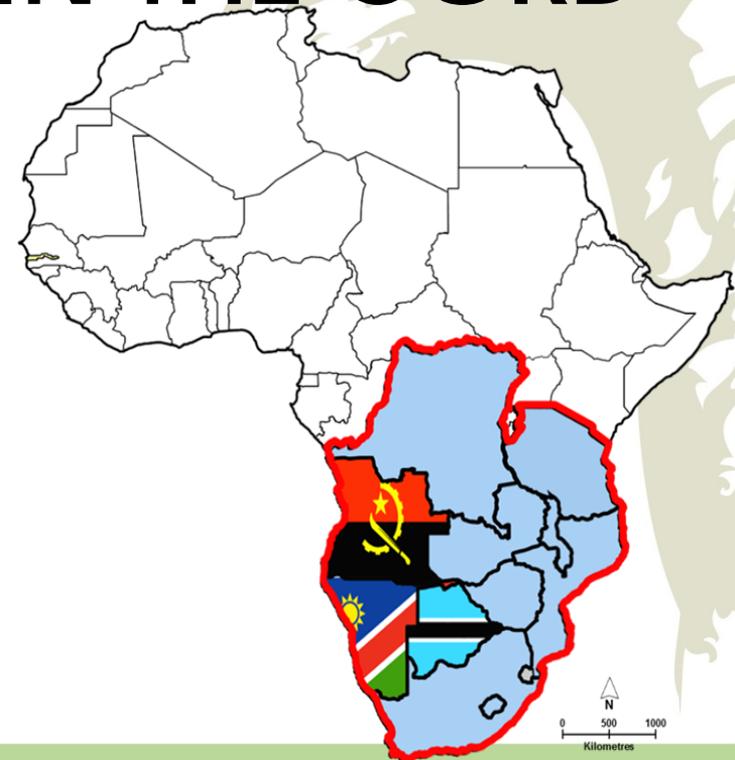


ASSESSMENT OF THE BENEFITS OF TRANSBOUNDARY WATER COOPERATION WITHIN THE CORB

Sekgowa Motsumi, OKASEC

25 June 2015

Geneva, Switzerland



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Background

- 20th OKACOM Annual Planning Meeting in Rundu
- OKACOM Dialogue topic
- 20th OKACOM Anniversary Celebration
- Counting our gains on TWC
- Reflect on the 20 Years of OKACOM existence
- Galvanize support and commitment to the next phase of TWC



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TWC generates more benefits than generally thought

	On economic activities	Beyond economic activities
From improved water management	Economic benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expanded activity and productivity in economic sectors• Reduced cost of carrying out productive activities• Reduced economic impacts of water-related hazards (floods, droughts)• Increased value of property	Social and environmental benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Health impacts• Employment and reduced poverty impacts• Improved access to services (such as electricity and water supply)• Improved satisfaction due to preservation of cultural resources or access to recreational opportunities.• Avoided/reduced habitat degradation and biodiversity loss
From enhanced trust	Regional economic cooperation benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of regional markets for goods, services and labour• Increase in cross-border investments• Development of transnational infrastructure networks	Peace and security benefits <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Strengthening of international law• Increased geopolitical stability• Reduced risk and avoided cost of conflict• Savings from reduced military spending

Now is the right time to undertake a benefit assessment exercise (BAE) in the CORB

Opportunity to look to the past and the future

- 20 years of TWC in the CORB
- Threats to the CORB's health are becoming more real with the need for development

Turning point in the TWC process

- Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis, NAPs and Strategic Action Programme approved
- Need to reach out to new constituencies
- Notification procedures

Step up in the institutional setting

- Strengthening of OKASEC
- Operationalisation of Technical Committees
- Communication and Stakeholder Strategies

