorful event held in Bujumbura - Burundi. The event was attended by more than 300 stakeholders including key government officials and the community. Another highlight was the celebration of NBI's 20th anniversary held in Kigali - Rwanda, which attracted more than 400 Nile Basin citizens and friends of the Nile.

Through these two major regional events and other stakeholder fora held during the reporting period as well as online channels and media engagement, we had the privilege of engaging directly and indirectly more than 1 million stakeholders on Nile Basin and Nile cooperation issues.

Overall, physical progress towards achieving the planned results for the 2018/19 work plan stood at 70.4%, while the financial expenditure was 60% of the annual budget. Find out more in the report.

My plan during the coming financial year is to focus on two key issues: one is pro-actively engage in finding the way forward regarding the stalemate on the political/legal track with specific reference to re-engagement of Egypt. The second is enhancing the commitment of Member States to the Nile cooperation. These two issues in particular need to be kept on the political agendas of the Member States.

It is also worth noting that in spite of the progress and accomplishments, implementation of our programme has not been without challenges. The issue of financial sustainability to enable smooth implementation of the core activities of the Secretariat continues to be a real 'thorn in the flesh', particularly since the last half of the reporting period. This issue, more than ever before, requires urgent attention from the Member States, the owners of the organisation.

I would like to thank the staff of the Secretariat for their exemplary passion, resilience and commitment to our Member States. Indeed with the on-going support of our governance and development partners, NBI is looking to a strong and brighter future.

Prof. Seifeldin Hamad Abdalla

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ENTRO



More than ever, robust and institutionalised Eastern Nile (EN) cooperation continues to be perceived as something the Basin cannot do without. Above all, the Basin needs to coordinate and synergise the operation of water infrastructure (over 30 large and medium dams, millions of hectares of irrigation schemes, etc.) located upstream and downstream across the ENif only to ensure their safe operation and efficiency in the midst of climate uncertainty and likely increasing variability. That is to say, ENTRO's mandate and mission remain as valid today as they were when it was established in 2002

During the 2018/19 budget year, ENTRO accomplished significant results thanks to the sustained commitment and ownership that were secured almost in all EN Member States. The latter have readily provided in-kind contribution whenever requested for by ENTRO, not to speak of timely country contributions. That said, continued insecurity in South Sudan has been a challenge in terms of inability undertake necessary field work for some project studies (e.g., wetlands study; hydromet monitoring) as well as making it difficult for the country to be up-to-date with country contributions.

We have been working to meet investment preparation related challenges by: (a) Initiating implementation of the ENTRO five-year (2018-2022) strategic plan on the basis of the NBI 10-year Strategy (2017-2027); (b) working on investment related studies that will in due course lead to actual investment preparation. These include (1) EN Watershed Management: Identification of best practices for scaling up; (2) EN Ground Water Availability and Conjunctive Use Assessment (3) Irrigation System Performance Assessment and Options for Improvement. Further, ENTRO accomplished significant results on Dam Safety and Coordinated Operation of Cascade Dams in the Eastern Nile, critical elements to make these expensive water resources investments cost effective.

Pertaining to water resources management, the Eastern Nile Knowledge base (via the Integrated Knowledge Portal) has been enhanced; we embarked on the implementation of the Nile Basin Regional HydroMet Project (in collaboration with Nile-SEC); and continued our work with the Seasonal Flood forecast and early warning, which is benefiting millions of local communities. Furthermore, we embarked on the Machar Marshes wetland study (also with Nile-SEC) and initiated activities in the areas of Seasonal Forecast, Drought Forecast and early warning.

Our successful internship programme enrolled 20 participants out of which, a quarter are women. Our technical capacity building programme in various fields including: reservoir sediment management; flood forecast; coordinating cascade dam operation; media; Hydrodiplomacy, enrolled 297 stakeholders.

We have continued to collaborate and network with partner institutions. We signed an MOU with Future Dams (University of Manchester) and IWMI. We continued to support Ph.D. research on the Nile (UNESCO-IHE; MIT, Pan-African University; University of Edinburgh). We have regularly published our newsletter - the Nile-Flow and other products, along with taking an active role in activities to mark NBI's 20th anniversary. As we proceed to the coming year, we are hopeful we will achieve more and that Member States will commit even more.

We are thankful for the support we enjoyed from the Development Partners and trust it will be sustained.

Eng. Fekahmed Negash Nuru

MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL COORDINATOR, NELSAP-CU



It's been a great honour to continue to serve as Regional Coordinator, providing strategic leadership and management of NELSAP-CU. The year 2018-2019 was remarkable as efforts to support Nile Equatorial Lakes (NEL) countries to implement various trans-boundary projects with regional significance and related to the common use of the Nile Basin waters continued to generate tangible benefits.

Efforts to coordinate the governments of DR Congo and Uganda on the joint management of trans-boundary Lakes Edward and Albert paid off when the two countries signed a bilateral agreement on October 20, 2018 in Uganda. The agreed provisions will harmonise fisheries and aquaculture policies, legislation and practices. With support from the African Development Bank (AfDB) and Global Environment Facility (GEF) we provided two modern mobile water quality laboratory vehicles for water quality monitoring, two equipped patrol boats for joint surveillance of the lakes and also trained 23 coxswains and patrol boat operators.

