

Building Bridges to Strengthen Groundwater Development and Management – SADC Groundwater Management Institute’s innovative governance model

Necessary conditions of success, and transboundary relevance

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Necessary conditions of success

Water security is driven by climate change, demand patterns and governance

- All water resources must be managed conjunctively and sustainably for optimal development outcomes
 - Integrated Water Resource Management is key - ***inclusivity*** and ***integration***
 - GW dependence is about food security and health - sustainable livelihoods - often in poorest, and urban areas (no or failing ***infrastructure***)
 - Landscape or catchment approaches are key - ecosystems are essential for supporting ecological and grey infrastructure
- ***Investment*** is essential BUT won't happen without ***innovation***, and governance and ***institutions***
- ***Sustainable governance and finance = sustainable water resources***

Governance arrangements structured to address these conditions require:

- Relevant institutions
- Enabled investment
- Transboundary context
- Integrated sustainable development
- Investment competency
- Information translation

Water-Energy-Food-Ecosystem (WEFE) Nexus underpins innovative governance



Transboundary relevance

Groundwater dependence is very local BUT our water systems (surface and aquifer) don't follow administrative boundaries

- transboundary cooperative governance and management matters
- RBOs are paying increasing attention to conjunctive use of groundwater, e.g.
 - LIMCOM Groundwater Committee and LIMCOM Groundwater Strategy
 - ORASECOM
 - BUPUSACOM
- RBOs should work with NFGs established in their Member States

Transboundary aquifers are shared because they have been divided artificially by two or more jurisdictions
Until recently the focus was on the more obvious transboundary rivers and lakes; now T/B aquifers and groundwater must be built into cooperation mechanisms





Thank you!