

African experiences Integrated Approaches to the Sustainable Development Goals

Dr. Barbara Willaarts Project Manager and Research Scholar International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis Sustainability Nexus Research Cluster and Water Program





Outline

Integrated approach in practice

Experiences from African projects

Lessons learnt

What means looking through the lens of SA?





Forward looking-needing a vision



FORECAST fails in complex realities





Knowledge sharing and transfer





ASA

8

shutterstock.com · 421087330

IIASA regional approach to SA

1. Applied science \leftrightarrow Science for (sustainable) development

2. Combination of modeling and participatory approaches

3. Forward looking

4. Knowledge sharing and capacity enhancement



Outline

Integrated approach in practice

Experiences from African projects

Lessons learnt







scaleWAYS:

Scaling out resilient Water and Agricultural Systems (2019-2021)

Partnership:









The quest

- up to 2050: doubling of population, 7-fold GDP per capita Resilient agricultural systems to feed the growing population with changing diets
- Agriculture main water consumer from currently >50% and >70% by 2050
- Solutions exist

in form of pilot projects and practices.

• If brought to scale:

What is the impact? What are trade-offs? What is driving/preventing scaling out?





ISWEL: Integrated Solutions for Water Energy and Land (2017-2020)

"Develop tools and capacities that can support the management of the water-energy-land nexus at global and regional scales"

Partners:



GEF Contract Agreement: 6993



The ISWEL quest

Failing to meet the SDG agenda:

Costs Lack of cooperation Different Values/Priorities Trade-offs



Basin Assessment





17

Outputs

- 1. <u>Quantitative and qualitative tools</u> to explore nexus challenges
 - a) Regional basin planning model (policy optimization IAM)
 - b) Scenario tool to co-develop basin visions and transformation pathways
 - c) Serious games
 - d) Simulation exercise for non-technical audiences
- 2. Stakeholder informed WEL 2050 scenarios
- 3. <u>Enhanced capacities</u> for nexus management and research
 - a) Research collaborations (joint papers)
 - b) Trainings (models, and scenario tool)

Basin Approach

Understanding current challenges and identifying

IASA



Zambezi Stakeholders





Basin Approach

Co-develop basin visions and pathways robust to climate change and global socio-economic trends

IASI



INTERNAL **Sustainable Desirable Future 1** Future(s) (PATHWAYS) **Desirable Future 2** differentiated by value Solutions = differences **Desirable Future 3** between **Synergies** Policies, Technologies, stakeholders Infrastructures Trade-offs provide reference for **Current Situation** Challenges **Business as usual** Past & present **Possible future Input based on SSPs** EXTERNAL **Risks** (SCENARIOS) **Constraints**

Scenario tool: Envisioning the basin future and transformation pathways

Scenario tool kit Map



Indicators

RUNDFF

Natural

Socio-economic

PRECIPITATION

WATER OUTFLOW (FROM THE AREA)

Cards

EVAPO-TRANSPIRATION

POPULATION

IASA

LAND AVAILABILITY FOOD PRODUCTION AND DEMAND AND DEMAND





ENERGY PRODUCTION

AND DEMAND





CURRENT SITUATION







Key benefits of the approach (Evans Kaseke, ZAMCOM):

- Very high (unusual) participation,
- Gives participants more information than other methods,
 - Impressive information sharing, between participants in such a short time,

Allows participants to develop and agree on a sense of direction.





Basin Approach

Translating stakeholder pathways into quantitative scenarios & validation



R Researchers



Modeling framework

Zambezi IAM Framework



Zambezi Visions and Pathways to 2050



BAU: Hydropower potential fully developed; irrigation plans implemented Maximize surface water use Little adaptive planning to Climate Change Environmental flows and wetlands flows constrained by economic develop

ECON: Increasing trade-openness

Hydropower potential fully developed; Irrigation development prioritized Increasing efficiency is compensating the sectoral demands for water Partial Climate Change adaption (inter-basin transfers) Environmental flows and wetlands flows are not fully implemented

ENV: Environmental flows and wetlands flows priority targets Irrigation and hydropower constrained by meeting EF Adaptive planning to Climate Change (groundwater use and other renewable energy sources promoted, cooperation)

Zambezi scenarios- Costs



Annual costs includes: investment, operational and maintenance costs

Zambezi Scenarios-Benefits

% of change with respect to the baseline





"I was surprised by how engaging the Nexus Game was! Serious games are a valuable tool to get people see something from different perspectives and to play different roles to see the larger picture and experiment in a risk-free environment. Such exercises can build trust and understanding."

Hand-on real simulation exercise

"This tool has great potential to support difficult negotiations between stakeholders in the real world situations"



Outline

Integrated approach in practice

Experiences from African projects

Lessons learnt

Lessons learnt

What is innovative and worked out?

- 1. Flexible and state of the art (open source) tools
- 2. Combination of qualitative and quantitative tools suitable for policy identification and measurement
- 3. Pack "Tools + training" facilitates transference and ownership
- 4. Enhanced nexus capacities of a wide range of users and audiences
- 5. Evidence base of why nexus approach is more cost effective



- 1. Effective implementation requires buy-in and active support from countries and investors \rightarrow Create strong partnerships
- 2. Scaling this pilot initiatives. Moving away from projects to plans and programs



Thanks

willaart@iiasa.ac.at www.ISWEL.org