In November 2018, we held the 21st Council of Ministers (NELCOM) meeting in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. It was graced by the Prime Minister of Tanzania Rt. Hon. Kassim Majaliwa and six cabinet ministers. Prime Minister Majaliwa urged countries yet to ratify the Cooperative Framework Agreement (CFA) to do so and pave way for establishment of the Nile River Basin Commission.

On strategy development, we completed and published three key strategic documents, NELSAP Strategic Plan, Resource Mobilisation Strategy and Guidelines as well as Communication Strategy.

Implementation of our flagship project, the 80 MW Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) between Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania, financed by the World Bank reached 53% as of June 2019. Related to this project, NELSAP-CU inaugurated Kigina Health Centre in Kirehe district, Rwanda, benefitting 29,000 people. This is part of a USD 15.5 million benefitsharing component of the Rusumo project. Similar projects are under implementation in Tanzania and Burundi.

Interconnection of the electric grids of the NEL countries project constitutes 930km Overhead Transmission Lines (OHTL) with 17 substations. Several lines were completed and initial power trading between Uganda and Rwanda is planned to commence end of 2019 once construction of the Shango substation is complete. In Uganda, both the lines and the Mbarara substation were completed.

As part of our strategic transformative agenda, a Concept Note for establishment of Project Advisory/Acceleration Unit and Project Preparation Fund was finalised with participation of NEL countries and approved by the NELCOM in November 2018. The unit and fund will accelerate preparation of prioritised bankable projects to address water, food and energy needs and foster regional integration and development.

Development of a Basin-wide Investment Programme (NELIP) to structure prioritised investment programmes with "buy-in" from Member States and all relevant ministries was initiated. The first ever NELIP regional consultative workshop was held in August 2018 in Nairobi with participation of multi-sectoral ministries (Water, Energy, Agriculture, Fisheries, Finance, Foreign affairs) from nine NBI Member States. A total of 96 key projects were identified and subjected to technical analysis while 26 were prioritised for packaging, resource mobilisation and implementation.

We received USD 1.5 million for feasibility of Angololo multipurpose water project shared between Kenya and Uganda while appraisal of Akanyaru multipurpose water resources project between Rwanda and Burundi was completed. NELSAP-CU received commitment from the AfDB to contribute USD 80 million for implementation of the Uganda-DR Congo power transmission line.

I thank our Member States and implementing partners for their cooperation. I am convinced 2019/2020 will be an even more remarkable year.

Eng. Elicad Elly Nyabeeya



PROGRESS AND KEY RESULTS

The results are against our six strategic goals and cross cutting functions

ADDRESSING GROWING DEMAND FOR WATER

ll the Nile Basin countries are faced with the challenge of meeting the rising water demands for their rapidly growing economies and population. The shared River Nile is a major source of water and the main challenge of the basin countries is how to ensure the waters of the Nile are utilised and managed sustainably to meet the needs of all riparian states.

In order to help Member States address the growing demand, NBI continues to explore technical solutions for the water security challenge of the Nile Basin, strengthening river basin monitoring and analysis of data from monitoring networks, among others. Remarkable results have been achieved during the reporting period.



Stakeholders gathered at Rutovu in Burundi, the most distant source of the River Nile. This was during the launch of the Year of the Nile Basin in January 2019.



Goal 1: Water Security

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.

Strategic options for addressing growing water needs sustainably elaborated

Strategic options for enhancing water supply, managing the demand and optimising water use across the Nile Basin States have been elaborated. Going forward, the results will be used in the design of a Water Resources Basin Management Plan and the basin-wide Investment Programme.

Key results

- Framework socio-economic scenarios for the Nile Basin formulated to guide the quantification of water demand projections and elaboration of strategic options.
- Updated current levels of water demand for Municipal and Industrial water use estimated
- Projection of Municipal and Industrial water demands in major urban centres in the Nile Basin estimated.
- Preliminary scope for enhancing water supply through desalination and water re-use developed.

USD 5.29 million Groundwater Project prepared

Groundwater is one of the most important sources of drinking water for people and livestock in the Nile Basin. More than 70% of the rural population in many parts of the Basin depends on ground water. There is also an increasing use of groundwater for other economic activities including in irrigation, fisheries, mining, and industries.

Groundwater holds the promise of closing the gap between water supply and demand and in buffering the effects of climate variability. However, pressure on groundwater resources, through over exploitation and pollution, is already felt in many small aquifers in the upper Nile riparian countries.

The aim of the Groundwater Project is to overcome the different barriers limiting effective utilisation and protection of shared aquifers in the upper riparian countries of the Nile. The project funded by Global Environment Facility (GEF), covers three shared aquifers involving seven (7) NBI Member States, which share these aquifers.

Name of aquifer	NBI Member States
Kagera aquifer	Burundi, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda
Mt. Elgon aquifer	Kenya and Uganda
Gedaref-Adigrat aquifer	Ethiopia and Sudan

Furthermore, an assessment of the groundwater resources, in particular mapping, recharge, safe yield and potential use for irrigation and domestic uses was carried out in the Eastern Nile. The exercise covered four sub-basins namely the Abbay- Blue Nile, the Tekeze - Atbara, the Baro - Akobo - Sobat and the Main Nile.



