



The FAO Contribution to Transboundary Water Basins

Pasquale Steduto

(Chief Water Service)

Land and Water Development Division

Agricultural Department

FAO, Rome

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FAO has a large knowledge-base on Transboundary Water Basins, with particular regard to:

- National & International Water Laws & Policies
- Agricultural Dimension of the IWRM
- Institutional Capacity Building

National & International Water Laws & Policies



- Contribution to the “Mechanism of Coordination” of the SASS (Algeria, Libya, Tunisia) and to its Observatory
- Contribution to the “Mechanism of Coordination” of the Iullemeden Aquifer (Niger & Nigeria) and to its Hydrological Modeling (GEF Project)
- Contribution to the Institutional & Regulatory Framework under establishment for the Titicaca Lake (Bolivia & Peru) with UNESCO
- Inventory, analysis and synthesis of all treaties dealing with shared aquifers (more than 50) with UNESCO



Agricultural Dimension of the IWRM & Institutional Capacity Building

- Lead Technical Unit in a GEF Project in the Okavango River Basin (Angola, Botswana, Namibia)
- Operational and Lead technical unit of the Italian funded Nile-Basin projects (3 consecutive, and one parallel, projects from the last 10 years)
...one of the largest experience in transboundary



These Nile-Basin Projects concretized through the Italy-FAO Government Cooperative Program, are:

- GCP/RAF/287/ITA “Land Cover Mapping of East Africa, based on Satellite Remote Sensing” 1995 – 2004 (US\$ 9.7 M)
- GCP/RAF/286/ITA “Information System for Water Resources Monitoring in the Nile Basin”, 1996 – 1999 (US\$ 5 M)
- GCP/INT/752/ITA “Capacity Building for Nile Basin Water Resources Management” 1999 – 2004 (US\$ 6 M)

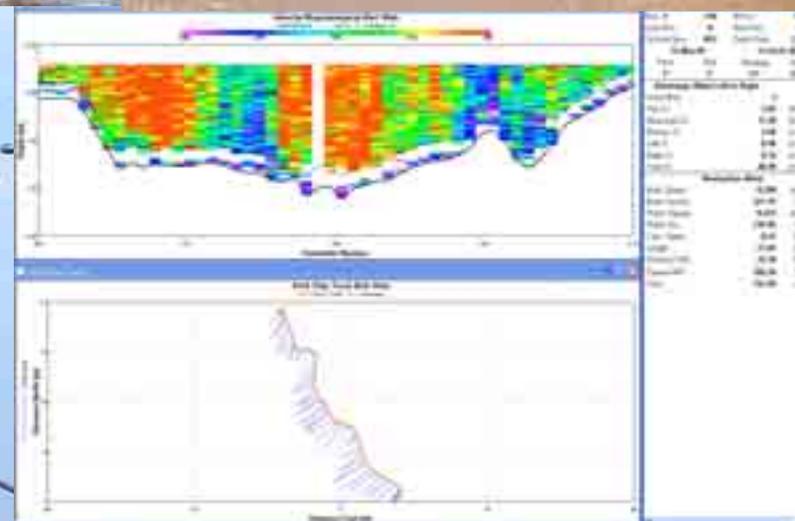
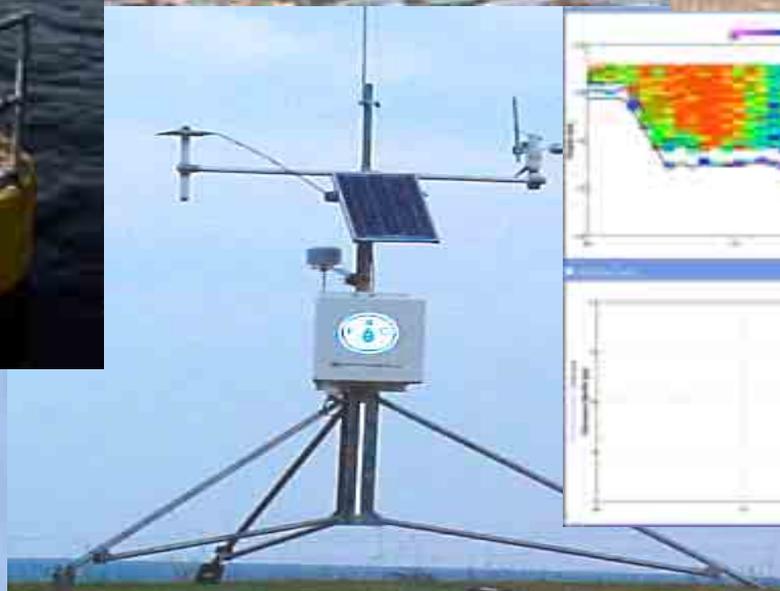


- GCP/INT/945/ITA “Information Products for Decisions on Water Policy and Water Resource Management in the Nile Basin”
2004 – 2008 (US\$ 5 M)

