



Project no. 003717

Project acronym: LoGo Water

Project title: Towards effective involvement of local government in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in river basins of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region

Instrument: Coordination Action

Thematic Priority: Specific Measures in support of international co-operation – Developing countries (DEV)

Publishable Final Activity Report

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LoGo Water - Towards effective involvement of local government in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in river basins of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region

Publishable Final Activity Report

1 Summary of objectives

The overall goal of the LoGo Water project was to improve the capacity of local governments to fulfil their role in the adoption of sound integrated water resources management solutions and thus contribute to the achievement of the water-related Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

The specific objectives of the LoGo Water project were:

1. to produce an inventory of:
 - current and recent research at international level on the models and frameworks of local government participation in IWRM; and of
 - knowledge and experience gained from the practical involvement of local governments in water resources management both in Southern Africa and in Europe;
2. to identify an effective role for local governments in IWRM in river basins in the SADC region;
3. to provide support to the implementation of an effective role of local governments in IWRM in the SADC region;
4. to raise awareness among experts and stakeholders on the benefits of local government involvement in IWRM;
5. to encourage local governments in the SADC region to engage in IWRM; and
6. to guide further research on local government action in IWRM.

2 Contractors involved

Coordinator

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, European Secretariat (ICLEI ES)
www.iclei-europe.org

Partners

Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (CEH Wallingford)
www.ceh.ac.uk

Foundation for a New Water Culture (FNCA)
www.unizar.es/fnca/presentacion3.php

IRC International Water and Sanitation Centre (IRC)
www.irc.nl

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability, Africa Secretariat (ICLEI AS)
www.iclei.org/africa

Institute of Natural Resources (INR)
www.inr.unp.ac.za

Institute of Water and Sanitation Development (IWSA)
www.iwsd.co.zw

Kalahari Conservation Society (KCS)
www.kcs.org.bw

The World Conservation Union (IUCN; since 2008: International Union for Conservation of Nature), Mozambique Office
www.iucn.org/places/mozambique

Oxford University Centre for the Environment (OUCE)
www.ouce.ox.ac.uk

3 Work performed and end results

Activities and approach

The project evolved in two main phases with the first one focusing more on stocktaking and drawing conclusions from existing experiences of local government involvement in IWRM in Africa and Europe and the second one geared at producing guidance materials for different stakeholders.

The outcome and outputs of the project are the result of a close cooperation between African and European water and local government experts. Equally important has been the involvement of eight local governments of the target region – the Limpopo basin – who provided their perspectives and advice throughout the lifetime of the project. In return, they received technical backstopping as well as information materials and recommendations to address the local water issues in their home communities.

Furthermore the project partners relied on the opinions and input of those future end-users of the project results who participated in the following two major project events:

- the workshop ‘Local Action for IWRM’ (Gaborone, Botswana, 26 - 28 July 2006) that was hosted by the Kalahari Conservation Society (KCS) and convened 42 representatives from local governments, municipal associations, national governments, international organisations, and institutes specialising in environmental and particularly water issues mainly in Botswana, Mozambique, South Africa, and Zimbabwe; and
- the symposium ‘Water for Local Needs: the Contribution of Local Governments to IWRM’ (Benoni, South Africa, 9 and 10 July 2007) that was hosted by the Greater Ekurhuleni Metropolitan Municipality, endorsed by the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry of South Africa (DWAF), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and attended by ca. 100 participants reflecting the same main target groups as above.

Conclusions and results

An overview on the main publications that were available by the end of the third and final period of the project can be found below.

In more general terms, the project has achieved the following conclusions and results:

- The initial assumption that local governments are a key actor in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) has been confirmed through literature review and consultations with relevant stakeholders at all levels. Awareness is increasing that IWRM goals cannot be achieved without complementary action at local level.
- The project partners have met high interest and willingness among SADC local governments in engaging in IWRM. However, capacities are lacking and legal and institutional frameworks are not in place or – if they do exist – are not clear enough.
- IWRM cannot be applied as such, but unfolds through an increasing application of its three main principles that are geared at economic efficiency, social equity and ecological sustainability.
- Local governments have two major options to engage in IWRM: at local level and by collaborating with other stakeholders beyond their local boundaries.

- At local level, local governments can join forces with relevant stakeholders in their own community and apply the principles of IWRM across their mandated functions.
- For collaborating with stakeholders beyond their local boundaries, local governments can work with neighbouring cities and towns ('horizontal integration') or become involved – as far as feasible – in the new institutions established at catchment and basin levels ('vertical integration').
- A successful involvement of local governments in IWRM will depend on a better clarification of their specific role and responsibilities in each country, their opportunity for making their voice heard at higher level IWRM institutions, and their access to capacity-building programmes. Furthermore, decentralisation of responsibilities in the water sector – as in all other sectors – has to be better aligned with the necessary reforms in fiscal systems.
- The events, publications and personal contacts resulting from the LoGo Water project have steered interest and awareness at local, national and regional level in the SADC region and contributed to creating a more favourable environment for an increased uptake of IWRM.