Groundwater experts from the NBI Member States, NBI staff, UNDP official and consultants who participated in the validation for the Groundwater Project in April 2019

First ever Nile Basin Regional HydroMet System in the offing

Effective July 2018, NBI embarked on a process aimed at establishing the first ever Regional HydroMet System for the Nile Basin. The HydroMet System will help promote efficient utilisation of the Nile Basin water resources by addressing the challenge of data scarcity. Data collected from the operational stations often exhibit breaks in the records, which makes the data unsuitable for many purposes.

Equipped with state of the art observation and with data transmission instruments, the Nile Basin Regional HydroMet System shall provide more reliable data and information required to facilitate the implementation of various projects and programmes. It shall also significantly contribute to conflict prevention and regional integration.

Besides the approximately 79 hydrological monitoring 322 meteorological stations, the System also includes upgraded water quality laboratories in the NBI Member States; infrastructure for

The project is expected to deliver a number of benefits, which are transboundary in nature. These include flood disaster preparedness, coordinated management of water storage dams; navigation and improved adaptation to climate change. Member States will also benefit from joint monitoring information products.

The USD 5.5 million Phase I of the project focusses on the 79 hydrological stations and is funded by the EU and German government, through GIZ.

The Regional HydroMet system will be built on existing national monitoring networks with additional stations installed where required.

Implementation of the project will be accompanied by training of national technicians to ensure Member States have the necessary skilled staff to install, operate and maintain modern hydrometeorological monitoring systems.

Find out more: https://www.nilebasin.org/



Towards enhanced coordinated management of water storage dams

In addition to strengthening the dam safety units at national level, NBI embarked on the preparatory phase study aimed at developing scenarios for coordinated operation of cascade of dams in the Eastern Nile. This study generated a range of scenarios for coordinated operation of dams in cascade, employing the following three coordination stages, which depict progressively

more and more cooperation among riparian countries.

- Coordination by information sharing
- Collaboration by developing adaptable local and/or national plans
- Full cooperation by developing joint ownership of infrastructure assets with joint objectives



Participants who attended training on operation of Cascade of dams held in the Eastern Nile

IMPROVING ACCESS TO ELECTRICITY AND ENERGISING NILE BASIN ECONOMIES

ost Nile Basin countries are undergoing rapid economic growth as indicated in the recent growing Gross Domestic Product trends; which, in turn, has increased demand for not only water and food but energy as well. To meet the growing demand, hydropower is the preferred source of energy for various reasons, key among them, the low production cost of electricity from hydropower options. The latter makes power affordable to the urban and rural poor.

NBI supports the preparation of investment projects for power interconnection and generation with the aim of making sure that all Member States benefit from the shared River Nile. The objective is to enable power trade for increased power supply and accessibility so as to light up communities and energise economies of Nile Basin countries.



Goal 2: Energy Security

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.



The Interconnection of Electric grids of the Five Nile Equatroial Lakes countries project as well as the 80MW Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) are among such energy projects.

The Interconnection of Electric grids of Burundi, DR Congo, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda project constitutes the construction of a 930Km overhead transmission lines with 17 substations. During the reporting period, several transmission lines were completed. And the initial power trading through the lines between Uganda and Rwanda will commence once construction of the Shango sub-station is completed – by end of 2019.

In addition, the Uganda (Nkenda) - DR Congo (Beni-Bunia-Butembo) 369 km Power Transmission line with capacity of 220KV has been prepared and fundraising for its implementation is ongoing while construction at the Goma Sub station is ongoing with a completion rate of 35%.

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Uganda and South Sudan for the 320 km Olwiyo (Uganda) – Juba (South Sudan) 400 kV line.



Ministers in charge of Energy Affairs from Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania during a visit to the Rusumo project in June 2019

Rusumo project registers commendable progress

By the end of June 2019, construction of the trans-boundary Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project (RRFHP) had reached 53 percent completion rate. The 80 MW hydropower project is implemented by NELSAP-CU on behalf of the governments of Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania.

"We have noted that they have managed to overcome the challenges that had occurred at a water intake tunnel that will lead water to the turbines. We also noted that the excavation works at the powerhouse have already been finished and that the electro-mechanical activities are in good progress," noted Hon. Amb. Claver Gatete, Rwanda's Minister for Infrastructure. This was at a press briefing held during one of the site visits together with his counter parts, Hon. Côme Manirakiza, Burundi's Minister for Hydraulic, Energy and Mines and Hon. Dr. Medard Kalemani, Tanzania's Minister for Energy. The three Ministers together constitute the Council of Ministers (COM) for the project.

Hon. Dr. Kalemani, who is also the chair of the Council of Ministers said, "we understand that key project construction components have made good strides...The dam spillway, dam power intake, inlet chamber and penstock are all advancing well. The tunnel, 700-metre long beneath a Tanzanian hill, which will lead the river into three turbines, transforming it into electricity, is also in progress."

