



INTERNATIONAL WATERS RESULTS NOTES

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Senegal river basin water and environmental management project

GEFID#: 1109 GEF Agency Project ID#: P064573; Project Status: Closed



1. Leveraging institutional reform/re-organization of OMVS: This project was catalytic in building a more inclusive institutional structure for river Basin management regionally and nationally. As a result of the project, Guinean representation now spans all levels of OMVS's institutional structure, national legislation of Guinea is in the process of being fully aligned with the OMVS's Water Charter (superseding national legislation), knowledge gaps on the upstream portion of the Senegal River Basin have been filled, and Guinea's hydrology network has been fully integrated into the existing OMVS network.

2. Mainstreaming environment: The project played an important role in mainstreaming environmental aspects at all levels: from a policy/planning perspective (e.g. TDA, SAP), from an institutional perspective (e.g. new institutional capacities, new staffing additions related to environment and civil society participation, improved knowledge and data networks), and from a action plan perspective (sustainable land and water management principles now expected to be mainstreamed in overall Senegal River Basin Master Plan).

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PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the project was to provide a participatory strategic environmental framework for the environmentally sustainable development of the Senegal River Basin (SRB) and to launch a Basin-wide cooperative programme for transboundary land-water management.

RESULTS: PROCESS

INDICATOR 1. OMVS and Guinea harmonize their water legislation in accordance with the existing legislation in the other riparian countries for better management of land and water resources across the basin.

Ratification of OMVS's Water Charter by Guinean Parliament. As the Water Charter was superseding national legislation, the legal framework of Guinea was reviewed and necessary adjustments were agreed upon in order align national legislation with the OMVS Water Charter, the future regional code of environment, and pertinent legislation in the other riparian countries. The project accelerated Guinea's full integration into OMVS – a crucial factor for alignment of the national legislation and for better land and water resources management across the Basin. Guinea endorsed a national working group by ministerial bylaw to oversee the alignment and harmonization process, which is well underway with all revisions and improvements necessary agreed upon in multi-sectoral national stakeholder meetings and supported by the MWRD APL.

INDICATOR 2. A Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) is prepared and completed

An impressive and comprehensive Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) was completed, validated and printed (2006) and formed basis of development of SAP. Multidisciplinary teams at national and regional levels were strengthened and linkages to academic entities in the region established and improved. As a result of the project, a fully completed TDA has been published and widely disseminated and detailed maps showing environmental conditions throughout the Senegal River Basin are now available.

INDICATOR 2. A Strategic Action Plan (SAP) document is completed.

A Strategic Action Plan was completed based on the findings of the TDA and following an impressively participatory and qualitative process. The SAP was reviewed and approved by Ministerial Council in Y4 (59th council meeting in August 2008), thus receiving the highest political commitment. The document was published and disseminated on a wide scale.

RESULTS: STRESS REDUCTION

N/A

RESULTS: WATER RESOURCE AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATUS

INDICATOR 1. Guinea's hydrology network in the Senegal Basin upstream portion has been fully assessed & upgraded to be compatible with the existing OMVS hydrology network.

Guinea's hydrology network in the upstream portion was upgraded and fully integrated into the existing OMVS hydrology network. Compared to one operational hydrology monitoring stations in the upstream Guinea Basin prior to the project, there are now 8 hydrological stations in Guinea fully rehabilitated and an additional 11 stations were upgraded and equipped throughout the overall Basin. As a result of the project, the Senegal River Basin is now equipped with water quality measurement installations and an early warning system in the upper Basin is now fully functional.