Reasons to undertake a Benefit Assessment exercise

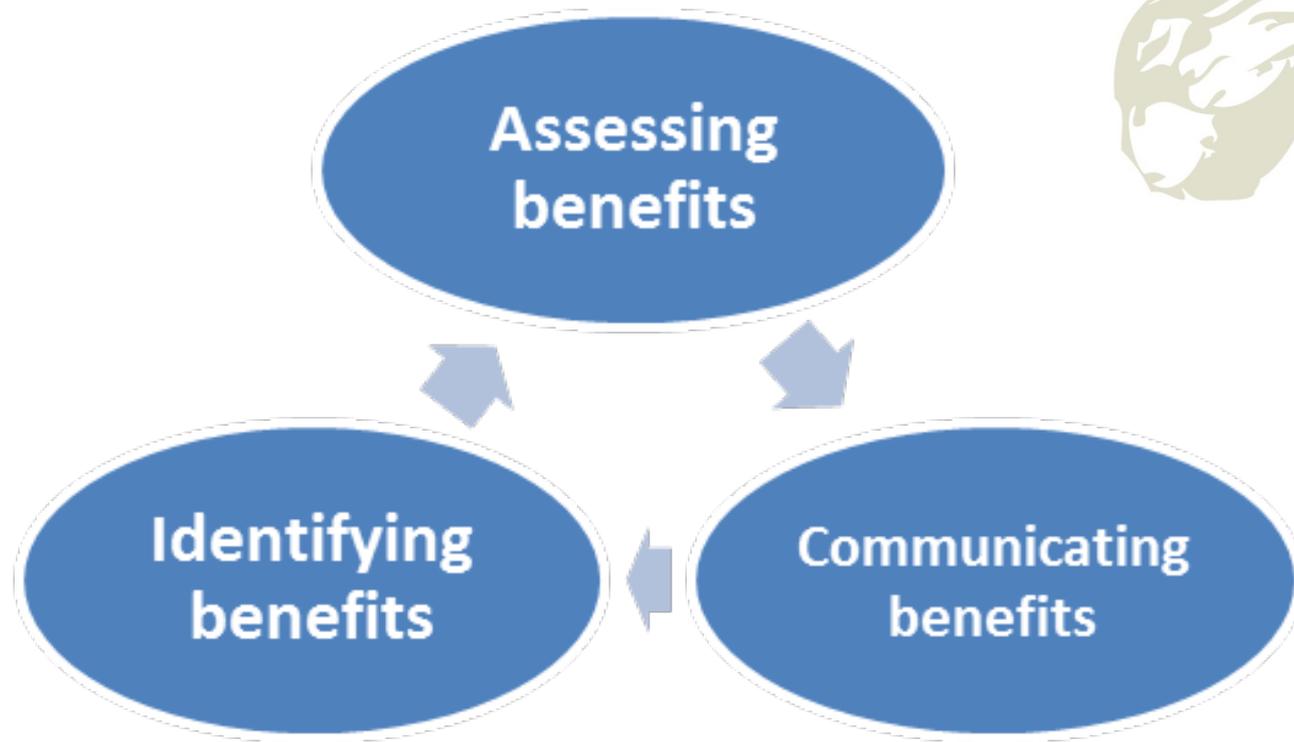
- A Benefit Assessment exercise can provide fact-based arguments for (stronger) cooperation.
- It can facilitate broadening the scope of cooperation by defining a “benefit-shed”
- It can help to attract financial resources to implement TWC solutions. s



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The cycle of benefit assessment



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Selected issues in assessing the benefits of TWC

- Gross benefits vs net benefits – focus on net benefits
- Cost of inaction i.e. not cooperating
- Double counting
- Benefits of RBO vs benefits of TWC
- Benefit-shed – benefits derived from more than one river basin
- Benefits and beneficiaries in the CORB



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How to approach a Benefit Assessment exercise:

- OKACOM has identified the need for TWC benefit assessment - TWC policy process is supported
- Mandate to carry out a BA exercise has been given
- Design the Benefit Assessment exercise to match the level of maturity of the TWC policy process
- Plan to ensure that the results will not be contested