Upon completion, the USD 340 million Rusumo project will bring an additional 26.6 megawatts of renewable, clean, relatively low-cost power each of the national grids of Burundi, Rwanda and Tanzania. The additional power will benefit an estimated 1,146,000 people in the three countries and an estimated increase in electricity access rates of; 5.4% (520,000) in Burundi, 4% (467,000) in Rwanda and 0.34% (159,000) in Tanzania.

The project is implemented with funding from the World Bank for the hydropower plant, while the power transmission lines connecting each country's Electric Grid to the RRFHP switchyard are financed by the African Development Bank (AfDB). This portion is implemented directly by the countries using respective energy utilities.



INCREASING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND FIGHTING AGAINST HUNGER

he Nile Basin is one region where per capita food production is either in decline or roughly constant at a level that is less than adequate. Most of the upstream countries depend on rain-fed agriculture, which is vulnerable to climate variability and as a result the countries are seeking to increase their productivity through investment in irrigated agriculture. This will inevitably increase water demand, thereby exerting more pressure on the already scarce water resources in the Basin. There may not be enough water for all Member States to implement their irrigation plans, hence the need for a basin wide approach in order to avert the potential water risk.

NBI prepares projects on irrigation, watershed management, fisheries management as well as flood protection. These offer farmers significant benefits, including improvements in agricultural yields and protection of crops, allowing them to produce a greater amount of food more consistently, thus improving food security.



Goal 3: Food Security

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.





Mr. Alfred Okot Okidi, the Permanent Secretary Ministry of Water and Environment and Ms. Florence Grace Adongo, Director of Water Resources Management, Uganda receive the mobile Water Quality Laboratory

During the reporting period, NBI partnered with IWMI to conduct studies on irrigation water demand projection and irrigation benchmarking, with the following notable results:

- Approximately 6.72 million ha of land is under irrigation across the Nile Basin, according to the updated estimates.
- Estimates of potential irrigable areas based on land suitability prepared to inform deliberations on future projection of irrigation water demands in the Nile Basin.
- Four (4) scenarios of irrigation areas generated for the 2050 time horizon. These are based on country planning documents and observed trends in irrigation expansion in the Nile Basin countries
- A new estimate of future water irrigation demand prepared, with indication that by 2050, the total water demand for irrigation across the Basin is expected to reach 109.5 to 179.3 BCM. This much higher than the available water in the Basin.
- Five (5) options for basin-wide water saving from irrigated agriculture developed.

In addition, a study dubbed 'Eastern Nile Irrigation System Performance Assessment Study' was initiated. The purpose of the study is to acquire better understanding of existing irrigation schemes in the Eastern Nile. Its aim is to develop a comprehensive picture of the current situation and develop a knowledge base of the irrigated areas; water use and the irrigation technology.

The Study will also establish the current level of water productivity and water use efficiency; identify the root causes for the low performance and constraints to improvement.

Through the Lakes Edward and Albert Integrated Fisheries & Water Resources (LEAF II) Project. DR Congo and Uganda were facilitated to sign a bilateral agreement for sustainable management of fisheries resources and aquaculture for the two-shared lakes. The aim of the cooperative framework signed in October 2018, is to enable both countries to sustain the water resources management (quality and quantity) and the fisheries resources of the two lakes.

The project also supplied each country with one (1) modern mobile water quality laboratory vehicle, aimed at improving water quality monitoring as well as one (1) well-equipped patrol boat for each country aimed at enhancing the joint surveillance of the two lakes.

To ensure smooth operation of the boats, the project supported the training of 23 coxswains and patrol boat operators from the two countries.

PROTECTING, RESTORING AND PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE USE OF WATER RELATED ECOSYSTEMS ACROSS THE BASIN

nsuring that the ecosystems of the Nile Basin are preserved sustainably across the Basin to guarantee ecosystem services for current and future generations is one of the major challenges for the Nile Basin countries. Rapid population and economic growth in these countries has led to the continued degradation of the ecosystems as more and more of them are converted for agriculture.

During the year, NBI implemented various activities towards protection and restoration of water dependent ecosystems of the Basin and promotion of sustainable use of the natural ecosystems in the Nile watersheds.

First Nile Basin Wetlands inventory and Atlas prepared

The wetland inventory is designed to serve as a tool for enhancing the knowledgebase on trans-boundary wetlands and wetlands of trans-boundary significance in the 10 sub-basins of the Nile Basin.

Study attaching value to services from Nile Basin wetlands undertaken

A study aimed at raising awareness and attaching value to the Nile Basin wetlands was initiated during the reporting period. The objective of *The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity (TEEB)* study for Nile Basin Wetlands is to mainstream the value of wetlands biodiversity and ecosystem services into decision-making at all levels. This will in turn promote better-informed, more effective, inclusive, equitable and sustainable conservation and development decision-making in the River Nile Basin.

The final Nile Basin Wetlands TEEB report will include five site-level case studies, namely;

 Semliki Transboundary Wetland (Uganda and Democratic Republic of Congo)



Goal 4: Environmental Sustainability

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.