Publications

The following main publications have been listed according to research reports and guidance. They can all be found published on the project's website (www.iclei-europe.logowater.org).

a) Reports

- *Local Government and Integrated Water Resources Management*, by S. Smits and J. Butterworth (IRC)
- *Local Governments and Integrated Water Resources Management in the SADC Region*. By L. Nyagwambo (IWSD) with contributions from E. Chonguiça (IUCN), D. Cox (INR) and F. Monggae, (KCS).
- *Local Governance in Water Resources Management in the Netherlands*. By J. Warner, S. Smits, M. Winnubst and J. Butterworth (IRC)
- *Local Governments and Integrated Water Resources Management in the Rhine River Basin in Germany*. By R. Philip, B. Anton and F. Schraffl (ICLEI ES)
- *Local Government Practices and Experiences in IWRM in the River Basin of the Ebro*. By M. Atwi and P. Arrojo Audo (FNCA).
- *Local Governance in Integrated Water Resources Management in the Danube Basin*, by D. O'Regan, C. A. Sullivan and J. Bromley (CEH Wallingford; as of 1Jan. 2008 Sullivan and Bromley with OUCE)
- *Local Governments and Integrated Water Resources Management in Europe: a Synthesis Report*. By M. Berraondo López, (FNCA), C.A. Sullivan (OUCE) and P. Arrojo Agudo with contributions by S. Smits (IRC)

b) Guidance documents

The following guidance documents have been produced for the attention of different target groups and incorporate findings and conclusions from the entire duration of the LoGo Water project.

The set of materials on '*Local Government and IWRM*' is tailored to local governments in the SADC region as well as their partners and supporters. Among others, it also reflects the outcome of consultations with the target group that were held in connection with the two major LoGo Water events, a workshop in Gaborone, Botswana, and a symposium in Benoni, South Africa (see under events).

The *Briefing Note* contains recommendations to decision-makers in IWRM at national and regional level. The last document entitled '*Building Links between Local Governments and IWRM*' provides guidance to those institutions and organisations developing and funding research programmes in relevant thematic areas.

- *Local Government and Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)*. By B. Anton (ICLEI ES), M. Bonjean, (OUCE), J. Bromley (OUCE), D. Cox (INR), C Dickens (INR), V. Govender (INR), R. Philip (ICLEI ES), S. Smits (IRC), C.A. Sullivan (OUCE), K. Van Nierkerk. (INR), E. Chonguiça (IUCN), F. Monggae (KCS), L. Nyagwambo (IWSD), R. Pule (ICLEI AS), and M. Berraondo López (FNCA). Available in electronic form in English, Portuguese and French. Part I and IV as well as a poster presenting 'Local Government and the Water Cycle' in English and Portuguese are also available as hard copy.

Part I - Reaping the Benefits - How Local Governments Gain from IWRM

Part II - Understanding the Context - The Role of Local Government in IWRM

Part III - Engaging in IWRM - Practical Steps and Tools for Local Governments

Part IV - Making Water Work for Local Governments - Ten Top Tips for Integration In Water Management

- *Briefing Note on IWRM and Local Governments*
- *Building Links between Local Governments and IWRM*. By M. Berraondo López, (FNCA), E. Chonguiça, (IUCN), F. Monggae (KCS), C. A. Sullivan (OUCE), and B. Tsholofelo (KCS).

4 Intentions for use and impact

A long-term objective of the project is to strengthen the recognition of the important role that local governments play in achieving Integrated Water Resources Management and to build their capacity in fulfilling this role. Based on the insights gained in the course of the project and the materials produced, the project partners have developed different strategies how to advance this objective in the framework of their institutions.

In particular, the *ICLEI Africa Secretariat* and the *ICLEI European Secretariat* have jointly established a dialogue with the Botswana office of the German Technical Agency for Cooperation (GTZ) to adopt a local government component in their SADC Transboundary Water Programme. The SADC stakeholders have in principle agreed with such a component, a respective proposal targeted at local governments in the Mozambican and South African part of the Limpopo basin is currently under discussion.

Furthermore, the ICLEI AS - in close cooperation with INR, IWSD, KCS and IUCN - submitted a comprehensive proposal entitled '*Effective Involvement of Local Governments in Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) through Action in the Limpopo River Basin*' to the African Water Facility. The proposal incorporates the individual proposals developed by each of the eight local governments associated to the project.

Together with its colleagues at the offices world-wide, the ICLEI European Secretariat will also explore the potential adaptation of the IWRM materials to other governance and water management frameworks such as in Latin America and Asia. The intention is to develop capacity-building projects tailored to the needs and interests of local governments in such regions to increase further outreach.

Similarly all other SADC project partners intend to steer further interest by circulating information about the availability of the materials to key IWRM stakeholders in their countries and the wider region. Also European partners will make use of the materials in their on-going and future research and capacity-building initiatives.

Considering the forecast impacts of climate change on water resources, ICLEI also foresees to put a stronger emphasis on sustainable local water management in its network's strategies and activities in the years to come. For this, the LoGo Water results will provide a valuable input.

Contact details of Coordinator:

Barbara Anton

ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, European Secretariat

Leopoldring 3

D-79098 Freiburg, Germany

Phone: +49-761/36892-20

Fax: +49-761/36892-29

E-mail: logowater@iclei.org

Website: www.iclei-europe.org/logowater