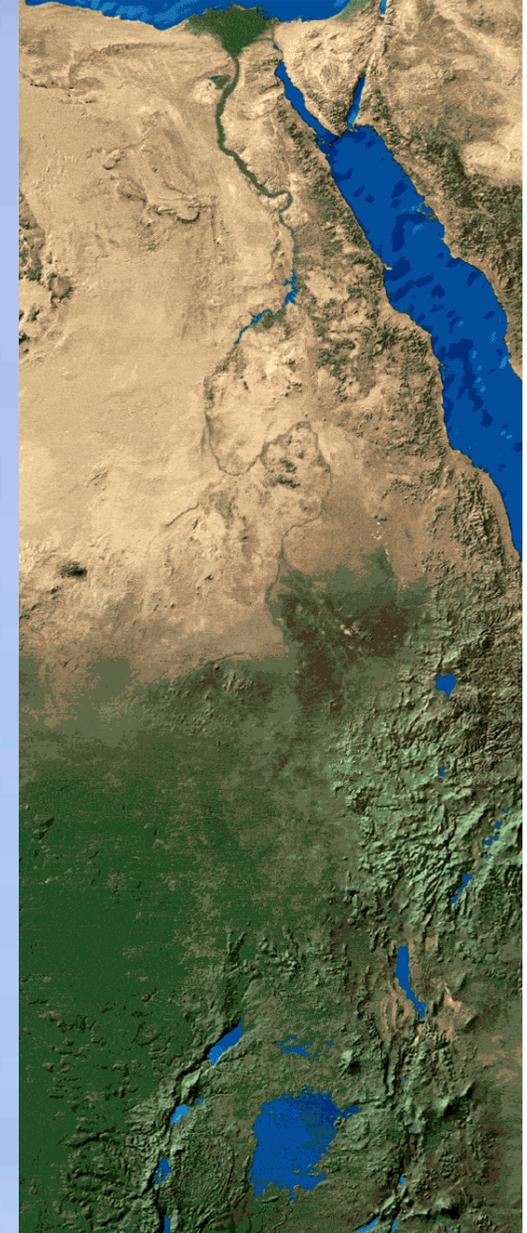
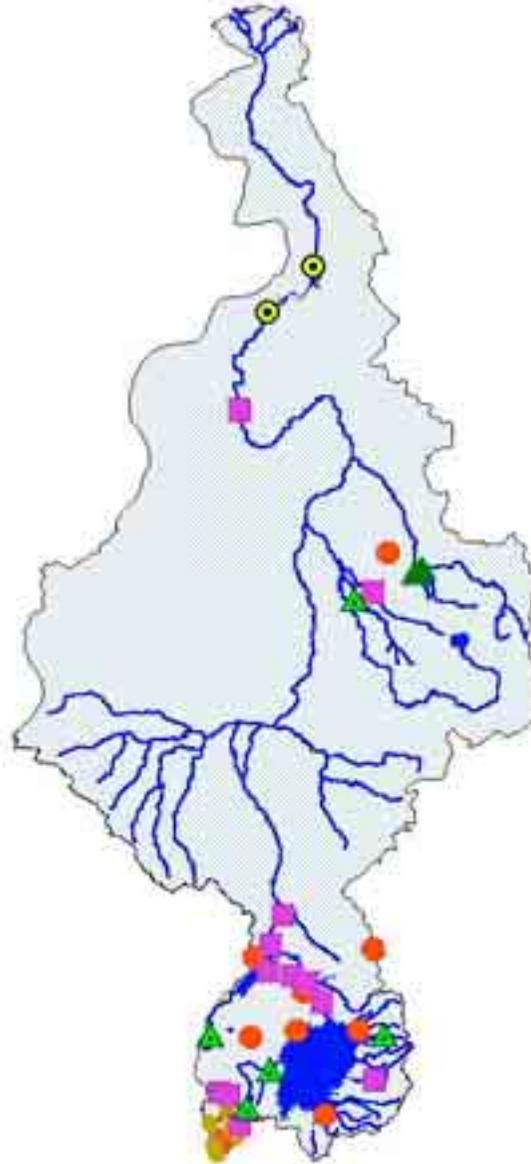
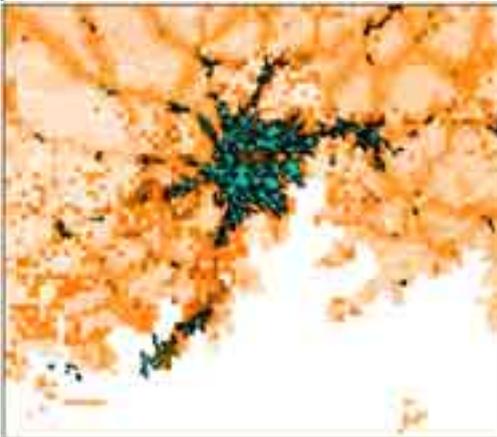
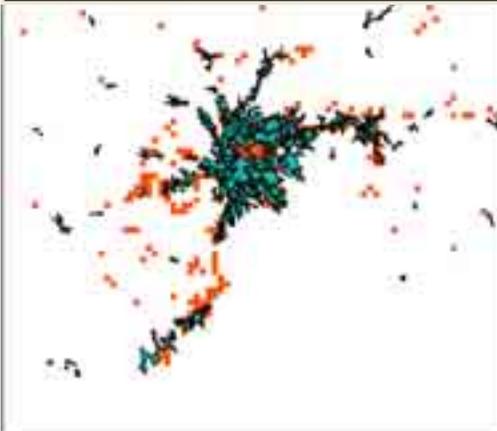
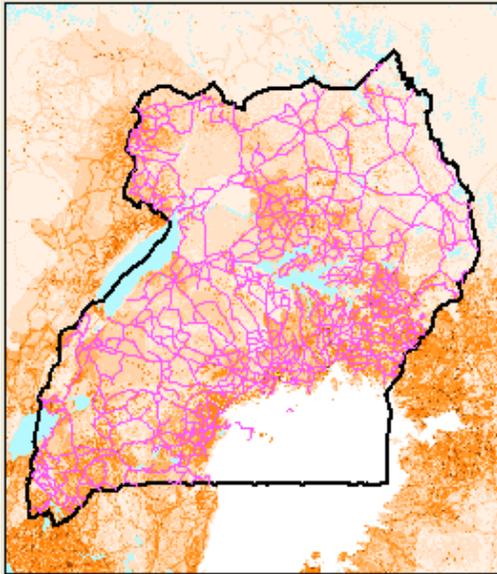
...each project built on the previous one, progressively