- Sio-Siteko Transboundary Wetland (Kenya and Uganda)
- Rweru-Mugesera Transboundary Wetland (Rwanda and Burundi)
- Sudd Wetland (South Sudan)
- Machar Marshes Wetland (South Sudan)



Wetlands management is key to environmental protection.

Study highlights importance of Nile Basin peatlands

Peatlands, which are types of wetlands with presence of partially decayed vegetation or organic material, are key to Integrated Water Resource Management in the Nile Basin.

Among other things, peatlands host rich and diverse biodiversity and provide multiple ecosystem services such as water supply, water purification, soil and water conservation, buffering impacts of floods and droughts, climate cooling, carbon sequestration and numerous livelihoods support.

In addition, peatlands and associated organic soils' carbon sequestration makes them attractive in enabling the Nile Basin countries meet their commitments under National Determined Contributions (NDC) for Paris Agreement, among others.

However, the narrative of tropics being poor in peatlands formation/extent coupled with poor data availability on peatlands in Africa has precipitated their degradation resulting into increased carbon emissions, biodiversity loss and reduction or loss of ecosystem services and goods associated with peatlands.

Given their importance, NBI with the support of the German Development Agency (GIZ) embarked on an elaborate endeavor to place peatlands at the heart of River Nile Basin Planning and Integrated Water Resource Management.

Among the key activities is a study - "Assessment of Carbon emissions avoidance potential of the Nile Basin wetlands," whose aim it to build a knowledgebase on peat lands presence, extent, carbon stock and associated land-uses in the Nile Basin region. The Study was carried out in the landscapes of Kagera, Sio-Siteko, Gambella, Lake Victoria, Semliki and the Sudd.

Preliminary results indicate that landscapes of South Sudan and Uganda are highly endowed with peatlands.

The final study results expected by the end of 2019 will be crucial in undertaking financial modelling for developing business or economic case for investing in the peatlands investment plan and mapping requisite financial flows under the overall NBI Investment Plan. This will reinforce Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) from peatlands and provide baseline information for peatlands conservation investments and designation as first peatlands Ramsar sites. Information generated will also inform the ongoing transboundary wetlands management and conservation investment planning.



PREPARING THE REGION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

which climate impacts are felt.
Climate change manifests itself largely through its impact on water resources i.e. floods and droughts. Floods and droughts undermine farm yields and national harvests, reducing household and national food availability and agricultural income derived from crop sales.

During the reporting period, NBI focused on key areas namely; generating climate information and projecting hydrological scenarios as well as strengthening NBI's climate service and building Member States' capacities for climate proofing water resources plans and investments at national and regional levels. This is in addition to completing the preparatory phase for the Nile Basin River Flow Forecasting System. Key results include the following:

- Bias corrected and downscaled climate change prepared for the Nile Basin and available for use at national and regional levels. The data is drawn from 34 Global Circulation Models (GCM) and 18 Regional Climate Models (RCMs). The GCMs were evaluated and ranked based on their performance over each of the 10 sub-basins.
- Scenarios of hydrology of the Nile Basin under climate change generated for the Blue Nile and White Nile sub-basins. These were based on climate



Goal 5: Climate change adaptation

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.

change projections from 14 regional climate models.

- Second draft of the climate proofing guideline for water infrastructure investment in the Nile Basin produced.
- Climate risk assessment conducted for the TAMS hydropower project in the Eastern Nile and the Mara multipurpose project in the Nile Equatorial Lakes Region.
- Conceptual design of the Nile Basin River Flow Forecasting System completed.



BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER TO BUILD A COMMON GROUND FOR WIN-WIN BENEFITS



Participants who took part in Hydrodiplomacy training held in The Sudan in March 2019

n the Nile Basin there is an evolving complex multi-level system of transboundary water governance, with many of the countries having developed transboundary water policies that govern how they approach Basin cooperation. Countries have entered into many cross-border arrangements between two or three countries, to address specific water management issues of shared sub - basins. These may be more formal or time-bound. However, none of these arrangements take a basin-wide perspective.

During the reporting period, NBI enabled stakeholders to come together at various levels and made commendable progress towards strengthening national governance mechanisms for trans-boundary cooperation so as to make them more effective in playing their role in the regional cooperation process as well as increasing national level appreciation of the need and importance for trans-boundary water management in the Member States. Key results to this end include the following:

- Annual governance meetings at basin wide (26th Nile Council of Ministers meeting held in August 2018 in Bujumbura, Burundi) and sub-basin level (21st Nile Equatorial Lakes Council of Ministers meeting held in November 2018 in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
- Hydro diplomacy training conducted in all Member States except Egypt.



Goal 6: Transboundary Governance

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 intergovernmental institutions.

- Ten Stakeholder data bases developed for each Member State and at the regional level. These will support targeted and effective stakeholder engagement.
- National level cross sector planning and coordination meeting with the aim of contextualising national priorities in the Secretariat's annual work plan, held in Kenya



Nile-COM members and other dignitaries during the 26th annual Nile COM meeting held in Burundi in August 2018

Engaging stakeholders for consensus on Nile Basin issues

NBI seeks to build consensus among the Member States' public and stakeholders for cooperative basin development and management. To this end, the Nile-COM approved the overarching NBI Communication and Stakeholder Engagement Strategy 2018 – 2023 to ensure well-structured and effective stakeholder engagement.

