What type of legal provisions contribute to the establishment of effective institutional frameworks: examples from West and Central Africa

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Establishing an institutional framework

• Many types of administrative frameworks: “commissions, authorities, agencies, committees, councils, initiatives”, etc.
• Operational arrangement criteria (SDG indicator 6.5.2): Joint body (“River basin organization”), regular meetings, strategic action plan, exchange of information
• Some geopolitical complex situations. Major security and peace issues (Sahel...)
• Choice of **5 specific examples from West and Central Africa**
• Many others examples: OMVG, LCBC, VBA / ABV, NBI, ORASECOM, OKACOM, MRC, etc.
Examples of institutional frameworks
Examples of institutional frameworks

1972
• Convention establishing Organization for the Development of the Senegal River (OMVS)

1980
• Convention creating Niger Basin Authority (NBA / ABN)

1987
• Revised Convention for Niger Basin Authority (NBA / ABN)
Examples of institutional frameworks

1999
• Agreement creating Congo River Basin Commission (CICOS)

2007
• Addendum to Agreement - expanding CICOS tasks to IWRM

2018
• Convention creating Mono Basin Authority (ABM)

2021?
• Creation of Transboundary Basin Organization of Ogooué, Ntem, Komo, Nyanga, Woleu and Mouni Rivers
Implementation and challenges

- **OMVS** (Guinea, Mali, Senegal, Mauritania)
  - Institutional Framework: results from 2010 reform
  - Institutional and System Financing Review ongoing
  - Full implementation of OMVS mandate, including common infrastructures
  - Major benefits for Member Countries: water supply, hydropower, irrigation, inland navigation...

- **ABM** (Togo – Benin)
  - Created in 2017-18 with support of ECOWAS
  - Mandate: stakeholders consultation, sharing of benefits, common works, socio-economic integration
Implementation and challenges

- **NBA** (Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Benin, Chad, Cameroon, Nigeria)
  - Acte de Niamey (navigation et coopération économique) en 1963
  - Institutional reforms in 2004 and 2019: 1980 / 87 Convention not modified
  - Major issues: food security, hydropower, low flow support…
  - Implementation of major goals (NBA 1987 Convention):
    1. *Coordinate national policies:* hydrological monitoring, study for Coordination of dam management
    3. *Operation of common interest structures:* strategic decisions regarding large dams (Shared Vision process). Participation to conception and impact assessment studies
    4. *Mobilization of funding:* studies, works related to erosion and silting, facilitation for mobilization of funds
Implementation and challenges

- **CICOS** (Congo, RD Congo, Central African Republic, Cameroon, Gabon, Angola)
  - Primary objective: promote inland navigation
  - Specialized body of CEMAC
  - Addendum expanding mandate to IWRM
  - Institutional reform ongoing
  - Major issues: navigation, hydropower, tropical rainforests

- **Ogooué, Ntem, Komo, Nyanga, Woleu and Mouni** (Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Congo)
  - Framework under development with ECCAS and AfDB support
Lessons learned/recommendations

• Different types of mandates: informational, consultative, decisional. Body performing executive tasks: different sizes and organizational models
• Depending of preliminary diagnostic and analysis of relevant issues, international stakes, resulting necessary functions and political will
• 5 examples: several institutional reforms. Recurring difficulties for sustainable financing
• Executing bodies sometimes oversized? Lack of concrete actions on the field?
• Participation of water users: not always included in legal provisions
• Importance of experiences sharing, networks and benchmarking
• Support of regional (economic commissions) and international institutions
Thank you for your attention!