Strengthening institutions and stakeholders for IWRM implementation at local level

Experiences from capacity building networks within the Cap-Net global framework

MA. Damián Indij
LA-WETnet Coordinator
Session outline

- Welcome, Keynote speech.
- Introduction to Local Actions:
  - REDICA
  - AWARENET
  - Nile IWRM Net
  - Pangani Basin Water Office, Tanzania
- Open & active discussion.
- Conclusions and recommendations.
• Global understanding about the need to change the way we manage water resources = IWRM.
• Urgent development needs for billions = MDGs.

A recognised fact: without capacity development we will simply not achieve our goals.

• Capacity development has to take place with the local people, strengthening local institutions and generating “locally owned” capacities (UNDP).
• With limited funds to be applied in capacity building, efficient strategies are key.
Going back to our roots

Capacity building is:

- A continuous improvement process within an individual, organisation or system, and the whole of society.
- A multidimensional, dynamic process.
- Influenced by the external environment.
- Most of the activities concern knowledge transfer, skills development and facilitating the use of these capacities.

Capacities being built for IWRM implementation mean that knowledge is anchored and available for its effective use by different groups.
Given the facts, needs, and nature of capacity building:

Are capacity building networks an ideal strategy to support IWRM at the local level?
Networks facilitate (1):

- Knowledge combination to capture the multi-disciplinary, multi-sector nature of IWRM.
- Strengthening of local institutions and transfer to target groups for home-grown development processes.
- Creation of new knowledge to learn from on-the-ground IWRM experiences.
- Scaling up of activities through committed members and replication strategies.
| ✓ | Sustainability and effectiveness through cost-sharing involving network members and partners. |
| ✓ | Multiplier effect by leverage of funds and in-kind contributions up to 5 times an initial seed fund. |
| ✓ | Relevance and sustainability through a demand responsive approach. |
The obstacles?

- It's true: networks need a secretariat.

- It's true: networks usually need initial seed funds to start a process.
Obstacles, opportunities?

- It's true: networks need a secretariat.
  Secretariats are facilitating bodies, devolving responsibility for implementation to members, enhancing cooperation, and optimisation of knowledge and scarce funding.

- It's true: networks usually need initial seed funds to start a process.
  Seed funds are leveraged up to five times, and only executed when the total budget has been raised in combination with network members.
Think about it…

Capacity building networks for IWRM

- Local players strengthened
- Content relevant for IWRM
- Cost efficiency
- Multiplier effect
- Global cooperation

Capacity building networks: An ideal strategy to support IWRM at the local level?

Welcome to the session