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Preliminary BAE in the CORB

Specific benefit	Ongoing/ potential	Benefit generation mechanism	Beneficiary	Current beneficiary pays mechanism
ECONOMIC BENEFITS				
Tax revenues from tourist industry	Ongoing	Ensuring flow levels in the delta	Government of Botswana (GoB)	Financial contributions by the GoB
Security for investors that water entitlements will not be challenged	Potential	Agreeing a water allocation mechanism	Agricultural sector in Angola and Namibia	
SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS				
Employment generated in the tourism industry in Botswana	Ongoing	Ensuring flow levels in the delta	Local communities in Botswana	Income tax paid by employees
Sustainable livelihoods from sustainable fishing and conservation agriculture	Ongoing and potential	Attracting development cooperation support	Local communities in Angola, Namibia and Botswana	
Recreation opportunities	Ongoing	Ensuring flow levels in the delta	Tourists	Embedded in tourism service charges
Biodiversity conservation	Ongoing	Ensuring flow levels in the delta	Global community	Financial contributions by ICPs

Preliminary BAE in the CORB

Specific benefit	Ongoing/ potential	Benefit generation mechanism	Beneficiary	Current beneficiary pays mechanism
REGIONAL ECONOMIC INTEGRATION BENEFITS				
Development of other regional development initiatives (e.g. KAZA)	Ongoing and potential	Generating trust between countries and showing to ICPs that the countries can cooperate effectively	Local and business communities in Angola, Namibia and Botswana	
Development of closer trade links	Potential	Facilitating relationships between business communities	Local and business communities in Angola, Namibia and Botswana	
GEPOLITICAL BENEFITS				
Reduced risk of conflict between Angola, Namibia and Botswana	Ongoing	Preventing unilateral action that damages other parties	Angola, Namibia and Botswana	Financial contributions of GoA, GoN and GoB, and foregone development opportunities
Preservation of good international reputation	Ongoing	Preventing unilateral action that damages other parties	Angola, Namibia and Botswana	Financial contributions of GoA, GoN and GoB, and foregone development opportunities
Contribution to upholding international law	Ongoing	Preventing actions that breach international laws	International community	Financial contributions by ICPs

Tangible benefits from TWC in the CORB

- Spin-off benefits to countries with respect to capacity building programmes
- Broadened understanding of the basin as a whole
- Leveraging investments – e.g US\$100,000 from Member State leveraging US\$200,000 from the other MS
- Leveraging through multi-lateralism (USAID, UNDP GEF, World Bank, DFID, GIZ



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Lessons

- Issues of attribution and contribution
- Target audience – different things to different stakeholders
- Stakeholder participation – cost
- Rhetorical question of why cooperate – obvious answer



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Suggested components of the BAE

1. **Project management:** OKASEC, OBSC and Commissioners
2. **Beneficiary Assessment** – of development projects (livelihoods, health impacts,...)
3. **National Seminars** – on “un-explored benefits” led by reputed national research institutions
4. **Policy Paper** – bringing different strands together
5. **Regional Dialogue** – discussing national perspectives

Suggested approach for a BAE in the CORB

Scope

Broad assessment

Mostly qualitative (quantitative and monetary when easy)

Timeline

12 months (June 2015, June 2016)

In time to feed SAP review

Informing TWC process

Involvement of Commissioners

National Seminars to reach out to other constituencies

Budget and funding

Around USD 70k

Exploit synergies for funding (e.g. communications strategy)

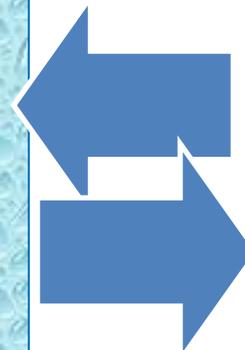
OKACOM has an opportunity to lead

UNECE Policy Guidance Note on Identifying, Assessing and Communicating the Benefits of TWC

- Scoping workshop, Amsterdam 2013
- Case studies workshop, Geneva 2014
- Regional integration and geopolitical benefits workshop, Tallinn 2015
- Third draft to be discussed by IWRM Working Group in June 2015
- Final draft to be approved by Meeting of the Parties in November 2015
- New work programme 2016-2018 to focus on BAEs