Various fora were organised during the reporting period, aimed at engaging Member States and other stakeholders on how to jointly take care of and optimally utilise the shared Nile Basin water resources, so as to ensure benefits for all. Key among these is the regular governance meetings, launch of 2019 Year of the Nile Basin in Burundi; celebrations to mark NBI's 20th anniversary and Regional Nile Day in Rwanda as well as Strategic Dialogue between Development Partners and NBI governance also held in Rwanda. This is in addition to the different regional expert working groups meetings, national consultations on planning and coordination of NBI activities and consultation during project preparation.

Others are capacity development in various fields such as hydrodiplomacy conducted in nine Member States; reservoir sediment management; media training; Coordinated operation of cascade dams; as well as the internship programme targeting young water professionals from Universities and Ministries in Ethiopia, South Sudan and Sudan.

The various meetings and capacity building activities attracted more than 3500 Nile Basin citizens and friends of the Nile.

At the same time, 43 communication products were produced and disseminated both in hard copy and electronically. Notable among them is the 20th anniversary publication titled: 'A long River Journey: 20 years of cooperation under the NBI; periodical newsletters, annual corporate report 2018. Others are country specific benefits of Nile cooperation for the Nile Equatorial Lakes countries, info graphics on key topics as well as the annual wall calendar.

A Long River Journey - 20 Years of Cooperation under the NBI

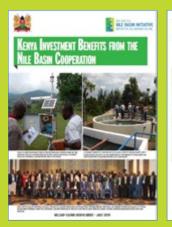
The publication launched on February 22, 2019 on the occasion of NBI's 20th anniversary outlines the evolution and development of the organisation in the last 20 years (February 1999 – February 2019) and what lessons can be drawn to feed into future cooperation. It shows the range and complexity of the programmes and activities undertaken over the years as well as some of the major outcomes. It points out that whilst much has been achieved, the NBI still has a long journey ahead.

The publication also attempts to illustrate why the NBI is critical for the Nile to survive as one system that can benefit all; and what real collective action can and does achieve.

Find out more: https://www.nilebasin.org/documents-publications/72-a-long-river-journey/file



Hon. Dr. Vincent Biruta, then Rwanda's Minister of Environment and Nile-COM Member, officiated at the launch.









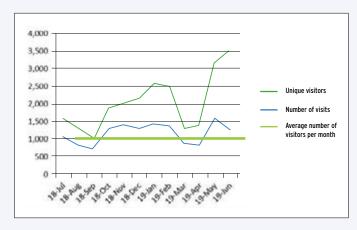
A number of activities targeting the media were carried out throughout the year. Besides training conducted in Ethiopia and Rwanda, media content analysis report covering the period January 2017 - August 2018 was prepared. The purpose of the analysis is to provide NBI with an enhanced overview and understanding of media coverage of issues related to Nile cooperation and the Nile Basin and to inform regional and/or national level communication efforts.

Furthermore, a strong online presence was maintained, with the NBI websites and social media channels updated on a regular basis.



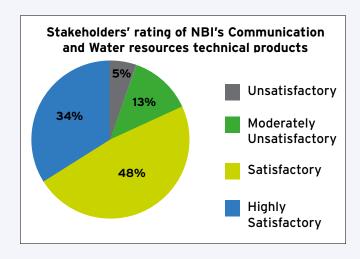
Journalists interview Dr.Ayalew Wondie of Bahir Dar University during the Nile media training held in Addis Ababa in August 2019

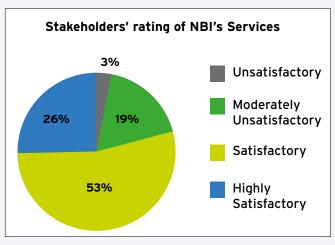
Use of the main NBI online channels





In terms of stakeholder satisfaction, 79% rate NBI's services as satisfactory or higher while 82% rate the communication as well as water resources technical products as satisfactory or higher.





Member States celebrate 20 Years of Cooperation and Partnership

February 22, 2019 marked 20 years since NBI was established. This momentous milestone was celebrated in Kigali, Rwanda within the framework of '2019 – Year of the Nile Basin'.

Themed "NBI at 20: Stronger Together" the event which also doubled as Regional Nile Day 2019 offered an excellent opportunity for both reflection on the successes and challenges of the last 20 years of trans boundary cooperation on the Nile waters as well as consolidation of Member States' commitment to the Basin cooperation agenda as laid out in NBI's 10-Year Strategy (2017 - 2027).

More than 400 Nile Basin citizens and friends of the Nile participated in the one-day event hosted by the government of Rwanda. Cofounders reflected on early years of NBI thus enabling participants to appreciate the baseline from which the organisation started; assessed NBI's achievements and challenges it has overcome and reflected on the next steps – hopes and possibilities along with remaining tasks and likely challenges.



"...the Nile River has provided us with a boundless and timeless unique opportunity for cooperation through the Nile Basin Initiative. This will no doubt, continue to be one among the many pillars towards our regional peace and integration", said Hon. Simon Chelugui, Kenya Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Water & Sanitation and Irrigation, in his statement.