(i) establishing a common *information base*



Spatial Data-Base (GIS/RS)





(ii) building a fairly equal-level of technical and institutional *capacity* in information processing, *knowledge* abstraction and *dialog*



learning-by-doing

confidence building





(iii) investigating alternative scenarios to take well-informed *decisions* with regards to *water resources policies* and *strategic management* in the Basin



Database Directory

MetaData Database

CountryDatabases Table

Country 1 Database

Parameter 1 Table

Parameter 2 Table

Parameter M Table

Station Description Table

Country 2 Database

Country N Database

DST

Scenario Simulation



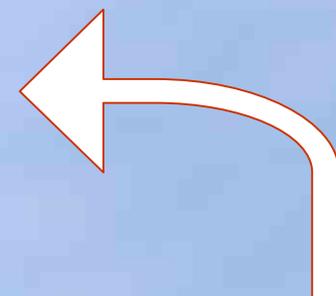
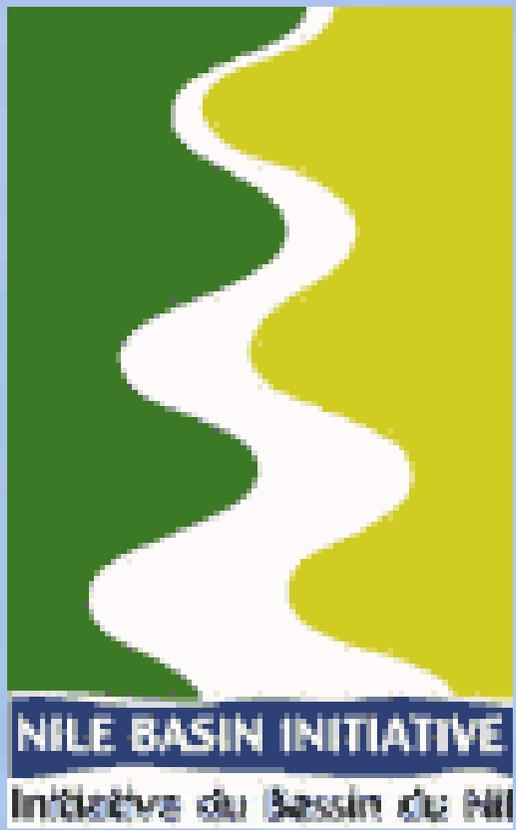
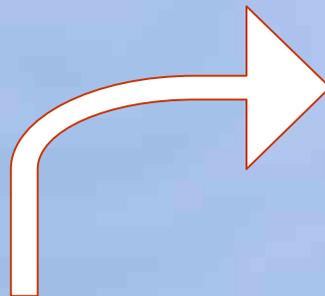
...in 1999, the NBI was established

multi-donor Trust Fund with already more than 100 M \$ to operate the *Shared Vision Programs* etc.

Nile-COM

Nile-TAC

Nile-SEC





Shared Vision Programs of the NBI

- Water Resources Planning and Management
- Efficient Water Use for Agricultural Production
- Confidence Building and Stakeholders Involvement
- Socio-Economic Development and Benefit Sharing
- Applied Training
- Nile Transboundary Environmental Action
- Regional Power Trade



Additional activities of FAO relevant for TB

- Implementing Pilot Monitoring Programs within the EU-WI Monitoring Working Group (Italian Funded)
- Partner in the UN-Water to overcome sectorial approaches and foster IWRM



Concluding ...

- Networking is an important mechanism to share the “benefit” of knowledge. Each Basin has a lot to teach
- Countries of the TB Basins should take advantage of the services of FAO and other UN Agencies in IWRM
- In TB, there is much larger comparative advantage to *cooperate* than to *compete*



Thank you



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