Twin2Go –
Best practices and policy lessons on adaptive water governance

Annika Kramer, adelphi research
2nd Workshop on Water and Adaptation to Climate Change in Transboundary Basins, Geneva, 12-13 Apr. 2011
Presentation outline

1. Twin2Go project overview
2. Comparative analysis of water governance
3. Best practices and tools
4. Next steps
Background and aims

• **Full Title:** „Coordinating Twinning partnerships towards more adaptive Governance in river basins“

• EU has funded numerous projects that carried out research on IWRM in various case studies, e.g.

• **Aims of Twin2Go:**
  - Consolidate insights gained in these projects with regard to adaptive water governance in the context of climate change
  - Formulate best practices and tools for implementation
  - Disseminate results to policy makers and practitioners
Quick Facts

- EU project in the 7th Framework Programme
- Running from June 2009 to Sept. 2011
- Consortium:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>USF</th>
<th>University of Osnabrück (coordinator)</th>
<th>Germany</th>
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<tr>
<td>Adelphi</td>
<td>Adelphi Research gGmbH</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Vituki</td>
<td>Env. Protection and Water Management Research Institute</td>
<td>Hungary</td>
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<td>Soresma</td>
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<td>DHI</td>
<td>DHI Institut for Vand og Miljo Forening</td>
<td>Denmark</td>
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<td>FSU-Jena</td>
<td>University of Jena, Inst. for Geography, Dep. of Geoinformatics</td>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>EcoPolicy</td>
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<td>Russia</td>
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<td>USER</td>
<td>Unit for Social and Env. Research, Chiang Mai University</td>
<td>Thailand</td>
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- Advisory Board to bridge the science-policy gap
Projects & Case Studies

• 7 Projects: CABRI-Volga, NeWater, Brahmatwinn, ASEM WaterNet, WETwin, TwinBas, Twinlatin

1: Project Overview
Comparative analysis

Comparative analysis of governance regimes in 29 national river basins (including national segments in transboundary basins) from Europe, Latin-America, Africa and Asia

Main question: What factors increase the adaptive capacity of water resources management?

• How does the water governance regime impact performance of water resources management in different environmental and socio-economic contexts?
Case Study Basins Review

- Data collection, questionnaire with 98 indicators
- 5 workshops held
- Each one with a regional focus
- ~ 100 case study experts
- 29 (sub-)basins
Comparative analysis - conclusions

Conditions for adaptive water governance regimes:

- Polycentric regimes (decentralised multi-level arrangements, but effective coordination and a balance between bottom-up and top-down processes) have a higher performance and adaptive capacity in water management.

- Sound legal frameworks are a necessary, but not sufficient condition for high performance. Need implementation capacity (knowledge, resources), effective institutions, mechanisms for motivation and enforcement.

- Enabling learning and addressing uncertainties result in increased adaptive capacity. Open access to information and integration of different kind of knowledge support adaptation to climate change.
Regional Best-Practice Workshops

• Goals
  ▪ Identify best-practices and tools (BP&T) in water governance
  ▪ Discuss barriers and opportunities for implementation

• Four workshops, each with regional focus

• December 2010 – February 2011

• Target groups: Practitioners & scientists
Best Practices Inventory

- 48 examples were described and opportunities, barriers and context affecting their performance discussed.
- Three different categories:
  - Application of national water governance frameworks in river basins
  - Engagement and coordination among actors, forms of interaction/partnerships
  - Enabling learning and building adaptive capacity in water governance
<table>
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<th>No</th>
<th>BP&amp;T</th>
<th>River Basin/Province/Country</th>
<th>Region</th>
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<td><strong>Focus 1: Application of national water frameworks in river basins</strong></td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Relaxation of procedures and removal of administrative barriers in issuing water use permits</td>
<td>Russia</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Compensation for restoring and maintaining ecosystem services especially in times of food insecurities</td>
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<td>Implementing IWRM through RBO in Vietnam</td>
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<td><strong>Focus 2: Engagement and coordination among actors, forms of interaction/partnerships</strong></td>
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<td>Early stakeholder mapping for improved operationalization of the Limpopo Agreement</td>
<td>Limpopo river basin/</td>
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<td>Participatory water allocation at Bangpakong and Prachinburi River basin</td>
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<td>SEA</td>
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<td>Multi-sectoral collective environmental diagnostic for the Basin</td>
<td>Alto Cauca/Colombia</td>
<td>LAC</td>
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<td><strong>Focus 3: Enabling learning and building adaptive capacity in water governance</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Enhancing dissemination of information on water supply of rural areas to decision-makers</td>
<td>Yaroslavl oblast/ Russia</td>
<td>Russia</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Creating an enabling environment through inclusive and equitable knowledge and capacity building</td>
<td>Orange-Senqu river basin/ Kanye-Orange</td>
<td>Africa</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Transboundary, basin-wide, shared, georeferenced database and modeling application for Decision Support</td>
<td>Quarai-Cuareim/ Brazil, Uruguay</td>
<td>LAC</td>
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Barriers and opportunities

Barriers to effective introduction of Best Practices and tools (BP&T):

• core reason for failures is often not in the design of an institution, or strategic program, but it is rooted within the implementation stage:
  ▪ inadequate human and technical capacity, lack of resources,
  ▪ competition, overlap, loopholes between different institutions/actors

• Tools do not fit with existing institutional framework, or existing culture of technical infrastructure-oriented management

Opportunities for introduction:

• Existing scientific and technical networks as drivers of change
• Policy and other institutional reform as windows of opportunities
Lessons learnt so far

- Thoroughly assess and consider existing governance framework - Powerful institutions, existing principles of territorial water management, and religious beliefs may hamper implementation of BP&T
- Allow for a transition period for new institutions to get embedded in the governance system – maturity requires up to 50 years
- Ensure coordination (horizontal and vertical) with internal and external actors
- Flank introduction of innovative BP&T by capacity development, information sharing and communication in order to ensure sustainability
- Involve civil servants and other stakeholders at the early stages of project development – to increase ownership and help ensure support in implementation (administrative procedures, every-day practice, informal norms and regulations)

3: Best Practices and tools
Next steps

• Policy workshops:
  ▪ 4 workshops, April – September 2011
  ▪ Side events of international water conferences
  ▪ Discuss project results in science-policy dialogue

• Best Practices guidelines

• Policy Briefing papers
Twin2Go side event

- Panel discussion
  - What are barriers and opportunities for implementing adaptive approaches?
  - To what extent can adaptive governance approaches be transferred across different basins?
  - How can water policies and programmes support transitions towards more adaptive water governance?

Join us: 13-15 h, room VIII
Thank you!

www.twin2go.eu