Hon. Dr. Eng Seleshi Bekele, Ethiopia's Minister of Water, Irrigation and Energy, noted that, "when we began our journey, we were more or less strangers to each other; despite being linked by this mighty River we call Nile. We really never understood, as we should understand, each other. Thanks to the NBI, these initial, on the whole, unfavourable conditions – though not completely addressed – have nevertheless incrementally been tackled, one step at a time".

NBI@20: STRONGER TOGETHER

Twenty years of NBI provides the opportunity to reflect on what has been achieved been working together, developing technical tools and identifying investment since 1999 - the mutual trust that has been built, Member States have since opportunities. These are the achievements:

CONFIDENCE & TRUST: NILE COOPERATION FOR REGIONAL TRANSFORMATION

Joint institutions and dialogue platforms contribute and confidence within the Nile Basin for regional to a culture of dialogue, building mutual trust

transformation.

Years of

constructive

together within the NBI Countries work

countries together Vision that brings all Nile Basin

cooperation

JOINT INVESTMENT: FOR TRANSFORMING LIVES AND SUSTAINING THE ENVIRONMENT

in achieving not only water security, but also food span across national borders, play an integral pari Joint investment projects that, like the Nile itself and energy security, eradicating poverty in the

6.5 B US\$

finalised projects Accumulated volume of all investment

3333

NBI to leverage its unique potentials Centres enable

and knowledge, the NBI supports the countries and Through capacity building, generation of policies people of the Nile Basin to better manage their shared water resources.

KNOWLEDGE & CAPACITY: EMPOWERING COUNTRIES AND PEOPLE TO MANAGE THEIR WATER RESOURCES EFFECTIVELY

10,000

Knowledge

Strategies provide

products produced by NBI policy directions for NBI member countries

People have benefited building activities through the NBI from capacity



Knowledge and analytic tools for improved decision making

At least 36 knowledge products were generated jointly by NBI and Member States during the reporting. These products offer technical solution options for key basin challenges and risks and form the foundations for effective basin-wide management and development of the shared Nile Basin water and related resources.

The knowledge products include the following:

- Basin monitoring bulletins
- Climate change report
- Eastern Nile Daily Flood Forecast Reports
- Flood Bulletins
- Remote Sensing User Manual
- Manual for water harvesting in the Eastern Nile.

- Catchment Management Plan Manual
- Agronomic Practices for Water Management under smallholder rain fed agriculture
- Soil and water conservation structures for smallholder agriculture
- Developing Ground water and pumped irrigation systems
- Management of waterlogged agricultural lands.



Among the analytic tools, the Nile Basin Decision Support System was introduced and installed in 10 universities in the Nile Basin region while 250 trainees from across the Nile Basin enrolled for the online course during the reporting period.

The NB DSS was developed jointly by Member States

to help them understand the river system better so as to be able to make informed water resources planning decisions to address common challenges.

Find out more about the NB DSS: https://www.nilebasin.org/images/docs/Nile%20Basin%20Decision%20Support%20System%20Case%20Study.pdf

FINANCIAL REPORT

he following financial tables provide an overview of the revenue and expenses of the Secretariat (Nile-SEC) and the two investment programmes offices (ENTRO and NELSAP CU) for the fiscal year July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

NBI CENRES BUDGET AND EXPENDITURES (USD) FY 2018-2019					
	Receipts	Expenditures			
NILE-SEC*	3,380,439	3,647,241			
ENTRO	2,242,960	1,612,270			
NELSAP	78,937,930	55,748,798			
TOTAL NBI	84,561,329	61,008,309			

Table 1: Receipts and expenditures for the financial year 2018/19

NBI Total Funding

The NBI's revenues are derived from contributions from the Member States and grant agreements with development partners. The following chart shows the revenue by funding source for the period from inception of NBI to June, 2019.

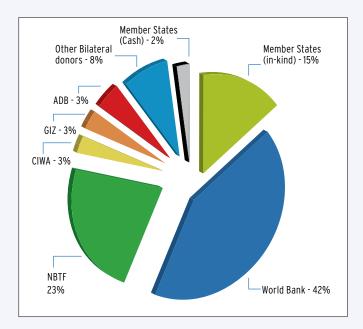


Fig.1: Summary of NBI Total Funding Sources

The pie chart summarises the relative contributions to the NBI's budget since its establishment. Member States cash contributions represent approximately 2 percent while in-kind contributions represent 15 percent of total financial resources.

In kind contributions includes land donated by the government of Uganda and office premises for Nile-SEC in Entebbe, land and office premises provided by the government of Ethiopia for ENTRO in Addis Ababa and rent paid by host governments for NELSAP CU offices and Project Management Units.

It also includes staff time in terms of supervision and technical guidance through country representation on the Technical Advisory Committees (Nile-TAC, ENSAPT and NEL-TAC) and that of the entire staff of the NBI National Office. This is in addition to participation of government officials in specialised meetings on NBI issues, Member States' hosting incoming NBI missions and financially contributing to regional events such as the annual Nile-COM, ENCOM and NELCOM meetings, Technical Advisory Committee meetings, and other key regional events such as annual Nile Day, and the Nile Basin Development Forum (NBDF).