CORB case study presented in Geneva in 2014

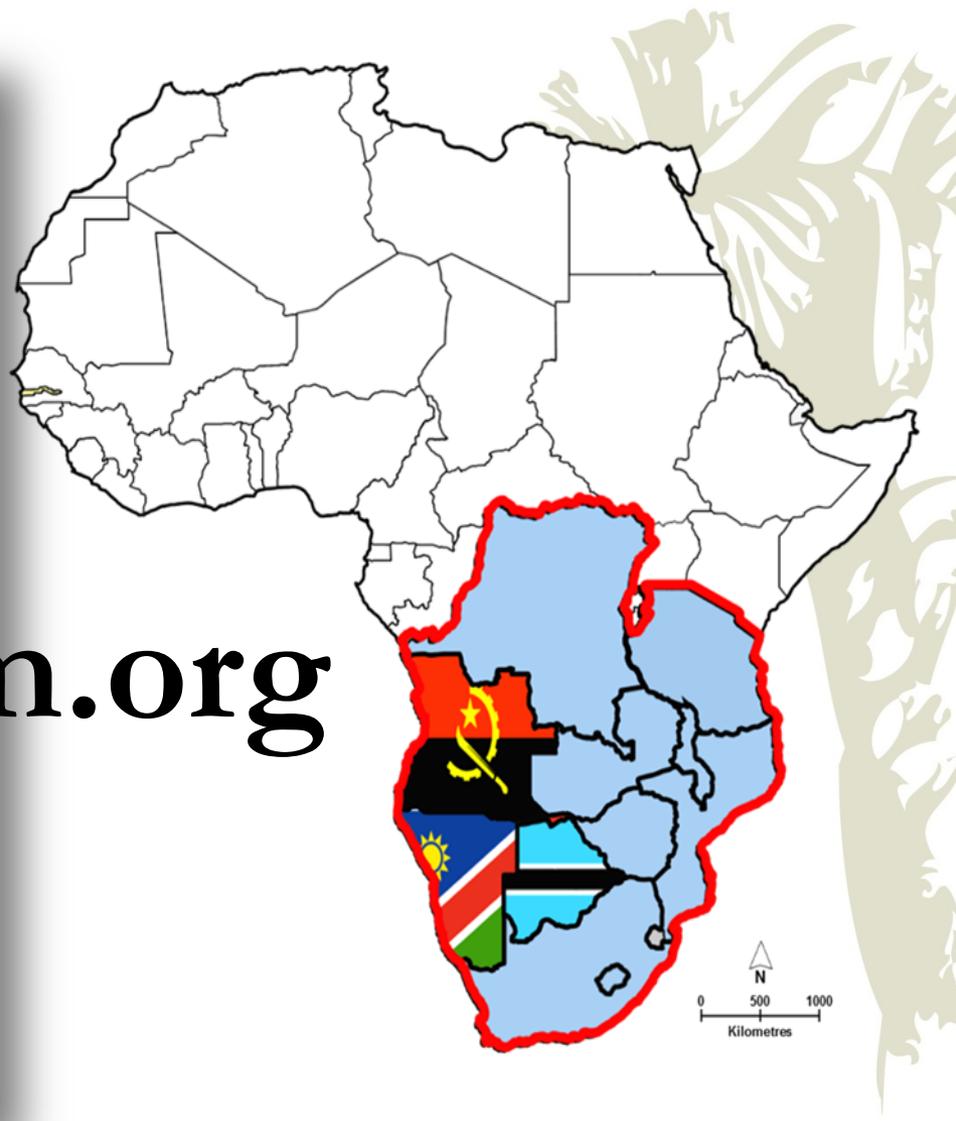
Potentially one of the first case to apply the Policy Guidance Note



OKAVANGO RIVER BASIN

- River
 - Perennial
 - Ephemeral Stream
 - Dry Stream / Omuramba
- Delta
- Contributing area
- Sub basin
- Country boundary
- Area of topographic basin not included in ORBWA analysis

0 100 200 400 Kilometers



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