The World Bank has contributed 42 percent to the NBI total resources under the Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric project. Other bilateral partners include SIDA - Sweden, Norway, Global Environment Fund (GEF), European Union (EU) and French Development Agency (ADF). The completed and closed World Bank managed Nile Basin Trust Fund (NBTF) grants portfolio accounted for 23 percent of total funding to NBI.

^{*}Nile-SEC excess of expenditures over receipts was a result of lower country contribution receipts than expected. The gap was met from borrowings.

Member States' increased financial contributions

Member States agreed to increase their financial contributions from 2012/2013 to 2016/2017 financial years to achieve Minimum Functionality (MF) cost coverage of USD3.8 million (Nile-SEC USD1.8 million, NELSAP CU & ENTRO USD1 million each). The Minimum Functionality arrangements has been maintained for the next Five Years to 2021/2022 save Nile-SEC who have reviewed its Minimum Functionality during the year to USD1.5M hence MF coverage now stands at USD 3.6 million.

For 2018/2019 Financial Year contribution arrears stood at USD10.7 million (Nile-SEC, ENTRO and NELSAP CU) as at 30th June, 2019. A total of USD2.3 million was received during the year (Nile-SEC & NELSAP CU=USD1.6 million and ENTRO=USD0.7 million). Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda made partial payments while Ethiopia paid fully its contribution for 2018/2019.

At ENTRO, only Ethiopia and Sudan paid their contributions by year end.

The charts below show the status of outstanding arrears for each country for Nile-SEC/NELSAP CU and ENTRO respectively.

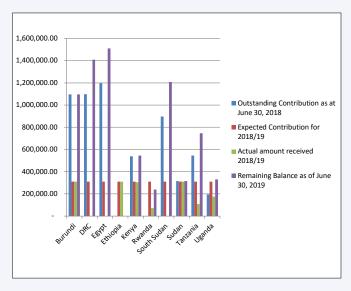


Fig. 2 Status of Nile-SEC & NELSAP CU Country contribution arrears as at 30 June 2019

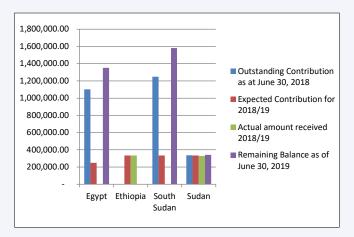


Fig. 3 Status of ENTRO Country contribution arrears as at 30 June 2019

Efforts by both the NBI governance supported by management are still on going to engage Egypt to resume participation in NBI activities.

CIWA Trust Fund

The World Bank has continued its support to NBI by providing an additional funding of USD8.5 million (Nile-SEC USD2 million, ENTRO USD3.4 million, and NELSAP CU USD 3.1million). This is through the Cooperation in International Waters in Africa (CIWA) trust fund under the NCORE project. The Grant closure date has also been extended from 30th April 2017 to 30th November, 2020. NBI with World Bank support is now working on a concept paper for a possible USD30 million funding after the completion of current phase of CIWA funding.

German Government

The German Government has increased its support to the Cooperation on Transboundary Waters in the Nile Basin project. The 4th phase of funding administered by GIZ came to an end in August 2018. Implementation of the 5th phase of funding started in September 2017. Euros 3.5 million has been made available under this phase.

The German Government through its Foreign Affairs Ministry is continuing to support Media engagement and Hydrodiplomacy training of NBI governance. Also the German Government is supporting Wetlands and Climate Service for Infrastructure Projects.

African Development Bank

The African Development Bank group together with GEF approved financing amounting to UA 18 million for implementation of a regional fisheries and water resources project in the Lakes Edward and Albert shared by Uganda and DR Congo. The funding agreement was signed on the May 17, 2016. The financing will go towards implementation of water resources and fisheries development programmes.

SIDA Sweden and Norway

Sweden and Norway provided significant financial support bilaterally in support of NEL- River basin organisationss namely Mara, Kagera and Sio-Malaba Malakisi. These projects operations have been significantly reduced during the last three financial years and negotiations are ongoing for respective Member States to take over the projects.

The World Bank

The World Bank provided credit/grant amounting to SDR 229 million (USD 340 million) to Burundi, Tanzania and Rwanda for the Regional Rusumo Falls Hydroelectric Project. Implementation of the project is going on smoothly. The work is almost 53 percent complete.

French Development Agency

The French Development Agency and the Nile Basin Initiative signed an additional grant agreement amounting to Euros 0.4 million. The funding is aimed at strengthening the capabilities of NBI Member States in the identification, preparation and implementation of development projects in the Nile Basin.

University of Manchester

ENTRO signed a grant agreement amounting to GBP 230K with University of Manchester for a research project entitled DAM2, which commenced in March 2019 and shall expire in September 2021.



DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

NBI, in delivering on its mandate, is supported bilaterally and multilaterally by different development partners. We take this opportunity to express our appreciation to all for the continued support to Nile cooperation.







Canadian International Development Agency Agence canadienne de développement international

































ONE RIVER ONE PEOPLE ONE VISION





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NBI MEMBER STATES































